

Mighty Macros: Powerful Commands to Pump up Productivity

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Class summary

In this class you will gain knowledge to create custom macros that apply to your business needs and enhance your productivity on designs. You will develop a custom tool palette placing all of your new macros on there for quick access.

Most importantly, you'll be able to **bring back value** to your employer and the **knowledge to help you excel** within your field.

Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Identify, change and create macros.
- Use macros to automate multiple tasks.
- Create a tool palette with custom macros enabled.
- Use the action recorder to create macros.

Let's Get Started!

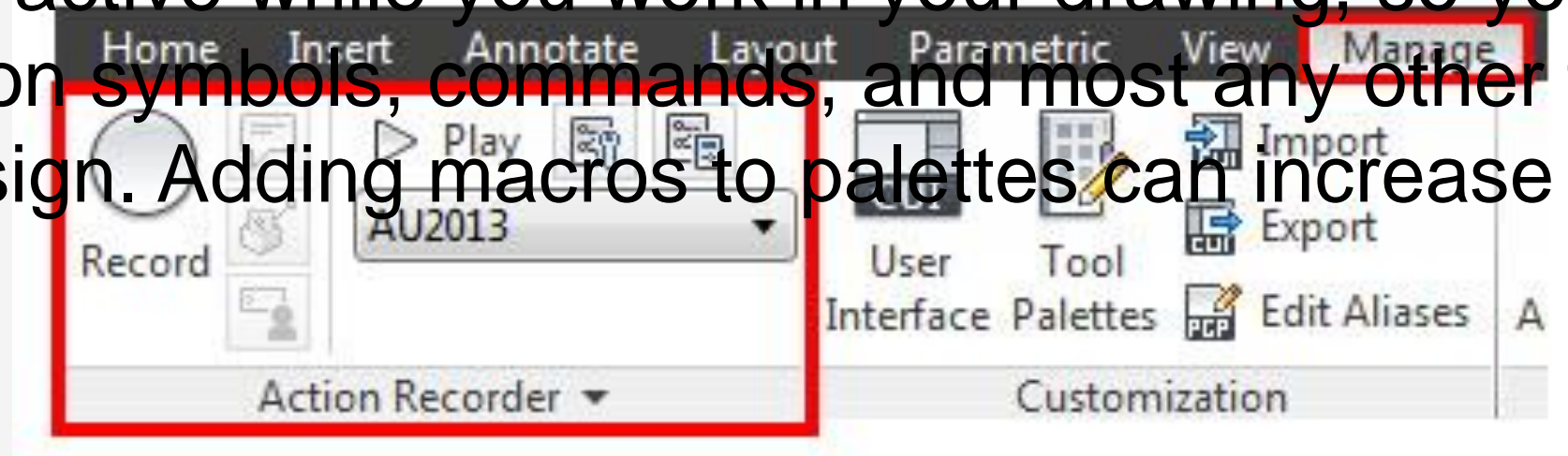


What is a Macro

nively large quantities or on a large scale b : of or relating to macro-economics 3 : GROSS lc
²macro *n. pl macros* [short for *macroinstruction*] (1959) : a single computer instruction that stands for a sequence of operations
mac·ro-ag-gre-gate \,mak-rō-'ag-ri-gət\ *n* (1926) : a relatively large particle (as of soil or a protein) — mac·ro-ag-gre-gat-ed \-,gāt-əd\ *adj*
mac·ro-bi-ot-ic \-bī-'āt-ik, -bē-\ *adj* (1965) : of, relating to, or being an extremely restricted diet (as one containing chiefly whole grains) that is

The Action Recorder and Tool Palettes

The Action Recorder provides a simple and quick way to increase productivity with AutoCAD by recording the commands you use in a floating tab that you can bring up on screen and keep active while you work in your drawing, so you have quick access to common symbols, commands, and most any other tool you need to complete the design. Adding macros to palettes can increase productivity.



This section will serve as miscellaneous commands that help you become more productive.



Rotate object 90d then repeat



Rotate object 1d RIGHT then repeat



AC1337: Mighty Macros: Powerfull Command to Pum...



The Venitian Hotel December 3-5 2013.



