



Macro and Cheese: An Automation Feast!

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Before We Begin

- If this isn't what you expected...
 - Don't hesitate to find a more suitable class
- Please don't forget to fill out that survey

Class summary

- AutoCAD offers numerous ways to automate tedious tasks
 - AutoLISP, VBA, Visual Studio, and more
 - Require programming skills
- One doesn't need to be a programmer
 - Macros
 - Menus
 - Tool Palettes

Key learning objectives

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

- Understand What macros are and when should one use them
- Understand macro syntax
- Know how to build a macro
- Add and run macros commands from the User Interface

Macros: What are they and Why use them?

About Macros

- *A sequence of commands and options*
 - *It's a string of text*
 - *Can contain Diesel expressions or AutoLISP*
 - *Use special characters*
 - *From simple to complex*

Why Use Macros?

- *Repetition of tasks*
 - *Automation*
- *Consistency*
 - *Layering and styles, among other tasks*
 - *CAD Standards*
- *Introduction to customization*
 - *Introduction to programming*

Anatomy of a Macro

Macro Syntax (and items of note)

- Use Standard Commands
- Active Commands
 - Cancel a command (^C), (^C^C), (^C^C^C)
 - Interactive command (')
- A Space () is A Macro Character
- International Support (_)
- Circumvent Undefined Commands (.)
- Repeating Macros (*)
- Ending a Command – (;) or ()
- User Input (\)

Macro Syntax (The Sequel)

Character	Description
;	Equivalent to pressing ENTER
[Blank Space]	Equivalent to pressing ENTER or the SPACE BAR
\	Pauses for user input
_	Translates AutoCAD commands and options that follow (international support)
.	(Period) Ensures that if a command has been undefined, the command will work
-	Suppresses dialog - runs the command line version of the command
*	Repeats macro until canceled by user
^	Equivalent to CTRL key (^C would cancel a command)
\$	Introduces a DIESEL Expression
@	Specifies the use of the last referenced point picked in the drawing
'	(Apostrophe) Issues a transparent command function

Putting it all together

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- Open daily from **8am-6pm Tuesday** and **Wednesday**; **8am-4:30pm Thursday**.
- Located outside **Hall C, Level 2**.
- Meet Autodesk developers, testers, & support engineers ready to help with your most challenging technical questions.



