

A1.1 User Interface Set-Up



OVERVIEW

Barry Kimball is an expert ICEMsurf and Alias Automotive Class A modeller. In this video he explains the user interface settings he will be using throughout these video tutorials.

KEY CONCEPTS

Many of the options that Barry uses are purely personal preferences, and you may use different settings in your interface, particularly if you have a long experience using Alias. Some however are strategically useful in Class A modelling, in particular :

Orthographic Views, Azimuth and Elevation Control (2.52 and 9.30 mins)

Performance Options (5.16 mins)

Locators (13.16 mins)

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Time	Topic	Menu/Palette	Tool	Options
0.39	Draw Style Options Different icons for CVs are chosen for curves and surfaces so that they can be easily distinguished.	Menu > Object Display	Draw Style	
1.01	Hardware Shade Options Quality and Light settings for shaded views	Menu > Window Display	Hardware Shade	
1.21	Anti-Aliasing Settings To allow for better evaluation of the tension in curves.	Menu > Window Display > Anti-Aliasing	Wireframe Anti-Alias	
1.47	Using the Layer Bar Barry will use the Layer Bar as his preferred display, but using the Object Lister is equally effective.	Menu > Layers	Toggle Layer Bar	
2.05	Long Menus Ensuring Long Menus are selected so that all tools are available.	Menu > Preferences > Menus	Long Menus	
2.13	Marking Menus Barry supplies his Marking Menu sets for you to try out or explore	Menu > Preferences > Interface	Marking Menus	
2.52	General Preferences: Viewing Barry modifies the action of the shift-ctrl buttons during viewing by setting the Azimuth/Twist option and by turning 'Allow axis constrained tumble' off.	Menu > Preferences	General Preferences	Viewing
3.35	Palette Orientation Optimising screen space by using a horizontal Palette and Marking Menus.	Menu > Windows	Palette	
4.27	Control Panel Using the right mouse button to access text versions of the menus.			
5.16	Performance Options Turning on 'Construction History Updates During Transform' to improve interactive feedback during modelling.	Menu > Preferences	Performance Options	
6.23	Plug-ins Barry shows the plug-ins he chooses to use which are explained in the following sections.	Menu > Utilities	Plug-in Manager	
7.27	Orthographic & Perspective Views Barry uses Orthographic views for modelling, and Perspective for evaluation.			

Time	Topic	Menu/Palette	Tool	Options
7.42	Plug-in: Best Fit Plane For creating a construction plane through a curve	Palette > Construction	Best Fit Plane	
9.30	Viewing: Azimuth and Elevation Using the Azimuth and Elevation setting with shift-alt viewing	Control Panel > Xform CV > Move	Slide	
10.15	Plug-in: Extract Trim Regions Separates one surface into many, based on the visible trimmed parts	Palette > Surface Edit > Trim	Extract Trim Regions	
10.44	Plug-in: Erase Paper Used to delete the background colour on a Canvas Plane	Palette > Paint Edit	Erase Paper	
12.19	Plug-in: Save Layers Saves the geometry on separate layers into separate files.	Menu > Layers	Save Layers	
12.46	Plug-in: Global Surface Intersect Allows a drag selection to intersect all surfaces with each other	Palette > Surface Edit > Create CoS	Mutually Intersect Surfaces	
13.16	Locators Saves the geometry on separate layers into separate files.	Palette > Evaluate > Continuity	Surface Continuity	Show Max Labels Show Comb