Draw a building (LxW) then hatch the building



Break a line at pick point

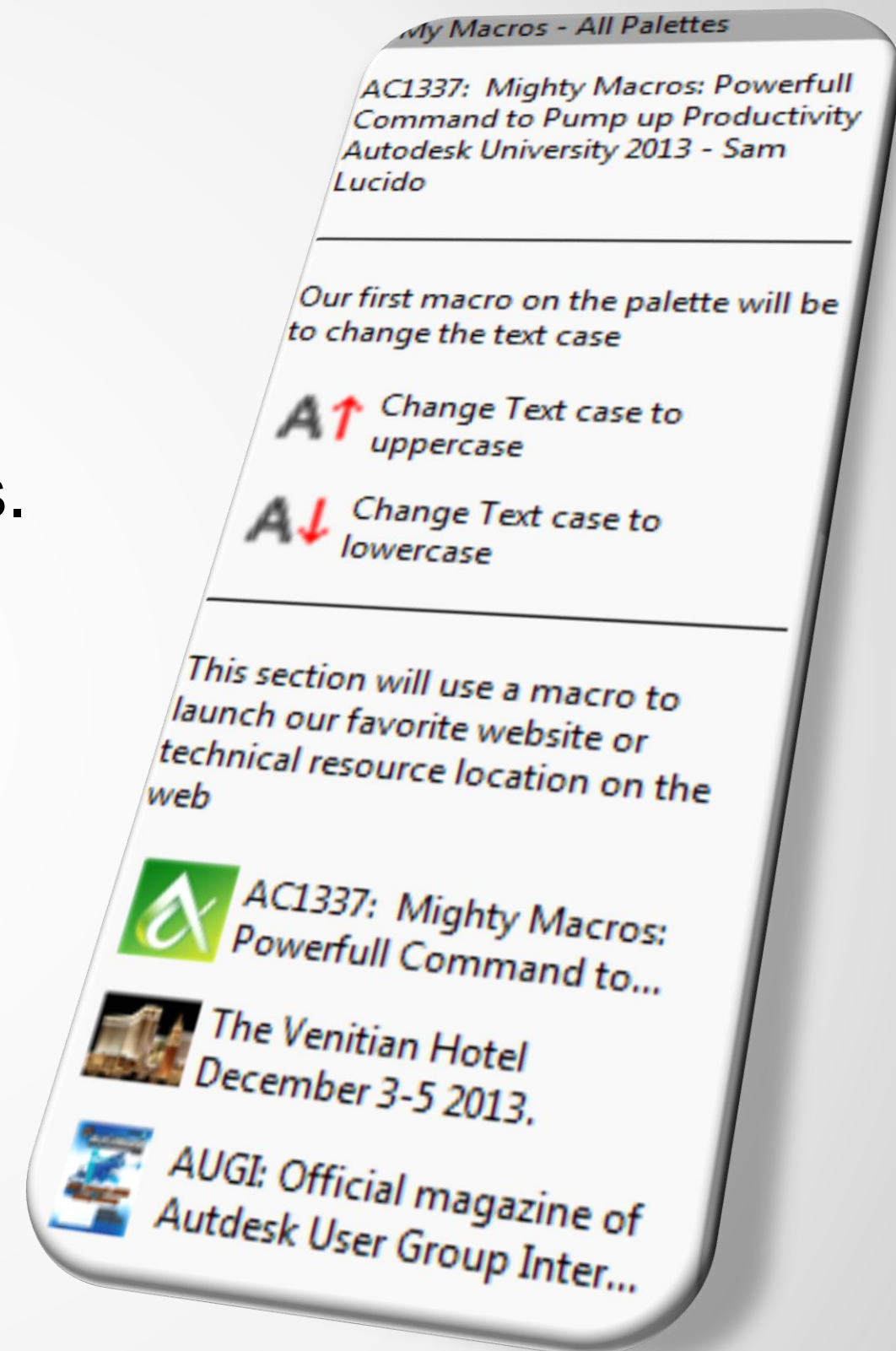


Make the mtext bar 0 width

Getting Started

In this section we will:

- Use the action recorder to swap tool palettes.
- Create a macro to change text case.
- Create a macro to launch a web page.





