Chief Architect X4
Feature Comparison

Chief Architect X4 — Premier | Interiors | Lite
Home Designer — Pro 2012

Category	Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
3D Rendering & Visualization	Perspective & Orthographic 3D Camera tools. Orthographic is ideal for cross section and elevation views. Perspective is ideal for Full Overview, Floor Overview (Doll House), Floor Camera, Full Camera , and Framing Views. Camera views can be named, edited, and saved. Use 3D Settings Controls to adjust the display options and settings.	●	●	●	●
	3D Navigation tools & Virtual Tours. Create 3D views and navigate, spin, rotate, pan, orbit, tilt, and move forward or backward. Use the View Direction Tools to quickly set the view to top down, left side, right side or bottom angles. Record virtual walk-through tours while navigating in 3D views. Pause the recording or save frames as desired. Draw a line or spline and record along that designated path. Define the frame rate for recording an .AVI file.	●	●	●	●
	Photo Realistic Rendering. New Chief Architect Ray Trace Rendering Engine (replacing the previous POV-Ray ray trace engine). The new Chief Ray Tracer offers significant performance improvement with its ability to use multiple core processors. Lighting and materials now have specific properties that can be set for very photo realistic rendering.	●	●	--	--
	Reflective material type. Create material definitions to represent reflective surfaces for ray trace views. *	●	●	--	--
	Ray Trace Wizard. A New Ray Trace Wizard with predefined settings for indoor and outdoor scenes to jump start your photo realistic ray trace renderings. The wizard applies predefined settings which can then be edited to your specific rendering needs.	●	●	--	--
	Improved lighting through windows in Ray Trace views. Generate scenes with both natural and man made lighting. *	●	●	--	--
	Enhanced feedback accuracy for time estimates when generating Ray Trace views. *	●	●	--	--
	Rendered Views now more closely represent Ray Trace Views . *	●	●	--	--
	Artistic Rendering – Watercolor, Line Drawing….. Artistic Rendering techniques include, 3D Standard Render, Watercolor, Squiggle Line Drawing, Technical Illustration, Painting, Vector View, Glass House, and DuoTone.	●	●	Limited to Standard, Vector, and Glass House	Limited to Standard, Vector, Glass House, Technical Illustration, and Watercolor
	Advanced Render Technique Defaults. Use Pre-set attributes or customize your own for the different Render Technique styles. For example, set the squiggle amount for Line Drawing or the colors for Technical Illustration.	●	●	--	--
	Cross Section Render Technique controls. Access the render techniques for Cross Section views through the camera specification dialog. *	●	●	--	--
	3D Focal Blur & Enhanced control of ambient light. Use depth of field in Ray Traced views, just like a real camera. Create renderings that exhibit similar detail as real photography. Enhanced control of ambient light within Ray Tracing.	●	●	--	--
	3D Views are optimized for multiple core processors and enhanced memory usage in 3D views. Significantly enhanced memory usage, faster 3D views, and Send To Layout with multi-core processors. Adjust render settings for optimal processing speed and quality results.	●	●	●	●
	Cross Section Slider™. Show views being cut from the top, bottom, front, back, left or right side. Adjust the amount cut away from the model.	●	●	●	●
	Delete / Remove Surface tool. Temporarily remove surfaces in 3D views to expose and visualize the underlying model.	●	●	●	●
	Panoramic or spherical backdrops.	●	●	●	●
Cross Sections & Elevations	Cross Sections, Back-Clipped Cross Sections & Elevations. Use the orthographic camera to create an elevation or cross section view. Back-Clipped Cross Section views control the cut distance generated for a cross section.	●	●	●	●
	Auto-generate Exterior & Interior Room Elevations.	●	--	--	--
	Dimension, Annotate and Detail Cross Sections & Elevation Views. Use the text, arrow, dimension, and CAD tools to add complete details to your Cross Section and Elevation views. Select and edit, delete, resize, or move objects. Add notes and dimensions or insert CAD details.	●	●	●	●
	CAD Details Catalog & Auto-Detailing tool. Toggle between displays for insulation and fill patterns. Choose from over 500 CAD Details to overlay on your design.	●	--	--	--
	Opening Indicators – Doors, Windows & Cabinets. Show or hide opening indicators for hinge side of doors, windows and cabinet using Layers in Elevation, Cross Section, and Plan views.	●	●	●	●

* Denotes new or improved features.

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Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Plans & Layouts				
Layout tool – for construction documents. Layout sheets are used to organize plans, elevations, CAD details, schedules, site plans, and other items for construction documents. The drawings can be scaled and printed at any size. All views are dynamically linked to the original model reflecting any update you make. Reorder the Layout pages for construction documents. Create templates for Layouts with borders and title blocks.	●	●	●	18" x 24" max
Set up multiple Pages per Layout File.	1000 Pages	200 Pages	200 Pages	1 Page
Advanced Layout Editing. Edit line views sent to the layout, rescale views sent to layout, re-link views on the layout to reference different files.	●	●	●	--
Enhanced "Send to Layout" and "CAD Detail From View". Experience faster response times and improved line generation *	●	Excludes CAD Details	Excludes CAD Details	Excludes CAD Details
Library / Catalog Browser. Choose from thousands of items. Download new content from Chief Architect or from third party sources. The Library includes generic and manufacturer brands.	●	●	Excludes Manufacturer Catalogs	●
Project Browser. A project organization tool to manage and navigate, project files, floors, elevations, cross sections, 3D views, cameras, and CAD details. Rename cameras, view multiple projects at once, easily access details and share them between projects.	●	--	--	--
Design Structures with multiple Floors. Excludes attic and basement or foundation.	30 Floors	10 Floors	10 Floors	3 Floors
Unlimited number of Opened Files. Reference as many plans or views during a single session. Limited to your computer's resources.	●	●	●	●
Plan Templates. Choose pre-defined Plan Templates or create your own.	●	●	●	●
Time Tracker™ tool. Measure working time per project, per client, or per task. Start and stop the Time Tracker. View, edit, and export a time log, and add notes for each project.	●	●	●	--
Residential Code Checklist. Use the Chief Architect partner code to download the ICC's Residential Code Checklist for National Building Codes.	●	--	●	●
Plan Database tool. Create a plan database to organizing your plan portfolio.	●	●	●	●
Plan Check tool. Provides a review for basic room egress, roof, wall layout, and more.	●	●	●	●
Rotate & Flip Plan tools. Flip or create a mirror image. Rotate the orientation of the floor plan view on your screen.	●	●	●	●
Insert & Exchange Floors. Use the Floor Above/Below tool to insert and exchange floors. Insert new Floors or levels between existing floors.	●	--	●	--
House Wizard™. Drag-and-drop room bubbles and arrange them before converting them to walls. Provides a quick way to lay out rooms that adjoin the project to illustrate how the completed project would look.	●	●	●	●
Model Maker™. Print designs that can be assembled into 3D Models	●	--	●	●
Loan Calculator tool. Calculate mortgage payments.	●	●	●	●
Home Designer® Plan Share. Share Chief Architect® plans with the consumer / DIY Home Designer® products. Your clients can use this for floor/space planning and change colors, materials and textures. Features a Plan Lock to prevent Home Designer from editing the Plan file.	●	●	--	--
Chief Architect Interiors files compatible with Chief Architect Viewer. Share your Chief Architect Premier and Interior design files with clients using the free Chief Architect Viewer software *	●	●	--	--
Rooms				
Room Defaults – ceiling height, style, moldings, wall covering, floor materials. Control the initial behavior by specifying default values. Define room attributes by room type.	●	●	●	●
Enhanced interface for Room Specification dialog.	●	●	●	●
Specify when a room is calculated in the Living Area. For example, specify the garage or attic to be included or excluded in the living area calculation.	●	●	●	●
Name individual Rooms. Name individual rooms from a defined list of types or create new names. Custom Room Label controls - assign room types as well as custom room labels. Rooms display dimensions with interior area measurements. Multiple Room Select to group edit the Room attributes.	●	●	●	●
Custom Room Label controls. Assign room types as well as custom room labels.	●	●	●	●
Room Dimension Format Defaults. Define the display of room dimensions.	●	--	--	--
Control over new Room specifications when additional floors are added. Use the Floor Defaults dialog to set up a new floor's attributes.	●	●	●	●
Display any combination of Room Label Size Layers. Display the Dimensional Size and the Square Footage labels for a room at one time.	●	●	●	●
Automatic Room Connections. Island rooms (rooms within rooms) automatically connect to outer rooms via an invisible wall to ensure proper room definitions *	●	●	●	●
Accurately Layered Floor & Ceiling Platforms. 3D model includes Finished Floor and Finished Ceiling heights. Use these layers to add dimension details and define cabinet and stair elevations.	●	--	●	--
Define floor coverings, finishes, and sub-layers.	●	●	●	●
Raised Floor Platforms. Specify raised floor platforms that are automatically framed	●	--	●	--

