

Retrieve an AutoCAD file after a crash

The screenshot shows the 'AutoCAD Architecture 2009 Help' window. The left sidebar contains a search bar with 'backup files' entered and a list of search results. The main content area displays the article 'Create and Restore Backup Files' with three tabs: 'Concept', 'Procedure', and 'Quick Reference'. The 'Concept' tab is active, showing text about the purpose of backup files and instructions on how to use them.

AutoCAD Architecture 2009 Help

Hide Back Forward Home Print Options

Contents Index Favorites Search

Type in the keyword to find:

backup files

- backup files
- customization files
- restoring drawings from saving
- sheet set data
- BACKZ system variable
- BACTION command
- BACTIONCOLOR system variable
- BACTIONSET command
- BACTIONTOOL command
- bar scales
 - creating
 - editing
 - inserting
- barrel vault mass elements
- base boundaries
 - editing
 - spaces
- BASE command
- base grips
- base height, wall
- base parameters
- base points
 - rotate actions and scale actions and snap base point
- Base Type property

Display

[Start, Organize, and Save a Drawing](#) > [Repair, Restore, or Recover Drawing Files](#) >

Create and Restore Backup Files

Concept Procedure Quick Reference

Backup files help ensure the safety of your drawing data. If a problem occurs, you can restore a drawing backup file.

Computer hardware problems, power failures or surges, user mistakes, or software problems can cause errors in a drawing. By saving your work frequently, you can ensure a minimum of lost data if your system fails for any reason. If a problem occurs, you can restore a drawing backup file.

Use Backup Files

In the Options dialog box, on the Open and Save tab, you can specify that backup files are created when you save drawings. If you do, each time you save a drawing, the previous version of your drawing is saved to a file with the same name and a `.bak` file extension. The backup file is located in the same folder as the drawing file.

You can revert to your backup version by renaming the `.bak` file in Windows Explorer to a file with a `.dwg` extension. You may want to copy it to a different folder to avoid overwriting your original file.