Special Characters in Macros

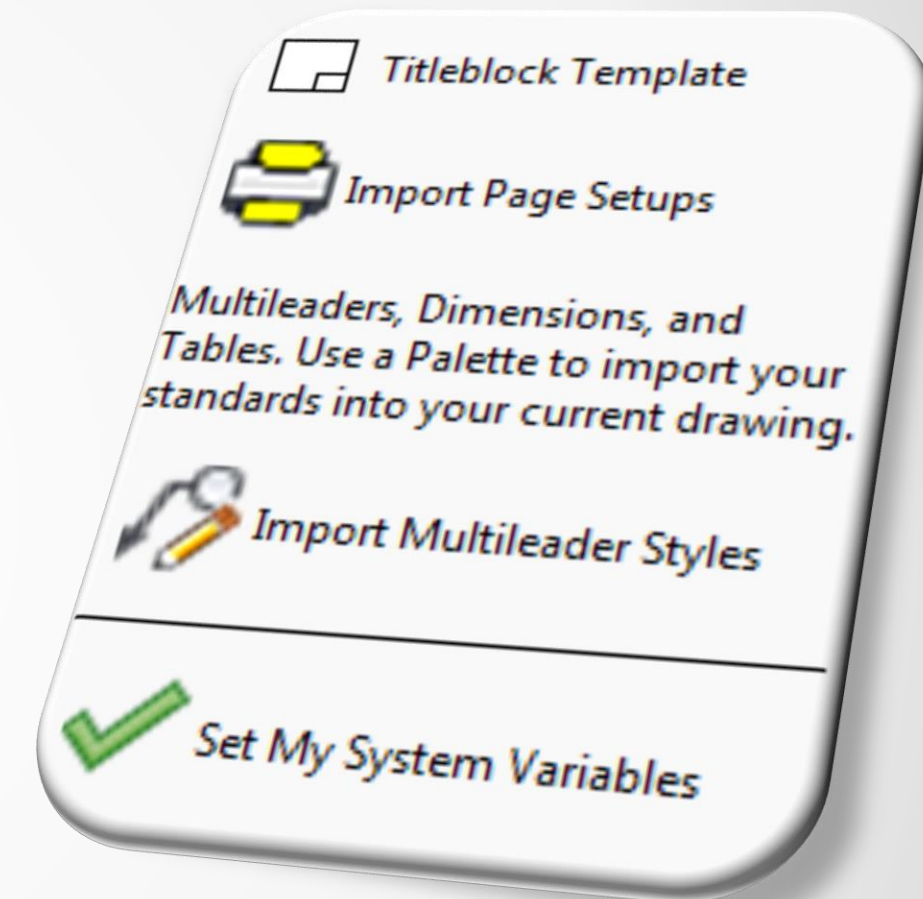
Table 1 - Special Characters in Macros

Character	Description
;	Issues Enter
^M	Issues Enter
^I	Issues Tab
[blank space]	Enters a space; a blank space between command sequences in a command is equivalent to pressing the Spacebar. Allows you to access a built-in command even if it was undefined using the UNDEFINE command. (Not Available in AutoCAD LT)
\	Pauses for user input (cannot be used with accelerators)
. (period)	Allows you to access a built-in command even if it was undefined using the UNDEFINE command. (Not Available in AutoCAD LT)
_	Translates commands and options that follow
=*	Displays the current top-level pull-down, shortcut, or image menu
*^C^C	Repeats a command until another command is chosen
\$	Introduces a conditional DIESEL macro expression (\$M=)
^B	Turns Snap on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+B)
^C	Cancels the active command or command option (equivalent to Esc)
^D	Turns Dynamic UCS on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+D)
^E	Sets the next isometric plane (equivalent to Ctrl+E)
^G	Turns Grid on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+G)
^H	Issues Backspace
^O	Turns Ortho on or off
^P	Turns MENUCHO on or off
^Q	Echoes all prompts, status listings, and input to the printer (equivalent to Ctrl+Q)
^R	Turns command versioning on or off. Command versioning is required for some commands to ensure command macros written in an older release work properly in the latest release.
^T	Turns tablet on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+T)
^V	Changes the current viewport
^Z	Null character that suppresses the automatic addition of Spacebar at the end of a command

Templates, Page Setups, and System Variables

In this section we will:

- Create a macro to insert company title blocks.
- Create a macro to import page setups.
- Create a macro to import multileader styles.
- Create a macro to set system variables.

