



- » **Artistic Rendering Techniques** – Watercolor, Squiggle Line Drawing, Technical Illustration, Enhanced Lighting, Painting, and Duotone applied to camera, elevation, and section views
- » **Advanced Rendering Controls** – settings to control Rendering Techniques, see results as you adjust
- » **Automatic Elevations** – generate exterior elevation and room elevation cameras with a single click
- » **Brand-Name Manufacturer Catalogs** – support added for catalogs of doors, windows, and cabinets
- » **Specify Designs to NKBA Standards** – control over the display of countertops, line styles, dimensions, and more
- » **Cabinet End Panels** – attach panels to the sides and backs of cabinets automatically
- » **Cabinet Fillers** – use the automatic tool or manually place and specify fillers
- » **Display Countertops in Plan View** – control the display of the layer, line type and weight, and color
- » **Dimension to Pony Walls** – control the display, and show or hide doors and window openings. Door and window schedules now list objects in Pony Walls
- » **Improved Dimension Tools** – accuracy to 1/128", feedback and previews when creating dimension lines, additional formatting options, and more
- » **Instant Automatic Framing** – turn on automatic framing for walls, floors, ceilings and roofs to update framing instantly, as your design changes
- » **Exposed Rafter Tails and Custom Rafter Tails** – choose from a profile in the Library or draw your own; rafter tails display in 3D views
- » **Steel Framing** – automatically create typical commercial framing C-Channel and U-Channel wall, header, joist and rafter framing Members
- » **Roof Fascia and Sub-fascia** – control the display of roof fascia and generate sub-fascia framing for more accurate construction details
- » **Attach Symbols to Roofs** – such as solar panels or vents; choose to rotate and match the slope
- » **Auto-Rotate Lights and Symbols Against Ceilings** – flush mounted electrical items will auto-rotate to match pitched ceiling
- » **Rich Text** – format your text with multiple colors, fonts, and more; copy and paste text to and from external applications while preserving the rich text format
- » **Line Style Editor** – create and define your own custom line styles
- » **Nudge Tool** – use the arrow keys to move a selected object in small increments
- » **Distribute Objects Tool** – distribute any item such as a plant or a CAD object along a line or within a polyline
- » **Reorder Layout Pages** – move pages in your layout set forward or backward
- » **Import Terrain and Elevation Data** – in one step import all layers including elevation data and terrain perimeter
- » **Mass Import Symbols** – import an entire group or folder of symbols and add them to the library browser
- » **Over 3,200 New and Improved Library Objects** – new or updated objects in high quality and current styles
- » **New Library Browser** – organized to more easily find items – searching speed is significantly faster
- » **Rotate and Zoom the Library Preview** – examine library items before placing them in your plan
- » **Visual Feedback of Objects** – see the size and orientation of library objects as you place them in either 2D and 3D
- » **New Room Finish Schedule** – show room materials and calculate area totals
- » **Support & Software Assurance** – priority technical support, catalog downloads, online video training access, and new software versions
- » **Green Product Development**

[For a complete list, see the Detailed X2 Features List on the following pages](#)



### 3D and Rendering Tools

- » **Artistic Rendering Techniques** – Watercolor, Squiggle Line Drawing, Technical Illustration, Enhanced Lighting, Painting, and Duotone applied to camera
- » **Advanced Rendering Controls** – settings to control Rendering Techniques, see results as you adjust
- » **Perspective and Orthographic Camera Families** – cameras are grouped into like functionality based on field of view
- » **Toggle Between Rendering Techniques** – once a camera is created, toggle it's display to any rendering technique
- » **Apply Rendering Techniques to Elevations and Sections** – Watercolor, Squiggle Line Drawing, Technical Illustration, Enhanced Lighting, Painting, and Duotone
- » **Automatic Elevations** – generate exterior elevation and room elevation cameras with a single click
- » **Default Painter Tool** – restore architectural items to their default material
- » **Camera Labels** – camera names are preserved between plan view, menus, and project browser