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Walls				
Molding display control by Room. Specify height, width, and orientation of moldings from floor or ceiling. Control the display of moldings in any room type.	●	●	●	●
Room Molding Polyline & 3D Molding Polylines tool. Automatically generate a molding polyline derived from the room's perimeter. Reshape the polyline as desired and attach multiple molding profiles. Designate sizes for each profile and specify its height off the floor. 3D Molding Polylines create horizontal and vertical moldings.	●	●	Excludes 3D Molding Polylines	--
Room Polyline. Automatically generate a polyline derived from the room's perimeter. Use the polyline tools to generate a Materials List, view the area, or convert to a molding, slab, and other custom options.	●	●	●	--
Room Polygon tool. Create a Room automatically with pre-specified dimensions.	●	●	--	--
Wall tools. Wall Styles include interior, exterior, railing, pony, half wall, curved, angled, raked, stepped. All styles are customizable with unique layers. Wall Types include structural wood, stucco steel, concrete ICF, SIPS, glass block, railings.	●	●	●	●
Draw and edit Walls in 2D and 3D .	●	●	●	●
Create custom Wall styles with multiple layers. All the Wall layers calculate into the Materials List.	●	●	●	●
Curved Wall controls for radius, center, and ends.	●	●	●	●
Half-Wall tool. Draw half walls and specify their default values (also known as solid railings).	●	●	●	●
Solid Railing & Half-Wall material options. Include wall assembly layers and control them just as you would a standard wall.	●	●	●	●
Improved railings clip to ceiling surface. Railings that intersect roofs and ceilings are automatically clipped to fit the slope. *	●	●	●	●
Pony Walls. For a two section Wall, define materials for each section. Control window and door display, dimensions, alignment between floors.	●	●	●	●
Pony Wall height controls. Adjust the height of individual Pony Walls by typing the lower wall's height into the dialog *	●	●	●	●
Double Walls for marriage walls and multi-family units. Includes window and door control.	●	--	●	--
Thru-Wall controls. Specify wall intersections / framing on a per wall end basis using the new Thru-Wall attribute *	●	--	●	--
Improved Wall Connections for more accurate plan view representations of wall intersections. Turn ON or OFF Thru-Wall connection display in plan view. *	●	--	●	--
Create Raked & Stepped Walls. Control heights of walls, add breaks and adjust in Cross Section and Elevation views. Define stepped foundations with vertical footing control.	●	●	●	●
Wall Align tool. Align walls on another floor (individually or group selected). Toggle the floor reference to see through to the floor above or below.	●	●	●	●
Automatic Attic Walls. Control creation and options.	●	--	--	--
Align wall layers with foundation. Use the wall setting "Foundation to this Line" to specify the alignment of walls with foundations walls. *	●	--	●	--
Steel Framing with C-Channels & U-Channels. Specify steel framing members and show them in 3D Framing views.	●	--	●	--
Set up designs for Remodeling. Place New, Existing, Demolition and Remodeling Walls on unique layers	●	●	●	--
Enhanced Wall Editing. Adjust wall lengths by selecting dimensions or temporary dimensions that run parallel to the wall. *	●	●	●	●
Continuous Wall Draw mode. Right click to enable continuous wall drawing mode - speeds up wall draw time.	●	--	--	--
Invisible Wall Defaults. Invisible Walls are typically used for room definition when a regular wall is not appropriate. Define the default attributes.	●	●	●	●
Terrain Walls. Terrain Walls follow terrain contours.	●	--	●	●
Wall Corner Boards & Quoins.	●	--	●	●
Defaults for Corner Trim. Set their size and material attributes.	●	●	●	●
Cabinets				
Convert Automatic Countertops to Custom Countertops. Change the automatically generated countertop to a custom countertop that can be edited and resized independently from the cabinet.	●	●	●	●
Countertop Edge Molding. Control the display of edge molding applied to custom countertops	●	●	●	--
Rounded Cabinet Corners. Specify rounded or chamfered corners on a cabinet box.	●	●	●	●
Rounded Countertop Corners for Automatic Countertops.	●	●	●	●
Cabinet Moldings. Add crown moldings, light rails, dentil and rope molding details to Cabinets	●	●	●	●
Easily create Stacked Molding. Add multiple moldings to objects and specify vertical and horizontal offset distances with different Molding Profiles to create stacked moldings. *	●	●	--	--