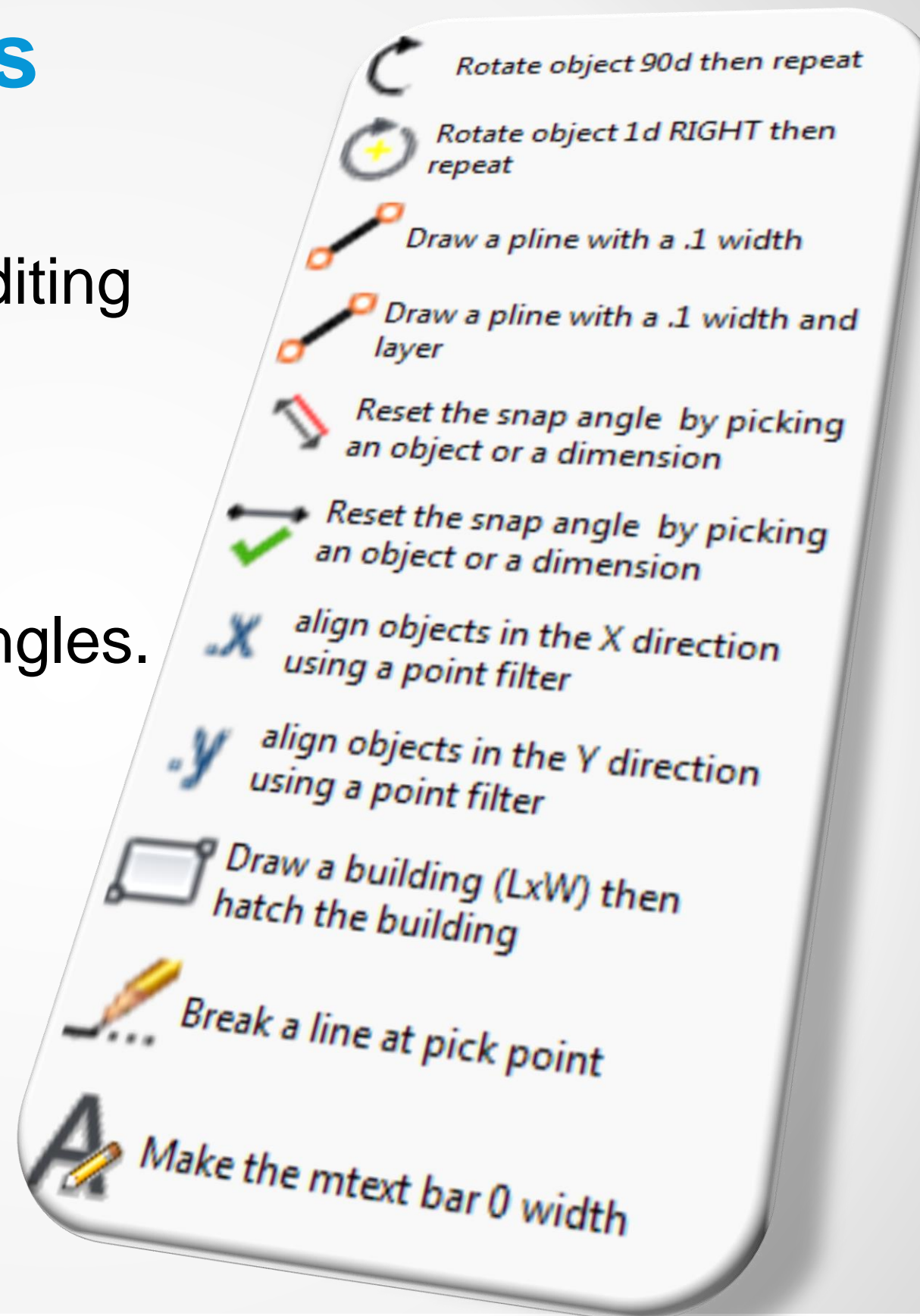




Quick Editing with Macros

In this section we will cover various editing commands in AutoCAD.

- Rotate objects and repeat.
- Polyline editing and setting snap angles.
- Point filters made easy.
- Line break and quick mtext.

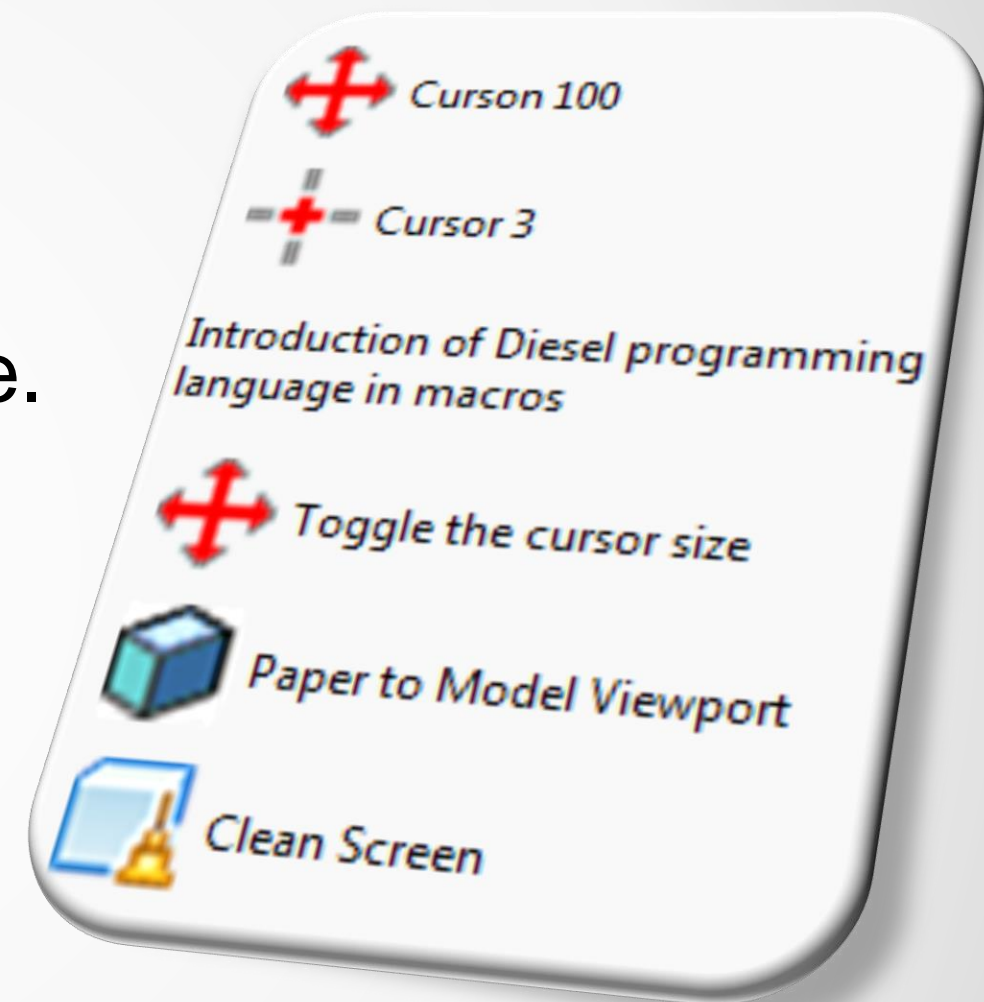




Diesel Programming in Macros

In this section we will:

- Create macros to alter the cursor size.
- Use Diesel programming to toggle cursor size.
- Use Diesel programming to clean the screen with options and to switch from paper space to model space.