### Cabinets

- » **Brand-Name Manufacturer Catalogs** – support added for catalogs of doors, windows, and cabinets
- » **Manufacturer Catalogs are Parametric** – while still specific products, object is catalogs also remain parametric and can be edited so you don't have to keep choosing from the Library as you resize your objects
- » **Complete Manufacturer Cabinet Catalogs** – include, door and drawer styles, cabinet boxes, colors and wood species
- » **Specify Designs to NKBA Standards** – control over the display of countertops, line styles, dimensions, and more
- » **Cabinet Fillers** – use the automatic tool or manually place and specify fillers
- » **Control Cabinet Merging** – cabinets will no longer "auto merge" when Automatic Cabinet Fillers is turned off
- » **Convert Automatic Countertops into Manual Countertops**
- » **Display Countertops in Plan View** – control the display of the layer, line type and weight, and color
- » **Custom Countertop Edge Molding** – control the display of edge molding applied to Custom Countertops using layers
- » **Cabinet Arrow Indicator Control** – turn off cabinet front arrow indicators separately from cabinet module lines
- » **Customizable Cabinets Fill Patterns**
- » **Cabinet End Panels** – attach panels to the sides and backs of cabinets automatically Assign finished or unfinished ends to cabinets
- » **Control the Material Applied to End Panels**
- » **Cabinet Sides Listed in Schedule** – whether paneled, unfinished or stained, display cabinet side types in the Cabinet Schedule
- » **Place Cabinet Components Independently** – Doors, Drawers, and End Panels can be placed in plan as stand-alone objects
- » **Place Fixtures Independently** – cooktops and sinks can be placed outside of cabinets as stand-alone objects
- » **Improved Materials List Representation of Cabinets** – find each unique cabinet listed with each sub-component indented below; wood species, stain colors, doors and drawers, hardware, and more
- » **Add Components to Cabinets** – include custom components to the cabinet; choose the cabinet in the component dialog to add more sub-objects
- » **Cabinet Schedule Displays Dimensions** – actual size, the width, depth and height, list for the cabinet
- » **New Defaults for Soffits** – control the behavior of soffits by specifying default values



### **CAD and Editing Tools**

- » **Line Style Editor** – create your own custom line styles
- » **Distribute Objects Tool** – distribute any item such as a plant or a CAD object along a line, a spline or within a polyline region
- » **Nudge Tool** – use the arrow keys to move a selected object in small increments
- » **More Accurate Fillet and Chamfer Tools**
- » **New Revision Cloud Tool** – click and drag to add a Revision Cloud, resize, reshape and control the display; or select an object and automatically encircle it with a Revision Cloud
- » **New Toolbar Toggle Buttons for Marquee Selection Mode**
- » **Previous Command Option** – re-instate tools previously used with a keystroke
- » **Move-to-Front for Architectural Items** – control which items display on top in plan view
- » **Ability to Snap to the Lower Part of Pony Walls**

### **Dimensions**

- » **Dimension with Accuracy to 1/128"**
- » **Dimension Snaps** – dimensions snap to currently displayed wall layers
- » **Feedback and Previews When Creating Dimension Lines**
- » **Improved Feedback for Creating Dimension Arcs**
- » **Expanded Dimension Arc Angles** – ability to draw dimension arcs at angles greater than 180 degrees
- » **Move and Create Extensions Using Snap Objects**
- » **Updated Dimension dialog** – dimension number format options have been separated into a new tab in the Dimension Defaults dialog
- » **Dimension Format Control** – dimension number formats can be accessed on a per-dimension basis
- » **More Dimension Units Available** – customize the display of dimensions, includes the ability to change from imperial to metric
- » **Decimal and Fractional Units** – control the number of decimals and the smallest fractions displayed with dimensions
- » **Dimension to Pony Walls** – control the display, and show or hide doors and window openings. Door and window schedules now list objects in Pony Walls

### **Display Tools / User Interface**

- » **Visual Feedback of Objects** – see the size and orientation of library objects as you place them in either 2D and 3D
- » **Dialogs** – several dialogs improved for better access to options
- » **New Layers for Labels** – control the display of labels for fixtures, furniture, plants, and more
- » **Updated Look** – default plan display updated for wall colors, cabinet fills, and more
- » **Hotkeys** – assign Hotkeys to more functions including default dialog boxes