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Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Cabinet Millwork & End Panels. Pilasters, feet, legs, and moldings. All resize automatically as the cabinet changes. Attach End Panels to the sides and back of cabinets. Panels can be set to be automatically generated when an end or back is exposed, or they can be manually turned on or off. Control materials by specifying finished, unfinished, or automatic sides. The automatic feature can determine if the cabinet is exposed or against another cabinet.	●	●	Excludes End Panels	--
Cabinet Fillers. Create cabinet fillers automatically between cabinets, or add them manually.	●	●	Excludes Manual Fillers	Excludes Manual Fillers
Frameless Cabinet settings. Change the cabinet style in one click with the new Frameless and Full Overlay options for cabinets. *	●	●	●	●
Blind Corner Cabinet Controls. Turn On or Off Automatic Blind Corner Cabinet behavior. *	●	●	--	--
Architectural Blocks, save customized Cabinets to the Library. Save any Cabinet, group of Cabinets, or an entire room of Cabinets as an Architectural Block and store in the Library for future use. Unblock the cabinet grouping and modify as needed. For example, store kitchen islands or an entire kitchen in your library for future designs.	●	●	--	--
Regular & Sloped Soffits. Generate sloped soffits that automatically match roof or ceiling pitch, or manually adjust slope. Control the initial behavior by specifying default values.	●	●	●	●
Define Cabinets to sub-floor or finish floor height. Define elevation for cabinets, furniture, fixtures and stairs relative to finished floor or sub-floor.	●	Excludes Floor Layers	Finish Floor Only	Finish Floor Only
Cabinet Designer™ tools. Create any style of Cabinet using the Smart Parametric tools including Framed, Frameless, Curved, Angled and Bow. Adjust drawers, face frames, doors, styles, shapes, shelves, moldings, backsplashes, appliances, countertops and several other items.	●	●	●	Excludes Bow-Front Cabinets
Manufacturer Catalogs & Smart Parametric Cabinets.	●	●	Parametric	Parametric
Manufacturer Catalogs - doors, windows, cabinets and several others. Manufacturer's cabinet catalogs include door and drawer styles, cabinet boxes, colors, and wood species.	●	●	--	--
Define Cabinet defaults. Control the initial behavior by specifying default values - define, colors, sizes, doors and drawer styles, moldings, materials, countertops, hardware, and several other attributes for the cabinets as you begin a new design.	●	●	●	●
Cabinet Specification dialog. Use a specification dialog to define and customize your Cabinets.	●	●	●	●
Place Cabinet Doors, Drawers, and End Panels on Cabinets or as stand-alone objects.	●	●	●	●
Improved Corner Cabinet Hardware. Single knob hardware for pie-cut corner cabinets. *	●	●	●	●
NKBA standardized. Cabinet display options conform to NKBA standards including countertops, line styles, labels and more.	●	●	●	--
NKBA approved software for professional certification testing.	●	●	--	--
Display Countertop lines in Plan View and control the display with a Layer.	●	●	●	●
Custom Countertop tool creates countertops of any shape or size. Draw and edit countertops manually. Add countertop holes, edge profiles, adjust the thickness and height off the floor.	●	●	●	●
Custom Door & Window tools. Create any style of Door, Doorway, and Window including Arched, Shaped and Mulled. Use the Smart Parametric tools. Doors styles include interior, exterior, sliding, pocket, bi-fold, atrium, double-swing, and garage. Hardware Library - Hinges, Handles and Locks. Windows styles include interior, exterior, single/double hung, sliding, casement, corner, recessed, bay, and box	●	●	●	●
Manufacturer Catalogs and Smart Parametric Doors & Windows . Catalog Doors have interior and exterior material settings. Define colors and wood species.	●	●	Parametric Items Only	Parametric Items Only
Door Defaults by Door Type. Set unique door defaults for different types of doors: hinged, pocket, bifold, sliding, and garage. *	●	●	●	●
Pass-Thru tool. Create an opening between two rooms.	●	●	●	●
Visual Door Placement feedback. Visualize door placement prior to actually placing the door with intuitive control of the hinge and swing.	●	●	●	●
3D Door Display options. New edit tools "Show Door Open in 3D" and "Show Door Closed in 3D" make it fast and easy to control the state of doors in 3D views. *	●	●	●	●
Atrium Door options. Create Center Swing Double-Doors, also known as atrium patio doors. Define a variety of other ways to open the doors	●	●	●	●
Adjustable Louver Sizes. New louver attribute allows you to control their size in windows and doors. *	●	●	●	●
Improved representation of doors recessed into masonry walls. *	●	●	●	●
Mulled Units, save customized Doors & Windows to the Library. Create custom Mulled door and window blocks. Move, dimension, and label them as single units and add them to the Library. Mulled Units that contain Doors are automatically recognized as Door objects for Schedules and Schedule Labels.	●	●	●	--

Doors & Windows (row group label appears beside "Custom Door & Window tools")

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Double Walls/Window/Door Control for marriage walls and multi-family units.	●	●	●	--
Unlimited Divided Lites for glass. Create Windows and Glass Doors with an unlimited number of lites.	●	●	●	●
Custom Muntins. Design your own muntins using the CAD tools and attach them to windows.	●	●	●	--
Window Treatments & Shutters. Adjust curtains by the height off floor and height above casing. Specify shutters on either side of a window. Blinds fit inside casing when attached to Windows.	●	●	●	●
Door & Window Capitals. Place capitals above Window or Door casing and set the height and width.	●	●	●	--
Sills & Lintels. Specify sills for windows and set the height and width. Lintels - control window and door trim sizes.	●	●	●	Excludes Sills
Bay or Bow Windows Multiple Select. Select then edit a group of bay, box or bow windows.	●	●	●	●

Roofs & Ceilings

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Build Automatic Roofs - gable, hip, shed, gambrel, mansard, and several others. Generate the roof for any design automatically. Use the Auto-Rebuild Roofs feature to automatically update the roof as your design changes.	●	●	●	●
Draw and edit roofs in 2D and 3D. Design the roof in a split screen with both the 2D and 3D views up at the same time to visualize the design.	●	●	●	●
Custom Roof & Ceiling tools. Draw Roof and Ceiling planes and shape and edit them to produce any custom style - including curved.	●	●	●	●
Build Roof options - pitch, overhang, raise of plate for energy heels, curved roof information, framing details, fascias, gutters, exposed rafters and roof returns and many other options. Specify pitch, overhang, raise of plate for energy heels, curved roof information, framing details, fascias, gutters, exposed rafters and roof returns and many other options Includes roof and ceiling framing and trusses. See the Framing section for details.	●	Controls for Custom Ceilings Only	●	Excluded Curved Roofs, Custom Gutters, & Exposed Rafters
Gable & Hip Roof Toggle tool. Toggle the roof between these two styles using the Gable / Hip tool in 3D and 2D.	●	●	●	●
Auto Roof Returns™ for Gable Walls. Gable, Hip, Full, Sloping and Flat.	●	●	●	●
Roof Gable Line tool. Draw a line over a door or window and the program will automatically generate Gable roof.	●	●	●	●
Auto Dormer™ tool. Generate floating (false) and structural dormers automatically. Set the dormer size, roof pitch, and accurately place them on a roof.	●	●	●	●
Dormers types – eyebrow, gable, hip, shed, gambrel, mansard, barrel, and hip curved.	●	●	●	--
Automatic Ceilings & Ceiling tools - create custom styles including cathedral, trey, coffered, and barrel. Automatic ceilings are created once a roof is generated.	●	●	●	Excludes Barrel
Roof Layer controls - specify the thickness of roof components.	●	●	●	●
Skylights. Automatically cut the roof with correct structural framing. Define Square or Plum sides and frame width and height.	●	●	●	●
Define Roof attributes per wall including multiple Roof Pitches & Overhangs .	●	●	●	●
Fascia & Sub Fascia control. Control the size and display of fascia boards.	●	●	●	●
Gutters & Frieze Moldings. Create custom profiles for gutters and friezes. Attach them to roofs so that they update and resize as the roof design changes.	●	--	Excludes Frieze	--

Stairs & Ramps

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Stair tool. Specify tread width, length, tread number, overhang, and thickness. Set riser height, top and bottom height. Specify details about stringers, open underneath, runners, railing details, baluster and newel styles and shapes, brackets, handrails on walls next to stairs, around corners, and hand rail profile.	●	●	●	Excludes Hand Rail Profile
One-Click™ Stairs & Ramps. Auto place stairs from platform to platform. Platform to terrain Stairs and Ramps automatically connect to the terrain when drawn from the ground to the structure.	●	Excludes Terrain	●	●
Advanced Stair tools. Customize curved sections, flared treads, starter treads, winders, definable walk line, maintainable tread width, and landings.	●	●	●	●
Wrap Around Stairs, connect treads around corners.	●	●	●	●
Auto Stairwell™. Creates stairwell and the platform to match the staircase.	●	●	●	●
Stair Defaults for interior & exterior Stairs.	●	--	--	--
Enhanced interface for Stair Specification dialog. Dialog diagram and access to change more attributes about stairs.	●	●	●	●
Enhanced Stairs editing options. Options for riser heights, tread width, start height, and bottom height.	●	●	●	●
Define Stair starting elevation. Specify whether stairs and ramps are located at the sub-floor or the finished floor elevation.	●	●	●	●
Ramp tool. Default Ramp is ADA compliant. Specify length, slope rise and run. Specify overhangs, railings, tread surface, open underneath, baluster and newel styles, shapes, and hand rail profile.	●	●	●	●
Ramp Defaults. Set up default attributes for ramps	●	--	--	--