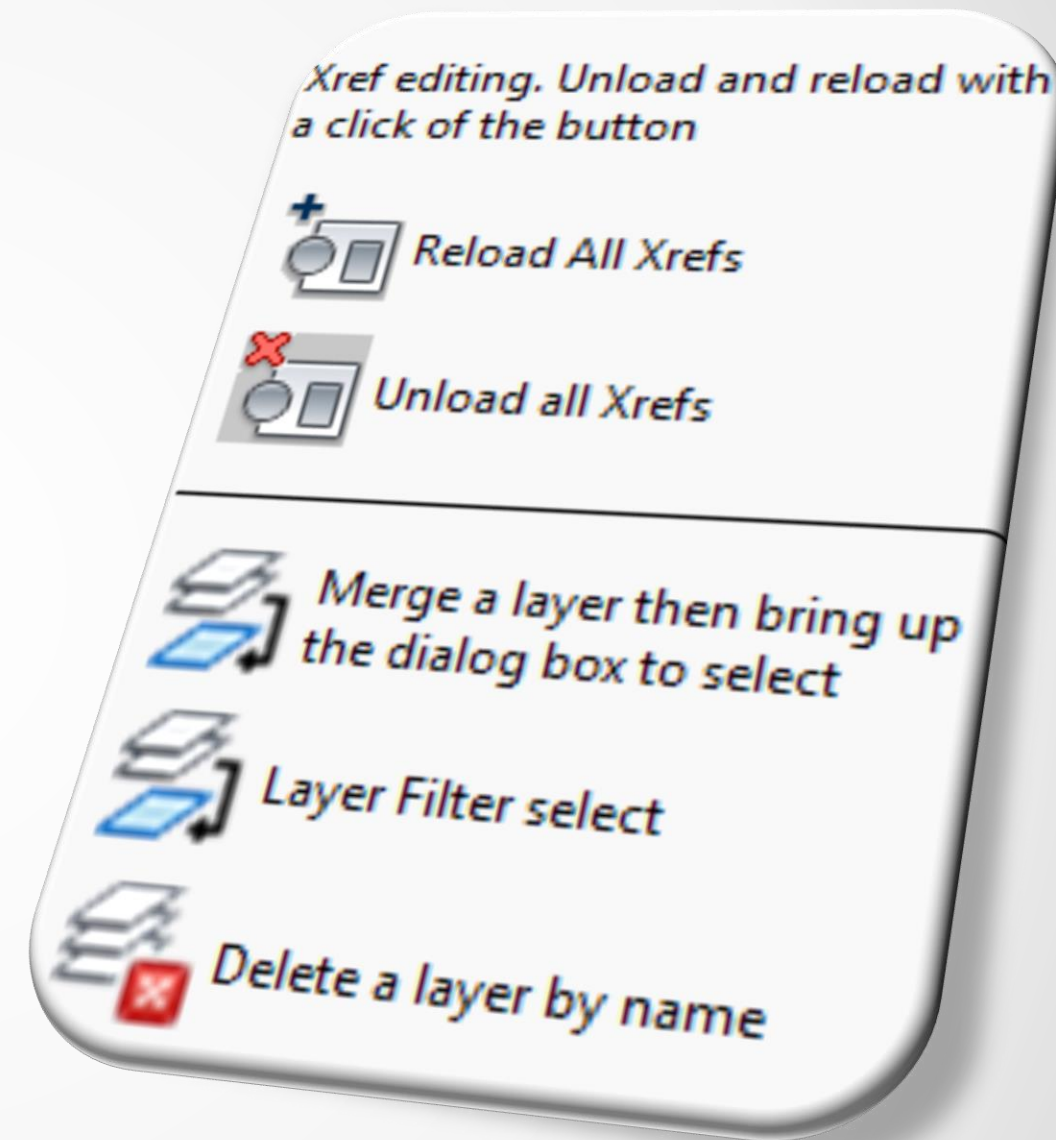




Xrefs and Layer Tricks

In this section we will:

- Unload and reload Xrefs.
- Merge and delete layers by names.
- Bring up layer filters on the fly.