### **Doors / Windows**

- » Brand-Name Manufacturer Catalogs – support added for catalogs of doors, windows, and cabinets
- » Muller Units, Windows, and Door Controls – control their label and schedule appearance
- » Door and Window Dialogs – enhanced to define more door and window options
- » Door and Window Defaults – more attributes available for default doors and windows, including separate rough opening defaults
- » Show Egress Column in Window Schedules
- » Pony Walls – control the display, and show or hide doors and window openings. Door and window schedules now list objects in Pony Walls

### **Electrical / Lights**

- » Electrical Defaults Now Stored in Plan – no file references that can be lost
- » Auto-Rotate Lights and Symbols Against Ceilings – flush mounted electrical items will auto-rotate to match pitched ceiling
- » Ceiling Mounted Lights Recognize the Height of Vaulted Ceilings
- » Automatic Labels for Electrical Objects
- » New Legend for Electrical, Audio and Video

### **Elevations / Cross-Sections**

- » Apply Rendering Techniques to Elevations and Sections – Duotone, Technical Illustration, Enhanced Lighting, Painting, Watercolor, and Squiggle Line Drawing
- » Edit Back-Clipped Cameras Clipping Plane – edit the start and end of the camera in plan view after the view has been created
- » Automatic Elevations – generate exterior elevation and room elevation cameras with a single click
- » Improved Elevations – less editing necessary when sending Elevation and Section views to Layout and CAD Details

### **File Structure / Import / Export**

- » Mass Import Symbols – import an entire group or folder of symbols and add them to the library browser
- » Group-import Chief Architect Catalog Files (.calib and .calibz) – download multiple catalog libraries, then import them into Chief Architect in one step
- » Import Legacy Library Files (.alb)
- » Export Chief Architect Libraries – create .calib or .calibz (which contain associated textures) catalog files to share with other Chief Architect Users
- » Import Chief Architect Libraries without Installers (.calibz)

### **Framing / Building Tools**

- » Instant Automatic Framing – turn on automatic framing for walls, floors, ceilings and roofs to update framing instantly, as your design changes
- » Exposed Rafter Tails and Custom Rafter Tails – choose from a profile in the Library or draw your own; rafter tails display in 3D views
- » Roof Assembly Thickness – specify actual sizes, exclude or include components from the thickness calculation
- » Steel Framing – automatically create typical steel C-Channel and U-Channel framing members



- » **Wall Plates** – specify the number and size of wall framing bottom plates
- » **Roof Fascia and Sub-fascia** – control the display of roof fascia and sub-fascia for more accurate construction details
- » **Gable and Eave Fascia** – control the size and occurrence of fascia for gables and for eaves
- » **Blocking and Bridging** – define member size for roof framing
- » **New Sub Fascia** – generate sub fascia boards to accurately display your construction methods
- » **Improved Corner Boards**
- » **Wall Types** – new wall types for steel construction and demolitions; improved metric wall types

### **Landscaping / Plants**

- » **Landscape Bed Tool** – distribute plants along a line, a spline, or within a polyline region
- » **Plan and Image Draw Order** – define which plants appear on top in plan view
- » **Plant Symbol Fill** – plants now show as filled in plan, and the fill attributes can be edited
- » **New Plan View Plant Symbols** – control the plan display of your plants for landscaping layout design
- » **Image and Plant Multiple Select** – change dialogs settings with multiple plans or images selected
- » **Lock and Reset Aspect Ratio for Images and Plants**
- » **Reverse Image or Plant Objects**
- » **Over 1,800 New Realistic Plants**
- » **Labels for Plants in Plan View** – can be controlled by it's own layer
- » **New Plant Schedule** – keep track of all of the plants in your design

### **Layers and Layouts**

- » **New Roof Plan Layer Set**
- » **Updated Look** – improved default layer set colors and display for a more standardized look
- » **Layers for Labels** – control the display of labels for fixtures, furniture, plants, and more
- » **Reorder Layout Pages** – move pages in your layout set forward or backward
- » **Improved Elevations** – less editing necessary when sending Elevation and Section views to Layout and CAD Details