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Landing tool. Create Custom Landings to auto-connect Stair sections or Ramp sections together. Choose auto adjust features for the height and thickness based on stair or ramp connection. Turn railings on or off per Landing edge.	●	●	●	●
Custom Newels & Balusters. Choose from newels and balusters in the Library Catalog or import your own.	●	●	--	--
Automatic Handrail width on Wall width. Define the Handrail width based on the width of the Wall.	●	●	●	●
Independent Railings. Create custom railing styles such as glass, cable, or panels.	●	●	●	●
Railing Opening & Wall surface offset. Control whether an automatic opening is created when attaching a Stair or Ramp to a wall or railing. Control the offset of the automatic wall surface under a Stair.	●	Excludes Wall surface offset	Excludes Wall surface offset	Excludes Wall surface offset
Multiple Stair Select. Group edit the Stair attributes.	●	●	●	●
Enhanced materials controls for Landings & Stairs. Individually control the material assignments for stair and landing components.	●	●	●	●

Foundations

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Foundation tools for Slab, Pier, Crawlspace, Full Basement, Stem Walls, Footings, Post & Beam, Grade Beam. Set up a default foundation type, controlling stem-wall height, footing size, slab or pier information. Edit the foundations settings after it has been built.	●	Excludes Pier Foundations and custom controls over footings and slabs	●	●
Foundation Defaults. More detailed control over the foundation automatically generated for Garage rooms. *	●	●	●	●
Auto Rebuild Foundations. Automatically update the foundation plan to align with the 1st floor as the design progresses. *	●	●	●	●
Monolithic Slab technology. Designing slab foundations is now faster, easier, and more accurate. *	●	--	●	●
Monolithic Slab Inset Ledges. Create monolithic slab foundations with inset ledges for masonry wall construction. *	●	--	●	--
Monolithic Slab Curbing. Specify curbing for monolithic slab foundations. *	●	--	●	--
Enhanced Garage Slabs with monolithic foundations. Select components of the slab and adjust garage specific settings to suit your design *	●	--	●	●
Display cutout indicators for Garage Doors in foundation stem walls and curbing. *	●	--	●	●
Bearing Wall attribute. Generate a footing, or foundation wall + footing below, when automatic foundations are created by setting a wall as a Bearing Wall. *	●	--	●	--
Slab footing specification. Control footings for slabs on a per edge basis; resize, dimension, or exclude the footing. *	●	--	●	●
Vertical Footing Control. Define stepped foundations with vertical footing control. Choose to show or hide vertical footings for stepped foundations.	●	--	●	●
Improved foundations with Slab at top of Stem Wall. *	●	●	●	●
Specify Foundation Piers as Round or Square.	●	--	●	●
Rebar calculations for Posts & Beams. Specify the amount of rebar required for foundations so that it is calculation on the Materials List.	●	--	●	--
Specify Slabs for crawl spaces.	●	●	●	--
Slab Volume listed in the slab specification dialog for easy reference. *	●	--	●	●
Wall Footing Offset. Choose to center footings on Wall's main layer or specify an offset value.	●	--	●	--

Framing

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Automatic Framing - floors, walls, ceilings, roofs, openings, headers. Turn on / off automatic framing – move a window and the framing updates. Define Trimmers and Headers based on opening sizes.	●	--	●	●
Manual Framing tools. Draw individual framing members or select and edit automatically generated members.	●	--	●	●
Trusses automatically configured to fit the space. Floor, ceiling, and roof trusses. Create trusses that automatically conform and fit between platforms; manually edit and customize them. Truss options include scissor, attic, step down, girder, sub-girder, drop hip, jacks, kingpost, gable end, reduced gable, energy heel.	●	--	●	●
Truss Details. Automatically generated truss details for floor, ceiling, and roof trusses. Each truss is labeled for easy identification.	●	--	●	--
Roof Framing options. Hand Stack or Truss Frame. Define rafters, ridges, lookouts, sub-fascia, blocking, bridging. Valley fill roof trusses. Exposed Rafter Tails and custom rafter tail cuts - choose a molding profile or draw your own profile.	●	--	●	Excludes Exposed Rafter Tails and Custom Rafter Tail Profiles
Control Roof Lookout framing. Turn on or off the automatic generation of lookout framing in the Framing dialog. *	●	--	●	●
Enhanced control of Birdsmouth cuts for Rafters. Turn off auto calculation of birdsmouth and manually specify the birdsmouth seat.	●	--	●	--
Wall Framing options. Define number of plates, stud thickness, spacing, bridging, miter ends, framing for short walls and knee walls. Balloon Wall Framing platforms extend through walls or walls through platforms. Steel Framing for walls, headers, joists, and rafters - automatically creates C-Channel and U-Channel shaped framing members for typical steel framing. Define the number of Rim Joists generated on a per wall basis.	●	--	--	--

