

3.3.4 Linking CAD Files

Any required CAD reference files are to be linked into the Revit model. Do not import CAD files because they bring foreign style definitions and generate file corruption.

Keep in mind best practices while working with DWG files:

- DWG files should be audited and purged before linking.
- Minimize the number of DWG links. Link DWG files instead of importing them.
- Link DWG: file can be updated in the original software (i.e. AutoCAD) and reloaded, like an external reference.
- Imported DWG: File remains as is. Any changes in the DWG file in the original software (i.e. AutoCAD) will not be reflected or reloaded unless deleted and linked again. Don't explode DWG files.
- Delete hatches in DWG files if possible. Linking to DWG files with hatches will result in slow model performance.
- Remove all unnecessary linework, linetypes, layers and elements.
- DWG details should be redrawn in Revit. In many instances, line type issues and printing problems will take longer to resolve than to redraw the information in Revit.