

Exploding Blocks

Before you begin...

Continue on from your previous exercise: **Nesting Blocks**

If you have closed your previous exercise, the following files are needed for this Let Me Try exercise:

Ch7-F.dwg (or Ch7-F-metric.dwg)

You have several options available for accessing the file(s):

1. You can access the file(s) in the attachment window of this pdf. To do this:
 - Click on the paper clip icon of this pdf to open the attachments window.
 - You will see a list of the files for this exercise.
 - Click on the file name.
 - The file will open in the appropriate program, if the program is installed on your computer.
 - Once it has opened, go under File – Save As and save the file to your desktop.
2. To access the files from your dataset:
 - If you haven't downloaded the dataset yet, open your course homepage.
 - Click on the link: **Click here to download the dataset for this course.**
 - Save the course dataset to the C: / drive on your computer.
3. Options for opening an AutoCAD project file(s):
 - Begin by dragging it directly into the application or by using the **Open** command from the Application menu.
 - Double click an AutoCAD file, but be aware that if you have more than one version of AutoCAD installed on your computer, the file will open in the **last version** of AutoCAD you used.

Please ensure you save all your drawings to your computer as directed by the **Let Me Try** instructions.

Continue on from your previous exercise: **Nesting Blocks**

Let's explode a block using both methods:

1. If the file is not already open from the previous exercise, use the file **Ch7-F.dwg (or Ch7-F-metric.dwg)** attached to this pdf or in your course dataset located on the C: / drive of your computer.
2. Type **X** (for Explode) and press Enter. Select the magenta chair and press Enter.

Use the PURGE command to delete unused block definitions to make the drawing file smaller.

3. Select the parts of the chair and observe in the Layers panel that the objects are on layer 0 and in the Properties panel their color is set to ByBlock (see image below). Press Esc to deselect.



4. Click the Undo button on the Quick Access toolbar. The block is re-created.
5. Type **xp** (for Xplode) and press Enter. Select the magenta chair and press Enter. The command prompt reads:

[All/Color/LAyer/LType/LWeight/ Inherit from parent block/Explode] <Explode>:

Type **I** (for inherit from parent block) and press Enter.

6. Select all the parts of the chair and observe that the objects are on the blue Furniture layer and their color is explicitly set to magenta. This time the disassembled objects received the layer assignment and object properties of the block reference.

7. Expand the Modify panel and click the Set To ByLayer tool. The command prompt reads:

Change ByBlock to ByLayer? [Yes/No] <Yes>:

Press Enter to accept the default Yes. Now the prompt says:

Include blocks? [Yes/No] <Yes>:

Type **N** (for No) and press Enter. The SETBYLAYER command ends and the chair is blue now because its color has been set to ByLayer.

8. Save your work as **Ch7-G.dwg (Ch7-G-metric.dwg)** and leave it open to continue using it in the next Let Me Try exercise.