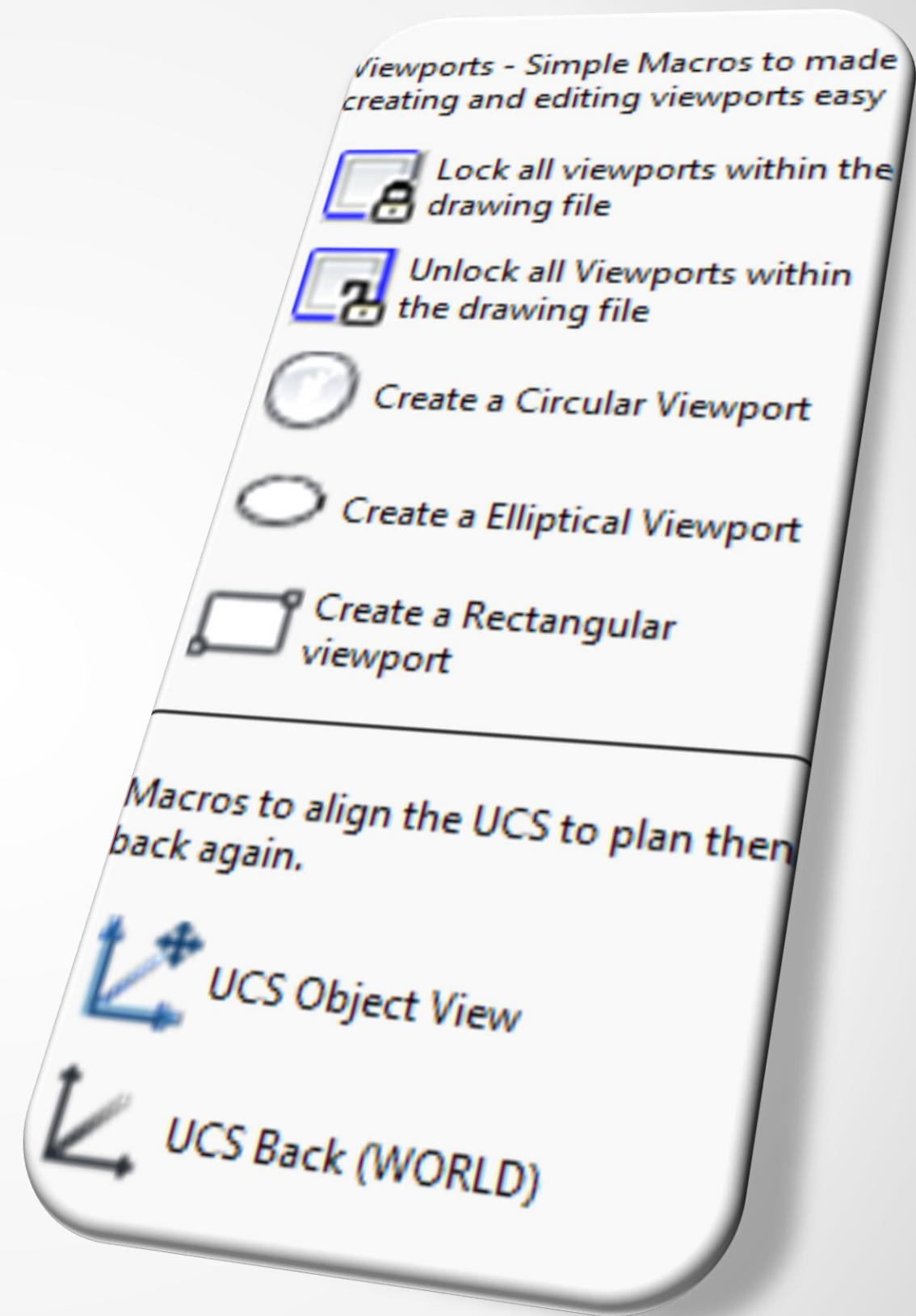




Viewports and UCS Control

In this section we will:

- Lock and unlock viewports.
- Create different size viewports.
- Alter the UCS to align with an object.

