



# Introduction To 3D Sketch



When working in a 3D sketch, a graphical assistant is provided to help you maintain your orientation while you sketch on several planes. This assistant is called a *space handle*. The space handle appears when the first point of a line or spline is defined on a selected plane. Using the space handle, you can select the axis along which you want to sketch.

# **Introduction to 3D Sketch**



Dimensioning Standards: **ANSI** Units: **INCHES** – 3 Decimals



1. Starting a new part file: Select File / New / Part / OK.



#### 2. Using 3D Sketch:

- Click Provide or select Insert / 3D Sketch, and change to Isometric view .
- Select the Line tool  $\square$  and sketch the first line along the **X** axis.



#### 3. Changing direction:

- By default, your sketch is relative to the default coordinate system in the model.
- To switch to one of the other two default planes, press the **TAB** key. The reference origin of the current sketch plane is displayed.



#### 4. Completing the profile:



### **5. Adding dimensions:**

- Click or select Tools / Dimensions / Smart Dimension.
- Click on the first line and add a dimension of **3.00**".



#### 6. Adding the Sketch Filets:

- Click Or select Tools / Sketch Tools / Fillet.
- Add .500" fillets to all the intersections as indicated.
- Enable the Keep Constrained Corner check box.
- Click OK when finished. ) 3.000 R.500 6.000 2.500 😭 😫 🔶 🐣 cetch Fillet 9 3.000 R.500 R.500 R.500 Message 2.500 Select a sketch vertex or entities to fillet. 4.000 + ₹ <sup>R.500</sup> **Entities to Fillet** Fillet<2> ٠ Fillet<3> Fillet<4> Fillet<5> Fillet<6> Fillet<7> R.500 Fillet<8> Fillet Parameters A 0.500in • + Keep constrained corners L Dimension each fillet 4.000 R.500 R.500 3.000 3.000 - Exit the 3D Sketch 🜌 or press Control + Q. Add Relations 🖈 Along X 🖽 Along Y Relations Z AlongZ 🖊 Co<u>l</u>linear ▲ Perpendicular Geometric Relations such as Along Z N Parallel and Equal can also be use to replace = Egual some of the duplicate dimensions. K Eix

#### 7. Sketching the Sweep Profile:

- Select the RIGHT plane from the FeatureManager tree.
- Click **C** to open a new sketch or select **Insert / Sketch**.
- Sketch a Circle 🕑 using the Origin as the center. (The system automatically creates a Coincident relation between the Center of the circle and the Origin.)



#### <u>Note</u>:

- The Sweep Profile should be Pierced or Coincident with the Sweep Path.
- The Swept Boss/Base command is only available when the sketch pencil is off.

### 8. Creating the Swept feature:

- Click G or select Insert / Boss-Base / Sweep.
- Select the Circle as Sweep Profile (Sketch1)
- Select the 3D Sketch to use as Sweep Path (3Dsketch1).
- Click OK 🖉.



#### 9. Saving your work:

- Select File / Save As / 3D Sketch / Save.







- 1. When using 3D Sketch, you do not have to pre-select a plane as you would in 2D Sketch.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 2. The space handle appears only after the first point of a line is started.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 3. To switch to other planes in 3D Sketch mode, press:
  - a. Up Arrow
  - b. Down Arrow
  - c. TAB key
  - d. CONTROL key
- 4. Dimensions cannot be used in 3D Sketch mode.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 5. Geometric Relations cannot be used in 3D Sketch mode.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 6. All of the sketch tools in 2D Sketch are also available in 3D Sketch.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 7. 3D Sketch entities can be used to extrude a solid feature.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 8. 3D Sketch entities can be used as a path in a swept feature.
  - a. True

| 8. TRUE  | 7. FALSE |
|----------|----------|
| 9. FALSE | 5. FALSE |
| 4. FALSE | 3. C     |
| 2. TRUE  | 1. TRUE  |

**Exercise:** Sweep with 3D Sketch

- Create the part shown using 3D Sketch.



# **Exercise: 3D Sketch & Planes**

A 3D sketch normally consists of lines and arcs in series, and splines. You can use a 3D sketch as a sweep path, as a guide curve for a loft or sweep, a centerline for a loft, or as one of the key entities in a routing system.

The following exercise demonstrates how several planes can be used to help define the directions of the 3D Sketch Entities.

#### 1. Sketching the reference Pivot lines:





#### 3. Creating the 2nd 45° Planes:

- Select Insert/Reference Geometry/Planes 🔯
- Click the At Angle Option and enter **45** for Angle
- Select the FRONT plane and the Horizontal line as noted.



- Select the **PLANE2** (45 deg.) from the Feature Manager tree and Sketch the 2nd line along the **Y** direction (watch the cursor feedback symbol).



#### SolidWorks 2011 – Advanced Techniques – 3D Sketch



- Click the **Perpendicular** option.
- Select the line and its endpoint approximately as shown.







- The resulting Swept feature.



## **Exercise: 3D Sketch & Composite Curve**



A 3D sketch normally consists of lines and arcs in series, and Splines. You can use a 3D sketch as a sweep path, as a guide curve for a loft or sweep, a centerline for a loft, or as one of the key entities in a routing system.

The following exercise demonstrates how several 3D Sketches can be created and combined into 1 continuous Composite Curve for use as a Sweep Path.

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#### 1. Creating a 2D sketch:

- Select TOP plane and
- sketch a **1.00 in**. Circle
- and 2 Centerlines

#### 2. Creating a Helix:

- Select Insert/Curve/

# Helix-Spiral 🜔

- Pitch: .250 in.
- Revolution: 10
- Starting Angle: 0 deg.
- Click **OK**



#### **3. Creating the 1st 3D sketch:**



### 4. Creating the 2nd 3D sketch:

- Select Insert/3D Sketch 膠 .
- Select the Line command  $\square$  and sketch the 1<sup>st</sup> line along the X direction.
- Sketch the rest of the lines following their directions shown below.



#### 5. Combining the 3 sketches into 1 curve:

- Select Insert/Curve/Composite [5], or click the Curves button from the Feature toolbar.



- Select the 3 Sketches either from the Feature Manager tree – or – directly from the graphics area.



#### 6. Creating a new work plane:

- Select Insert/Reference Geometry/Plane 🔯 .
- Click the **Perpendicular** option and select the edge and the endpoint as noted.



Path(CompCurve4)

## 8. Sweeping the Profile along the Path:

- Select Insert/Boss Base/ Sweep G
- Select the Circle as the Sweep Profile  $\checkmark$  .
- Select the Composite Curve as the Sweep Path 🚺 .

| <b>%</b>  | 😫 🔶 🥙           |   |   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|---|
| 🗲 Swe     | ep1             | ? |   |
| 🗸 🗙       |                 |   | ļ |
| Profile a | and Path        | * |   |
| ⊂⁰        | Sketch2         |   |   |
| C°        | CompositeCurve1 |   |   |
| Options   | 1               | * |   |
| Guide C   | urves           | * |   |
| Start/E   | nd Tangency     | * |   |
|           |                 |   |   |

- Click OK 🖌.



Profile(Sketch7)

## 9. Saving your work:

- Click File/Save As.
- Enter **3D Sketch** Composite Curve
- Click Save.