### **Library / Catalog / Content / Project Browser Tools**

- » **Over 3,200 New and Improved Library Objects** – new or updated objects in high quality and current styles
- » **Downloadable Brand-Name and Bonus Catalogs** – SSA members have access to downloadable catalogs
- » **New Library Browser** – organized to more easily find items – searching speed is significantly faster
- » **Rotate and Zoom the Library Preview** – examine library items before placing them in your plan
- » **Enhanced Search Tool** – includes filtering on item types
- » **Improved Symbol Import** – objects can be rotated at any angle on import – no longer restricted to 90 degrees
- » **Specify Symbols to Sit on Roof**
- » **Flush Mounted Symbols** – specify roof and ceiling mounted symbols rotate to match pitch
- » **Backdrops are Saved in the Library as Objects**
- » **Custom Rafter Tails** – add custom rafter tail profiles to the Library
- » **Project Browser** – maintains state; if you close the Project Browser you re-open to your last position
- » **Camera Labels** – camera names are preserved between plan view, menus, and project browser



### **Materials List / Schedules**

- » **New Room Finish Schedule** – show room materials and calculate area totals
- » **Framing Member Lengths** – better display of framing member lengths in the Materials List
- » **User Control of Master List Updates** – only update the Materials List when you specify
- » **Improved Materials List Representation of Cabinets** – find each unique cabinet listed with each sub-component indented below; wood species, stain colors, doors and drawers, hardware, and more
- » **Cabinet Schedule Displays Dimensions** – actual size, the width, depth and height, list for the cabinet
- » **Add Schedules with a Single Click**
- » **Window Schedule Includes “Egress” Column**
- » **Door Schedule Includes “Type” Column**
- » **Display Door Sizes in Door Schedules**
- » **Room Labels** – specify the room type and custom room labels in the Room Specification dialog; control which gets included in plan view and in the Room Finish Schedule
- » **New Plant Schedule**

### **Roofs / Gutters / Skylights**

- » **Roof Assembly Thickness** – specify actual sizes, exclude or include components from the thickness calculation
- » **Exposed Rafter Tails and Custom Rafter Tails** – choose from a profile in the Library or draw your own; rafter tails display in 3D views
- » **Improved Rafters** – rafters conform to the shape of the eave automatically
- » **Improved Gable Line Tool** – use the Gable Line on a pop-out parallel wall to generate a gable roof for the pop-out
- » **Soffits Thickness Displays in Cross-Section Views**
- » **Soffit Controls** – choose to display and control the thickness of the soffit material
- » **Gable and Eave Fascia** – control the size and occurrence of fascia for gables and for eaves
- » **New Sub Fascia** – generate sub fascia boards to accurately display your construction methods
- » **Roof Fascia and Sub-fascia** – control the display of roof fascia and generate sub-fascia framing for more accurate construction details
- » **Blocking and Bridging** – define member size for roof framing
- » **Curved Roof Editing** – improved feedback while editing curved roof planes

### **Rooms / Floors**

- » **Room Labels** – specify the room type and custom room labels in the Room Specification dialog; control which gets included in plan view and in the Room Finish Schedule
- » **New Room Finish Schedule** – show room materials and calculate area totals
- » **New Hole in Floor Platform and Hole in Ceiling Platform Tools**
- » **Ceiling Height Labels** – new text macros for ceiling height and lowered ceiling height
- » **Build Foundation Dialog** – provides more foundation options

### **Terrain / Roads / Sidewalks**

- » **New Spline and Polyline Driveway Tools**
- » **Import Terrain and Elevation Data** – in one step import all layers including elevation data and terrain perimeter



### **Text and Arrows**

- » **Rich Text** – format your text with multiple colors, fonts, and more; copy and paste text to and from external applications while preserving the rich text format
- » **Convert Text to Rich Text with the Convert Text tool**
- » **Text Macros** – new text macros for ceiling height and lowered ceiling height

### **General**

- » **Faster Install and Uninstall Times**
- » **Support & Software Assurance**
  - » Priority Technical Support
  - » Brand-name and Bonus Catalog Downloads
  - » Online Video Training Access
  - » New Software Versions
- » **Green Product Development**
  - » Training Videos accessible online, searchable
  - » Reference Manual and User's Guide available electronically and not printed – saving 1,400 paper pages (a hardcopy is still available for purchase)
  - » Product packaging reduced from 5 lbs to 0.5 lb
  - » Software lock as default security eliminating need for hardware lock (hardware lock is still available for purchase)
  - » DVDs disks reduced from 9 to 1