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Wall Framing details on a per Wall basis. For each wall, view and edit wall framing, add dimensions or callouts. Use to produce framing schedules or wall details.	●	--	●	--
Post & Beam framing tools - specify Round or Square posts. Set the Default Material for Posts in the framing defaults.	●	--	●	●
Automatically produce platform holes, foundation holes. Use polyline tools to generate holes for the floor or ceiling and automatically generate framing around them.	●	--	●	--
Deck Framing options. Define Plank overhang, width, gap, direction, border planks, beams and joists. Define widths, spacing, direction and type of planks. Automatically re-build framing as the design changes. Include or exclude beams, posts, and footings.	●	--	●	●
Deck Planking - change the materials applied to all planks. Paint one deck plank in 3D and all planks will update.	●	--	●	●
CAD tools. Comprehensive CAD objects and editing tools: Points, Lines, Polylines, Splines, Arcs, Circles, Ovals, Boxes, Arrows, Solids, Primitives, Fence, Trim Extend, Parallel, Perpendicular, Reflect, Replicate, Transform, Fillet, Chamfer, and several others.	●	●	●	●
3D Primitive, Advanced Polyline & Face tools. Create custom solids with a variety of shapes. Edit polylines using Polyline Subtract, Polyline Union, and Polyline Intersection. Create solid faces, extrude and revolve them to create custom objects.	●	●	--	--
Polyline Solid tools. Create 3D shapes using the Polyline Solid tool. Create custom countertop shapes, backsplashes, tub platforms, etc.	●	●	--	--
Polygon CAD tool. Creates regularly-shaped polylines of pre-specified dimensions. Specify the number of sides and specify the polygon size by length of sides or overall radius.	●	●	--	--
Convert 2D CAD lines and polylines to other Chief objects. Quickly convert CAD to Polyline Solids, Molding Polylines, Countertops, Slabs, Landings, Holes in Roofs and Platforms. Convert Arcs and Circles to Polylines. Convert polylines to Revision Clouds and Material List Areas. Convert to Elevation and Terrain data, Sprinklers, Roads, Road Markings, and Sidewalks.	●	Excludes Elevation and Terrain Objects	●	Excludes Moldings, Holes, Revision Clouds, Materials Areas, Roads, and Sidewalks
CAD Detail From View tool. Generate a CAD Detail from any view. Add or remove lines, add dimensions, fill patterns, text, and callouts. Use CAD details in your Layout and save to the Library for future use.	●	--	--	--
CAD-to-Walls™. Import CAD files, such as AutoCAD®, and convert CAD lines to fully configured 3D walls, windows, and doors.	●	●	●	●
Over 500 Architectural CAD Details. Details for residential structural elements. Detailed assemblies for floors, roofs, decks, walls and foundations.	●	Includes a subset of CAD Details	Includes a subset of CAD Details	--
Align / Distribute Objects tool. Define distribution and automatic alignment of CAD objects.	●	●	●	--
Create and manage CAD Details & Blocks. Draw customized details and diagrams, print them to scale, and save for reuse in the Library.	●	●	●	--
Auto Purge CAD Blocks option. Unused CAD Blocks can be automatically purged from plans when the program is closed.	●	●	●	--
Specify Insertion Points for CAD Blocks. Define an exact location for inserting and placing CAD Blocks.	●	●	●	--
Custom Line Style Editor tool. Design your own lines styles are reuse them throughout your projects.	●	--	--	--
Close Polyline tool, Filleted Polylines radius. Select any polyline and choose Close Polyline to automatically connect the start and end points. Editing of filleted polylines retains fillet radius.	●	●	●	●
Arc Creation Modes. Choose from a number of methods to precisely draw arcs.	●	●	●	Includes Free Form Arc and Arc About Center tools only
Current CAD Layer & CAD Points saved with plans and layouts. When a plan is closed and re-opened, the CAD Layer used in the previous session is active.	●	●	●	Excludes CAD Points
Preference control for Roof Intersection CAD Points. Control the display of the auto-generated CAD points.	●	●	●	--
Select Same, Load Same & Make Same tools. Match properties between items of the same type. Edit similar items, including Electrical and Images.	●	--	●	--
Visual CAD Snaps™. Snap indicators – center, end point, tangent, and several others. Snap to objects or a grid. Snap to Reference Floor layer (a floor above or below the current floor).	●	●	●	Excludes Extension Snaps
Angle Snap preview while drawing.	●	●	●	●
Multiple Copy tool. Replicate objects at pre-defined increments. Set default increments for different types of framing objects, as well as general objects.	●	●	●	--
Paste Hold Position tool. Copy an item between layers, plans or floors while maintaining orientation and exact position.	●	●	●	●
Point-to-Point Move tool. Accurately move or copy objects.	●	●	●	●

CAD Tools

* Denotes new or improved features.

	Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Layers	Layer Sets. Set up unique layer groupings for display and printing. Create separate Layer sets for Electrical Plans, Framing Views, or Space Planning. Use the Layer Set toolbar to quickly swap active Layer Sets. Swap Layer Sets using Annotation Sets.	●	●	●	--
	User-Defined Layers. In addition to the default Layers, add, change and delete new Layers.	●	●	●	--
	Assign objects to Layers for Display & Materials List. Choose which objects display in 2D and 3D and if they are to be used in Material List. Change the default layer used for individual objects and assign them as necessary.	●	●	●	--
	Layer Eyedropper & Layer Painter tool. Select a layer assigned to an object using the Layer Eyedropper tool, then apply that layer to a different object with Layer Painter.	●	●	●	
	Layer Hider tool. Click on an object in plan view to turn off its layer display *	●	●	●	
	Control display attributes by Layer. Set color, weight, and line style on a per layer basis. Lock layers as necessary to prevent editing.	●	●	●	●
	Object Layer Properties edit tool. Quickly and easily modify the layer properties for any object *	●	●	●	●
	Layer Set Defaults dialog & Management dialog. Assign 2D and 3D views to Layer Sets. For example, assign the Cross Section camera to a "Wall Cabinets" only view. Manage Layer Sets - import, export, copy, edit, delete, and create new layer sets from one dialog. Set the currently active set and the reference set.	●	●	●	--
	Assign Cameras to Layers. *	●	●	●	--
	Layer Set Defaults for Camera Types. Specify unique layer sets for each camera type; * Full Camera, Floor Camera, Full Overview, Floor Overview, Cross Section, Back-Clipped Cross Section, and Wall Elevation. Control the layers displayed for any of these cameras when they are initially created by assigning layer sets in the Layer Set Defaults dialog.	●	●	●	--
	Stair and Ramp Up/Down Arrow layer control. New layer for stair and ramp arrow * allows you to control the display separately.	●	●	●	●
	New "Footings, Step Markers" layer. Control the step markers display, line style, * color, line weight, and text style.	●	●	●	●
	Layer and Line Style Information are stored with cabinets, CAD blocks, and other objects stored in the Library .	●	●	●	●
	Reference Layer Sets. Reference Layer Sets are retained for each view sent to Layout pages.	●	●	●	●
Dimensions	Dimensioning tools. Baseline, Centerline, Angular, End-to-End, Interior, Point-to-Point, and Temporary dimensions. Use One-Click Auto Dimensions™ for exteriors.	●	Excludes Baseline	Excludes Baseline, Centerline	Excludes Baseline, Centerline
	Display Secondary Dimensions. Define the display of secondary dimensions.	●	--	--	--
	Specify Dimension Units, Accuracy, & Display. Use Imperial and Metric systems. Control the units displayed for dimensions, number height and font, arrow size and style, accuracy in decimals or fractions to 1/128" or 0.0078125.	●	●	●	●
	Dimension Label Fill option. Specify solid or transparent fill for dimensions' text. *	●	●	●	
	Append text to dimensions. Insert additional text before or after the dimension value * for any dimension string. Choose the dimension number to which text is added	●	--	--	
	Define where Dimensions locate. Locate to centers, rough openings, casing, interior layer, main framing layer, sides, and several other locations.	●	●	●	--
	Multiple Dimension Defaults. Define multiple dimension styles and attributes for your specific needs, such as defaults for floor plans, cabinet elevations and site plans. For each Default, define the attributes for number height, unit of measure, arrow, fonts and more.	●	●	●	--
	Precisely position objects by entering a dimension. Select any object, and enter a corresponding dimension number to move the object a set distance.	●	●	●	●
	Enhanced Wall Editing with Dimensions. Adjust wall lengths by selecting dimensions * or temporary dimensions that run parallel to the wall.	●	●	●	●
	Display Wall length as you draw – press TAB to input an exact dimension.	●	●	●	●
	Tape Measure tool. Use the Tape Measure Tool to find the measurements of any item.	●	●	●	●
	Dimensions snap to objects. Snap to the Center of Cabinets, sides of Appliances and Fixtures, Framing, and Callouts and Markers.	●	●	●	●
	Box and Bumpout Extension Snaps. Snap to projected 90° intersections *	●	●	●	●
	Dimension locations for wall tops, bottoms and cross sections. Wall Elevation Views include dimension locations and extension for wall tops and bottoms. Cross Section Views include dimension locations and extension lines for finished floor and ceilings.	●	●	●	●
	Enhanced Auto Exterior Dimensions. Define the default behavior of Automatic Exterior Dimensions.	●	●	●	●
	Auto Exterior Dimensions for Slab Foundations. Automatically dimension monolithic * slab foundations with a single click.	●	--	●	--

