LEGO CAD TOOLS & BUILD INSTRUCTIONS

By Droids Robotics, 2015

How can I document my robot design?

Although photographs of robots are great and you can even take photographs as you build, being able to use a CAD program to document your builds is a easy way to share this information or even try new ideas.
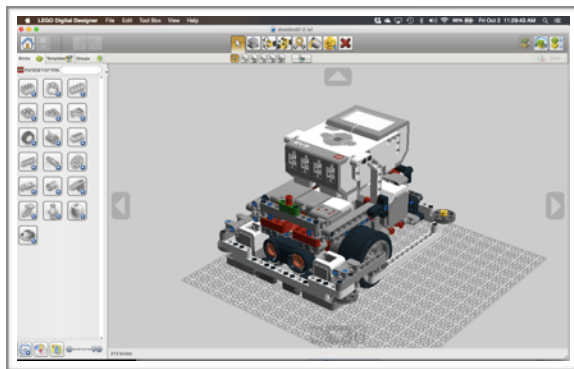
There are several LEGO CAD programs available to document your builds:

LEGO Digital Designer: http://ldd.lego.com/en-us/download/
LDCad: http://www.melkert.net/LDCad
MLCAD: http://mlcad.lm-software.com/
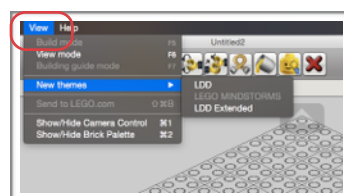**LeoCAD:** http://www.leocad.org/trac

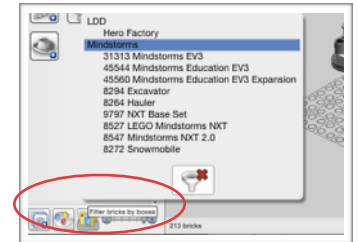
How do you use LEGO Digital Designer (LDD):

We are most familiar with LDD and recently started using it to document robot designs on EV3Lessons.com. Here are some tips to get you started:

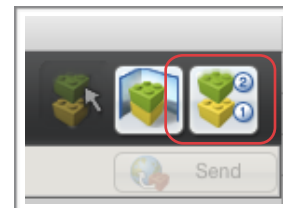**Step 1:** File –> View –> New Themes

Select MINDSTORMS

Step 2: Bottom Left corner: Select "Filter Bricks by Boxes" and then select which MINDSTORMS kit you want to use.

How do you generate build instructions in LDD?

Being able to generate build instructions is useful in case your team wants to make a second copy of the robot or share the design with someone else.

Step 1: Top Right Corner in LDD: Pick Building Guide Mode

Step 2: To save or print: Top Left Corner: Pick "Generate HTML building guide" (you can now "print to" or "save as" PDF if you like)

Note: Build instructions generated by LDD can be illogical. You will have to use common sense when using them.

Note: There may be better programs to generate build instructions. We will try them out soon and let you know.