

ArchiCAD Computer Tips & Techniques: TREES

by The Drawing Studio

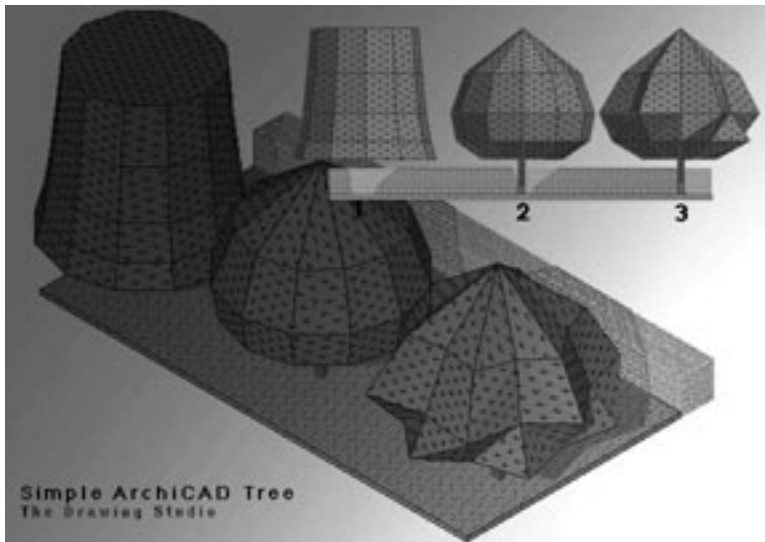
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THE DRAWING STUDIO

ARCHICAD - 2 a - SIMPLE TREE , ©1994-2004



This file is titled: The Drawing Studio (TDS)-2aSimpleTree.text and is grouped with the picture file titled: TDS-2bSimpleTree.JPG.

The following is The Drawing Studio's favorite easy-to-create entourage was tested and compiled with the help of Doug Alligood of Philip Johnson, Ritchie & Fiore Architects. It is outlined in a step-by-step process so that even a beginner can manage these techniques.

The following examples allow the user to create simple entourage for large master-plan type projects without making hundreds of library parts that eat up processing power during shading or photorendering operations.

Beginners note: to find toolbox, go to "Menu: Window: Floating Palettes...: Show Toolbox".

SIMPLE ARCHICAD TREE:

To create a simple tree using the Hip Roof tool to illustrate the technique:

- 1 Create a ground plane using the slab tool and set at elevation 0'-0";
- 2 Draw 2 complete circles at 4'-6" and 8'-0" radii for this example;
- 3 Double click on the Hip Roof tool; set Levels to 4;
- 4 From bottom to top, set dimensions to 0", 2', 3', 4'-6" and 5'; set elevation off ground to 4'-6"; set materials (both) to Evergreen; click OK;
- 5 Go to "Menu: Options: Materials: Evergreen: Expert: 3D Hatching" and select a fill pattern you would like to see in Hidden Line or Shading mode; click OK for both windows;
- 6 Go to "Menu: Edit: Curved Edge Segments..." and click on the radio button labeled "Divide Actual Arc..." and set to "by...12";
- 7 With the Hip Roof tool box still selected, press and hold the space bar down and click once on the outer circle; in plan you will have 5 parallel lines in 12 sets completing the circle; if you go to perspec-

tive view you will see Step-1 as noted in the TDS-2bSimpleTree.JPG file;

8 In the following set of instructions you will move the 1st, 5th, and 3rd set of parallel lines (starting with the inner most line) in that order; First, move the cursor over node of the Hip roof you've drawn until it turns into a check mark, click once; then select the Hip Roof tool;

9 Next, move the cursor to a node that is on the inner most part of the roof; click and drag this point all the way to the center; repeat this for the other 11 points of the inner nodes; Don't forget that last node-check twice so you don't miss it;

10 Now move to the 5th set of lines (outer most line) and drag these points to the smallest circle (hold down the shift key while dragging);

11 Move to the 3rd set of parallel lines and drag these nodes to the large circle;

12 Add a trunk. See TDS-2bSimpleTree.JPG example 2; Note: by exaggerating this process you can add extra complexity to the tree, See TDS-SimpleTree.Pict example (Semi-Complex Tree). You can also overlap 2 'Hipped Roof' trees to create even more complex and unpredictable results. Experiment and have fun. END