* Denotes new or improved features.   Last Updated 3/14/12

	Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Lighting / Electrical / HVAC	Dimensions Snap to Foundation Footings. Accurately dimension foundation footings with manually drawn dimensions. *	●	--	●	--
	Define or convert any dimension extension to a Centerline Extension. Open the specification for any dimension and select an extension number to change its values or change it to a centerline.	●	●	--	--
	Enhanced feedback while drawing dimensions.	●	●	●	●
	Show or hide firebox dimensions for free standing fireplaces.	●	●	●	●
	Electrical & HVAC tools. Create Electrical, Plumbing and Heating / Ventilation plans. Electrical – place lights, switches, outlets, low voltage, and structured wiring. Circuit Connection tools draw the connections and circuits for your electrical layout. Connect electrical components together to create circuits. Adjust the lines and arcs of the circuit design. Connections will automatically change switches for 3-way and 4-way. Specify Electrical, Fixture, and Furniture items to attach to ceilings and roofs and auto-rotate to match the pitch of roofs or vaulted ceilings.	●	●	●	Excludes electrical auto-rotate to match the pitch
	Electrical Defaults. Control the initial behavior by specifying default values. Set up default objects to be placed when adding lights and outlets to a room, set the height for outlets and switches off the floor or countertops.	●	●	●	●
	Auto Place Outlets tool. Places outlets at regular intervals based on room type.	●	●	●	●
	Electrical Lighting & Lighting Sources. Use Light Sources in addition to light fixture symbols to enhance the lighting in a scene. Light Fixtures have light sources for Render and Ray Trace Views.	●	●	●	●
	Define custom lighting with shadows, attenuation and intensity. Turn lighting on or off per object. Control whether a light is used for a 3D scene.	●	●	●	●
	Improved Lighting Units. Choose from common wattage/lumens values for lights or specify custom values. *	●	●	●	●
	Edit Lighting properties of electrical objects directly from the Library.	●	●	--	--
	Easily control lighting. New edit controls for lighting allow you to turn lights on or off with a single click. *	●	●	●	●
	Enhanced Adjust Lighting Dialog. Added information in dialog makes it easy to locate lights by label name or room location *	●	●	●	●
	Automatic GFCI outlets in Kitchens. Use the Auto Place Outlet tool to add GFCI outlets to your kitchen rooms. *	●	●	●	●
	Continuous draw mode for Electrical Connections. Quickly generate electrical connections for each circuit in your design. *	●	●	●	--
	Photo-realistic lighting effects with the Ray trace rendering. See the Rendering section for additional detail.	●	●	●	--
Terrain & Landscape	Terrain tools. Generate a 3D terrain model with elevation data you enter or import.	●	--	●	●
	Create Plot Plans, Site plans, & Subdivisions. Input accurate length, bearing and setback information.	●	--	●	●
	Automatic Plan Footprint tool. Use the Plan Footprint tool to automatically generate a CAD Detail for a Site Plan. Turn on only the layers you need visible for the site plan such as roof planes, overhang and exterior walls	●	--	●	●
	Import Terrain Wizard, import GPS, text file, DWG/DXF.	●	--	Excludes DWG Import	--
	Terrain Elevation Splines, Polylines, Regions & Points. Input elevations data for Terrain by drawing splines, lines, and points. Attach elevation value to each object, then automatically generate the terrain contours. A Clear Terrain tool is available to remove contouring and adjust elevation data.	●	--	●	●
	Terrain Modifier tools - Hills, Valleys, Elevated Regions, Flat Regions.	●	--	●	●
	Azimuth Bearings. Display angles as Azimuth Bearings.	●	●	●	●
	Advanced Terrain dialog. Use the dialog controls for terrain smoothness, triangle generation, terrain's skirt, clipping around structures, and full control over terrain contours.	●	--	●	●
	Retaining Walls, Terrain Break tools. Generate retaining walls with built-in terrain breaks to automatically create steps in the terrain with the wall. Use the Terrain Break tool for steps without the wall structure.	●	--	●	●
	Terrain Accessory tools. Stepping Stones, Streams, Garden Curbing, Pre-defined Garden Beds, Blocked garden beds.	●	--	●	●
	Road & Sidewalk tools. Tools to create a Road, Road Median, Road Striping/Marking, Curb, Gutter, Driveway, Sidewalk and Cul-de-sac. Automatically attach a sidewalk to the road or driveway objects you are generating and specify custom curb profiles.	●	--	--	--
	Spline & Polyline driveway tools.	●	--	--	--
	Road & Driveway Defaults. Preset sizes, types, and materials for these tools to fit your standard development process.	●	--	--	--
	North Pointer & Sun Angles for shadows. Define a North Pointer and Sun Angle. Specify latitude, longitude, date and time. Generate shadows in 2D and 3D.	●	●	●	●