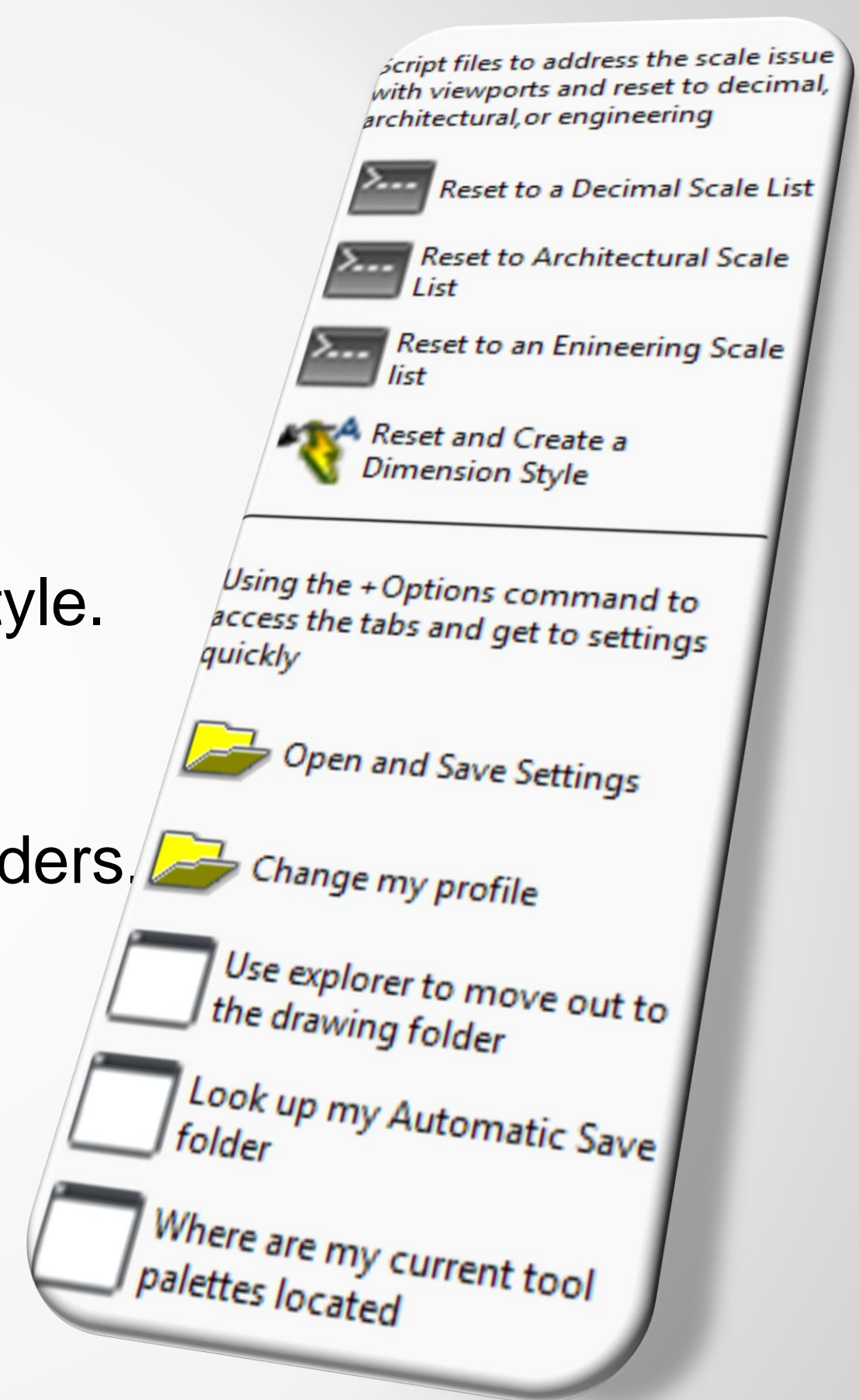




Scripts, Explorer, and Options

In this section we will:

- Load a script file from a macro.
- Create a macro to setup a new dimension style.
- Get to my profiles quickly.
- Use shell commands to access Windows folders.

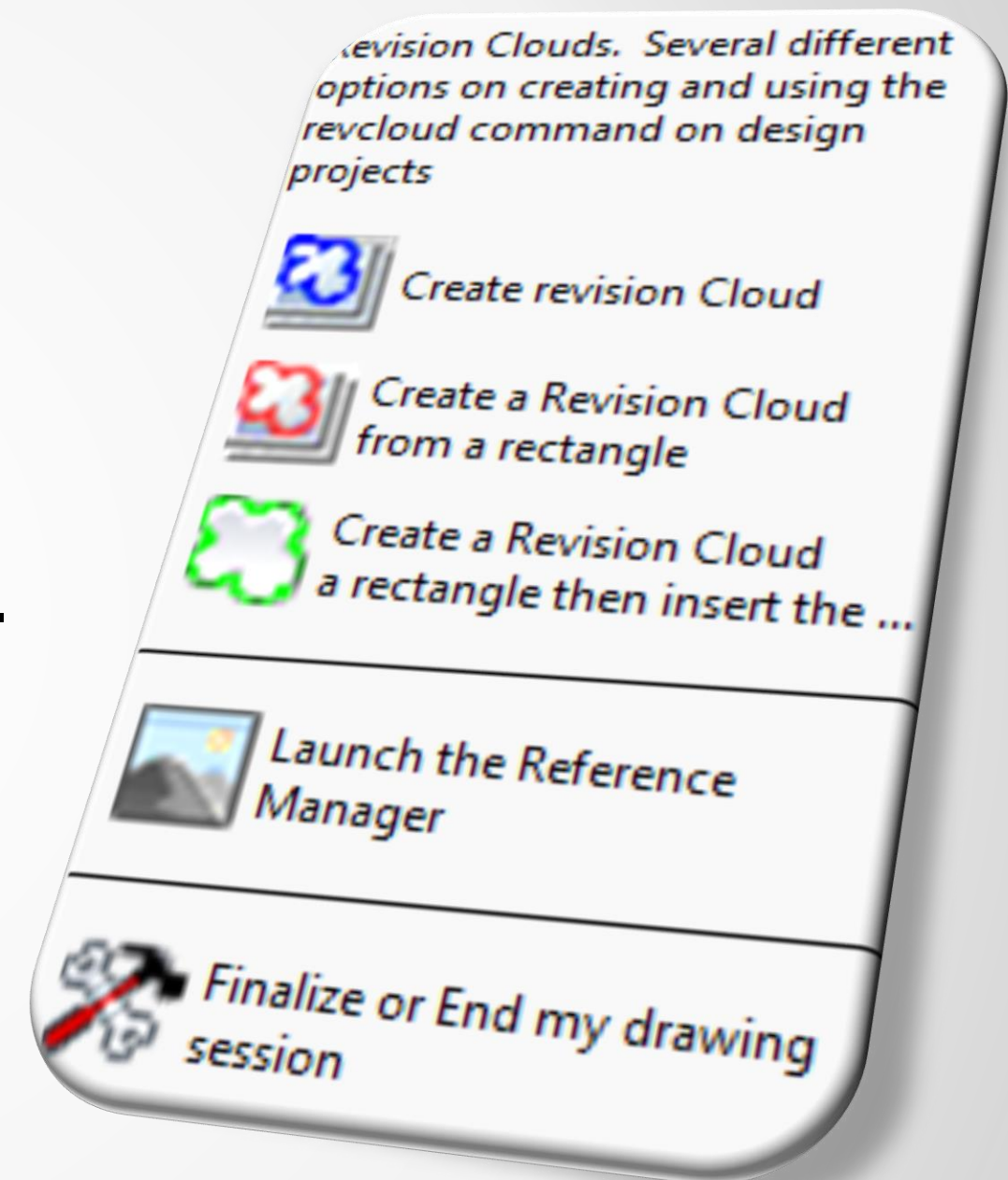




Revision Clouds, Reference Manager, and Finalize

In this section we will:

- Create revision clouds with a consistent size.
- Create a revision clouds and insert a marker.
- Launch the Reference Manager from AutoCAD.
- Finalize a drawing with cleanup commands.

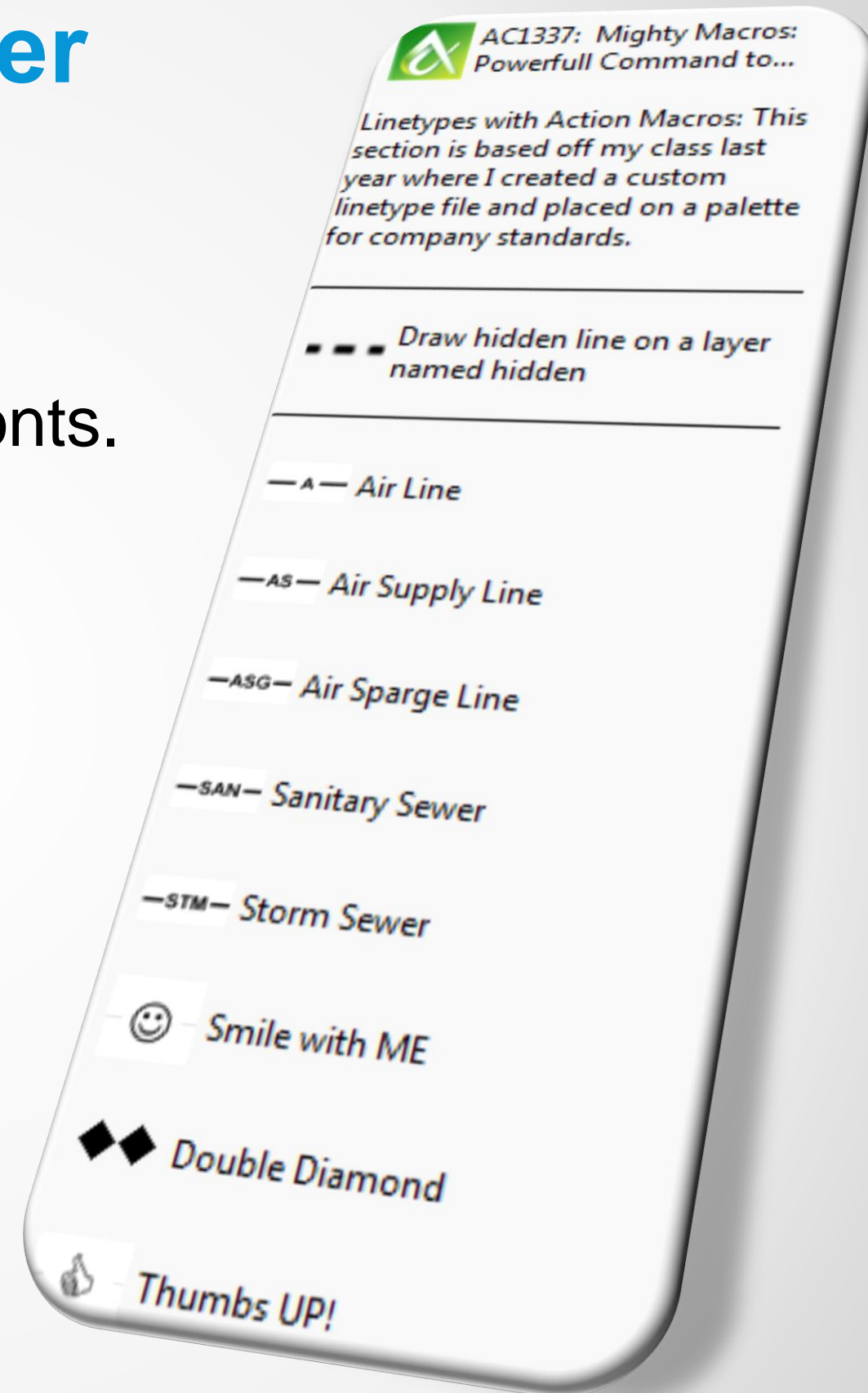




Linesanity! It's Back and Better

In this section we will:

- Create custom linetypes using standard fonts.
- Use a macro to create a new text style.



Almost Done!



Autodesk University Session Feedback

Session feedback is very important to Autodesk

- ✓ Attendees can complete the session survey on their mobile device, PC, or at a survey station.
- ✓ Each completed session survey enters you in that days drawing for a free AU2014 pass!
- ✓ You can help make AU2014 better!



Thank You



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