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Deck Designer™ tool. Design Straight and Curved Decks. Define roof and ceiling attributes for a covered deck. Control the orientation and size of deck planking, gap, width, overhang, direction, border planks, beams and joists. Full Deck framing – see framing section for more details. Polygon Deck tool, specify the number of sides and the size of a deck.	•	--	•	•
Fence tool. Create picket, privacy, iron, and panel fences. Choose gate styles from the Library Catalog. Fences follow the terrain.	•	--	•	Excludes Custom Newels and Balusters
Sprinkler Designer™ tool. Place sprinkler heads and connect them to create irrigations runs and zones.	•	--	•	•
Over 4,000 Landscaping Plants. Plants Images - Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers can be placed in 2D and 3D views.	•	Interior Plants Only	200+ Plants	2,000+ Plants
Create & Import Plants. Import photos of plants and add them to the Library Browser to use in your designs. Add plant growth information and adjust transparency attributes.	•	--	•	•
3D Plant symbols. Use 3D Plant Symbols for added detail. Generate realistic 3D views where plants cast shadows.	700+ 3D Plants	--	--	--
Plant Chooser™ with Hardiness Zone Maps. Plant Hardiness Zone maps show plant data by region.	•	--	•	•
Plant Encyclopedia™. Detailed plant information – common and scientific name, type, sub-type, characteristics, height range, zones, sun and water needs, bloom time, and leaf and flower color.	•	--	•	•
Create Landscaping Plans. Assign fill colors to plants in Plan view and display plant labels, garden beds, and contours. Place text and CAD details. Create Plant Schedules.	•	--	•	•
Grow Plants tool. Use sliding scale and grow the plants up to 20 years from the current maturity.	•	--	•	•
3D & 2D Editing of Architectural Objects - Walls, Windows, Cabinets, Roofs, Stairs, …. Place and edit objects directly in 3D and 2D Plan View or Elevation View. Design simultaneously in 2D and 3D for any of the views.	•	•	•	•
Center Objects tool – center objects in 2D & 3D. Center cabinets under windows, windows in walls, dormers on a roof, and several other items 3D and 2D.	•	•	•	•
Material Painter™ & Default Painter. Apply colors, materials and textures to objects or components of the object. Apply colors as solid or stain. Use the Default Painter tool restore items to their default material.	•	•	•	•
Material Eyedropper™ & Color Chooser™. Material Eyedropper: copy a material from one object and apply to another. Color Chooser capture colors and materials from a photo or website, such as tile for a custom backsplash or a wood stain color for a floor.	•	•	•	•
Material Properties Settings. Make rendered and ray traced views more photo realistic with Pre-Defined Metals. Specify attributes for these Pre-Defined Metals: Aluminum, Brass, Bronze, Chromium, Copper, Gold, Iron, Nickel, Sliver, Stainless Steel, Tin Titanium Tungsten, and Zinc.	•	•	•	--
Material Class Definitions. Use class definitions to define your materials: General, Plastic, Brushed Metal, Shiny Metal, Pre-Defined Metal, Matte, Mirror, Polished, Transparent, and Translucent. Preview the Material classes for standard rendering or ray trace. Ray trace preview includes the option to choose a sphere, cube, or teapot shape to help visualize the attributes of materials.	•	•	•	Limited Material Classes
Screen Capture tool - create custom materials. Screen capture an image and apply in the design, such as a photo of tile for a custom backsplash.	•	•	--	--
Toggle Patterns on or off in Vector View™.	•	•	•	•
Assign Custom Patterns to Materials or Object Fill.	•	•	•	•
Manage Plan Materials. Manage all the materials used in the design. Replace materials used in a plan with a material from the Library Catalog. Select a group of materials to merge.	•	•	•	--
Define the Rotation Angle for Custom Patterns.	•	•	•	•
Create Symbol Wizard™. Create custom symbols or import from manufacturers.	•	•	--	--
Create Custom Moldings. Draw your own molding profile. The software will extrude the molding in 3D.	•	•	•	--
Library (Catalog) Browser. Access thousands of Objects / Items, both Manufacturer and generic. Download, import and create new objects. Search for objects in the Library or use the advanced search features to filter the results. Number of Library Items is displayed in the status bar.	•	•	Excludes Manufacturer & Bonus Catalog Downloads	Limited Manufacturer Catalogs
Library Search & Instant Search bar integrated into the Library. Search for Library items by keyword, object type or style. Instant Search bar is integrated into the Library, just start typing in the search bar to find objects in the Library. Customize Library Search Attributes, view or modify key words for searching on Library objects.	•	•	•	•
Faster and more reliable catalog downloads. Downloaded content automatically installs (no pre-subscription required). *	•	•	•	•
Enhanced feedback for Library Catalog downloads status. Options to Continue or Cancel downloads when Chief Architect closes. Catalog Downloads automatically restart if Chief Architect is closed then re-launched. *	•	•	•	•

3D Design & Materials (rows above)

Library / Catalog (last rows)

* Denotes new or improved features.

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Replace From Library tool. Select objects in the plan and replace with an object in the Library. Replace single items or all identical items in a plan.	•	•	•	•
Library Browser filtered views. Choose to show or hide entire library catalogs in the Library Browser tree. Improved library load times as hidden items are not loaded into the Library Browser. *	•	•	•	•
Library Tree Reorganization. Manufacturer, User, Chief Architect Core, and Chief Architect Bonus catalogs are now grouped into separate categories for easier navigation. *	•	•	•	•
Library Object Shortcuts. Create shortcut items to any object in the Library Browser to customize your organization. *	•	•	•	•
Multiple Select Library Items . Use the Shift or Ctrl keys to copy, move, and edit groups of objects.	•	•	•	•
Improved speed of deleting objects from the Library Browser. *	•	•	•	•
Preview Objects / Items in the Library before they are placed in a design. Visual feedback for the size and orientation of objects being placed from the library and edited in plan and 3D views. Rotate, Spin and Zoom the Library preview.	•	•	•	•
Convert Plan Materials to Library Materials. Materials that are in use in the plan can automatically be added to the Library.	•	•	•	--
Automatically generate Materials Lists. Automatic Materials List with columns for equipment, unit costs, percent markup, and labor costs. Change order of the columns. Generate a list for the entire plan, single room, or defined area using a polyline.	•	•	•	•
Master Materials List. The Master Materials List stores master data, such as price. When a new project is started, the Master List data is applied. Save and load multiple Master Materials Lists.	•	•	•	•
Specify Layers when calculating a Materials List. Use Layers to control what is included in the Materials List.	•	•	•	--
Materials List Components. Add detailed information to objects– such as glazing to a cabinet finish. Components information is then posted to the materials list. Choose which details to show or hide on the final Materials List using Components.	•	•	•	•
Material Schedules. Create Schedules for Doors, Windows, Cabinets, Fixtures, Appliances, Furniture, Electrical HVAC, Plumbing, Plants and Room Finish. Exclude specific items from Schedules such as cabinet hardware. Automatically Customize the information contained in the Schedule and label controls for Schedules.	•	•	•	--
Cut & Buy Lists . The Structural Lumber Table can be used to calculate lumber materials for a Cut List and a Buy List. This calculation is in addition to square feet and lineal feet calculations and can be especially helpful for your framing and decking board calculations.	•	--	•	Excludes Cut List
Materials List include soffits under roof eaves.	•	•	•	•
Annotation Sets. Annotation Sets control a subset of defaults including Dimensions, Text, Arrows, Markers, Callouts, and Layers. Annotation Sets can be used to quickly change your defaults and streamline the annotation process - similar to Layer Sets.	•	--	--	--
Fully editable Text tools. Control font, size, weight, color, position, justification, and more.	•	•	•	•
Advanced Rich Text tools. Format text with varying colors, font, and more. Convert plain text to rich text.	•	•	•	--
Text Style tools. Create unlimited Text Styles and assign them per layer, per default, or per object to control the appearance of labels, dimensions and other text in your design. *	•	•	Limited	Limited
Specify Line Style and Fill Style for Schedules. Change schedule grid color and overall background color on a per schedule basis. *	•	•	•	•
Improved control over multiple schedules. Manage multiple schedules of the same type and independently control their display of labels. Improved schedule updating when items in the plan are added to or removed from the schedule display. *	•	•	•	•
Text Leader Line tool quickly creates callouts and notes.	•	•	--	--
Create Leader Lines using Rich Text or Plain Text types. *	•	•	--	--
Architectural fonts: City Blueprint, Country Blueprint, Chief Blueprint. Use any built-in font included with your operating system.	•	•	--	--
Spell Checker. Uses a built-in or custom dictionary.	•	•	•	--
Enhanced Text control. Font control, font defaults, and text macros for page number, date, and others.	•	•	•	•
Customizable Text Arrows.	•	•	•	•
More control over arrowhead style. Specify the arrowhead type used for Joist Directions, Sun Angles, Roof Labels, and Stairs and Ramps. *	•	Excludes Joist Direction	•	•
Custom Door, Window, & Cabinet Labels. Type your own customized labels for any Door, Window, or Cabinet object. Control cabinet label size and orientation.	•	•	•	Excludes Cabinet Label size and orientation
Callouts & Markers. Place Callouts and Markers in Plan, Elevation, Layout, and Detail views. Adjust fill color, line style, line weight, and double-headed Callouts. Callouts and Markers have unique layers. Use multiple default styles for Arrows, Markers, and Callouts.	•	•	•	•

Section labels (left margin): **Materials List & Cost Estimating**, **Text / Annotation / Scripting**

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Layer for Camera Labels. Label display for cameras is now independent from the camera display. *	●	●	●	●
Automatic Roof Labels. Display labels for roofs, skylights and holes. Label includes pitch direction arrow and the roof angle in pitch or degrees. Modify the arrow style and text style of the roof labels *	●	●	●	●
Labels for Layout Boxes. Automatic labels for layout views will display the camera name for elevation and section views or the floor plan name for plan views. Create custom labels that will move with the views and you set up you layout . *	●	●	●	●
Specify labels for Light Source or "added light" objects. Uniquely name light sources in your scenes for easy recognition. *	●	●	●	●
Soffit, Shelf, and Partition Labels. Assign custom labels through the new Label Tab for soffits, shelves, and partitions *	●	●	●	●
Labels for Bay, Box, and Bow Windows. Customize labels through the Label Tab of the Bay, Box, and Bow Window dialogs. *	●	●	●	●
Primary and Secondary Terrain contour labels. The primary and secondary labels are now independent of each other. Control the highlight for negative value contour labels. *	●	--	●	●
Room Label background fill. Specify background fill color or solid or transparent fill for room labels *	●	●	●	--
Control the location of Labels. New X and Y offsets for labels allow you to control the orientation of labels in relationship to the object. *	●	●	●	--
Embed Hyperlinks in Text. Add links to website or other files using the text tools.	●	●	●	--
Revision Cloud tool. Encircle objects with revision clouds, or draw your own.	●	--	--	--
Text Macros & User Defined Text Macros. Insert macros into text objects. Add Contact Info, File Info, Plan Info, Special Characters, and Time and Date macros. Create custom Macros, such as macros for Contractor, Supplier, or Revision Number.	●	Excludes User Defined Text Macros	Excludes User Defined Text Macros	--
Window Macros. Use macros to include Window Type, Top Elevation, Bottom Elevation, and Floor to Header height in window labels. *	●	●	●	--
Label macros for Electrical Lights, Stairs & Ramps, Roof Pitch / Slope, and Layout Boxes. *	●	●	●	--
Create Dynamic Label Macros. Use Text Macros in combination with the Ruby Scripting tools to dynamically update object labels or other annotation in your design. *	●	--	--	--
Text Macro Management dialog. Create New, Edit, Copy, Delete, and Test custom macros from within the Text Macro Management dialog. *	●	--	--	--
Ruby Scripting. Use the Ruby Scripting Console for writing program scripts - such as determining room volume, custom cabinet labels and several others. Includes an Interactive tutorial on how to create user-defined macros.	●	--	--	--
Printing Printed Paper sizes. Specify printed paper sizes to fit your design scale.	●	●	●	Limited to the larges page size of 18" x 24"
PDF print. Print to a PDF file for outsourcing a print job – great when you do not have a large format printer.	●	●	●	●
Print Preview. Displays printable area, paper edges, and line weights. Outline printing is visible in Print Preview mode.	●	●	●	●
Scale-to-Page or Paper Size.	●	●	●	●
Page Setup. Determine plan sheet size and specify how it prints to different paper size.	●	●	●	●
Span printing across multiple pages. Print a large format sheet on a smaller paper size and tape together to make the larger sheet.	●	●	●	●
Control line style begin and end size. For example, for a dashed line define the start and end dash size.	●	●	●	●
Import / Export Import & Export Chief Objects. Import/Export Annotation Sets, Layer Sets, Hot Keys, Wall Types, Line Styles, Macros, and Ruby Scripts. Share with other users or transfer them from plan to plan.	●	Excludes Wall Types, Ruby Scripts, and Line Styles	Excludes Hotkeys, Ruby Scripts, and Line Styles	--
Transfer Layers between Plan files. Layer names can be transferred between plans.	●	●	●	--
Export Materials List to Microsoft Excel, CSV, TXT, or HTML.	●	●	●	●
Import & Export 2D DXF. Advanced Layer Mapping to assist with importing.	●	●	●	●
AutoCAD 2012 Compatibility. Import or Export DXF and DWG files. *	●	●	Excludes DWG	Excludes DWG
Import & Export 3D files. Import 3D DXF, DWG, OBJ, 3DS, SKP. Export 3D DXF, DWG, 3DS	●	●	Excludes DWG	Excludes DWG, Excludes 3D Export
SketchUp 8 object import (32-bit version only). *	●	●	●	●
Import image files: BMP, JPG, GIF, PCS, TIFF, PCX, PNG, Metafiles, TGA. Image import - specify transparency color and add plant data or image information for materials and backdrops. Display Metafile on plan, elevation, and layout views. Specify fill style to show through and transparency on the image.	●	●	●	●

* Denotes new or improved features.

Last Updated 3/14/12

Feature Description	Premier	Interiors	Lite	Pro 2012
Import Terrain Elevation data. Import survey data from AutoCAD or other sources.	•	--	--	•
DWG compatibility with AutoCAD® 2012 & prior. Import and Export 2D and 3D files in DWG format.	•	•	--	--
3D Mass Import. Group import 3D DWG, DXF, 3DS, OBJ, SKP files and convert them to Library Objects.	•	•	--	--
Create Materials from Textures. Group import texture image files and convert them to materials automatically.	•	•	--	--
Export .AVI files for Virtual Tours & 3D VRML.	•	•	Excludes VRML	Excludes VRML
Export PNG & TGA from Ray Traced Renderings.	•	•	--	--
Convert 3D View to Symbol. Create a custom object using Chief Architect's design tools and then round-trip covert a view to a unified library item.	•	•	--	--
64-bit version. The 64-bit version is more efficient in managing memory and you will * see better performance on larger plan files. A 32-bit version is available and will also run on 64-bit operating sytems.	•	--	--	--
Customizable Toolbars. Modify the toolbar to match your work style. Add and remove buttons, create toolbar groupings, dock and undock toolbars.	•	•	•	•
Toolbar Sets. A collection of tools on a toolbar set organized by discipline: Default, Terrain, Kitchen & Bath, Space Planning, Plan Detailing, Mechanical Electrical Plumbing, CAD, Color Palette with customizable material swatches.	•	Excludes Terrain, Space Planning, and MEP toolbars	Excludes Space Planning, Kitchen & Bath toolbars and Color Palette	Excludes Kitchen & Bath, Color Palette and MEP toolbars
Customizable Hotkeys. Assign and change shortcut key mapping.	•	•	--	--
Specify Preferences & Defaults. Set up Preferences for display and editing tools to customize the interface to your needs. Specify defaults most architectural elements.	•	•	•	•
Reference Floors & Current Floor retained within the Plan file. Assist with layout and wall alignment (displays the floor above or below the current floor). If you have a multi-level plan, the program will re-open to the floor and in the area when you last saved and closed the file.	•	•	•	•
Virtual Graph Paper™ display. Adjust grid to display a reference in any increment, great for modular design, space planning, and as an indication of scale.	•	•	•	•
Auto-Archive. Set Auto-Archive Preference to schedule how frequently projects are backed up to an archive file.	•	•	•	--
Chief Viewer™ - a Free downloadable viewer. View and annotate 3D camera views and Virtual Tours.	•	•	--	--
Support & Software Assurance. Updates, Major Releases and New Versions, Priority Technical Support, Over 500 Online Training Video access, Download Library Catalogs access, Free or Discounted Training Seminars, Discounts on Secondary Licenses.	•	•	•	N/A
30-Day Satisfaction Guarantee. If you are not completely satisfied, Chief Architect, Inc. will gladly refund your purchase price within 30 days of purchase.	•	•	•	•

User Resources

* Denotes new or improved features.