Displaying Metric and Imperial Units on a Single Dimension Line

Reference Number: **KB-00055** Last Modified: **July 15, 2021**

The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION

I would like to have a dimension string in my plan display both metric and imperial units at the same. How can I accomplish this task?

ANSWER

Both imperial and metric units can be displayed for dimensions by utilizing the Primary and Secondary Format options. You can specify an individual dimension line to display both units of measurement, or you can setup your Dimension Defaults so that all dimension lines in your plan display both units of measurement.

To modify an individual dimension line

1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, select the dimension line you'd like to modify, then click the **Open Object** edit button.

2. On the SECONDARY FORMAT panel of the **Dimension Line Specification** dialog that displays:

Dimension Line Specification X					
Dimension Line Spec	ification	t Formatting cond Format	ator a (,) qual to 18" 6 1 / 128 ominator actions e Greatest Common Divisor e Closest Fraction	×	
Number Style			OK Cancel Help		

- Uncheck Use Default Formatting.
- Check Include Second Format.
- Use the **Units** drop-down under the Format section to select a unit of your choice.
- Uncheck **Trailing Zeros** and specify the desired Accuracy.
- Click **OK** to confirm the changes and close the dialog.

Note: If you're prompted with a Question dialog asking if you'd like to disable Auto Refresh Dimensions, select Yes to proceed.

3. You can now see that you have modified the dimension so that it displays both metric and imperial units.



Note: Settings (including the Secondary Format) specified for the edited dimension line will be used when using the Add Segment edit handle.

To change your dimension defaults

 To change your dimension defaults so that both units of measurement are displayed, select Edit> Default Settings ¹/₄, expand the Dimension category, select Dimensions from the list, then click Edit.



- 2. In the **Saved Dimension Defaults** dialog, select an Available Dimension Default that you would like to customize, then click **Edit** once again.
- 3. On the SECONDARY FORMAT panel of the **Dimension Defaults** dialog that displays next, check **Include Second Format** and specify your desired settings.

🗋 Dimension Defaults - Plan Di	mension Defaults	\times		
General Setup Automatic	Include Second Format			
Locate Manual	Linite: ft 🗸			
Locate Centerline				
Locate Interior	Unit Indicators			
Locate Auto Exterior	Leading Zeroes			
Locate Auto Interior	Trailing Zeroes			
Locate Auto Elevation	Thousands Separator			
Locate Auto NKBA Elevation				
Locate Elevations	Use Comma (,)			
Primary Format	O Use Space			
Secondary Format	Display as Inches			
Extensions				
Arrow	Less than or equal to 16			
Text Style	Accuracy			
	Decimal Places: 6			
	Smallest Fraction: 1/ 128			
	Show Denominator			
	Reduce Fractions			
	 Use Greatest Common Divisor 			
	O Use Closest Fraction			

4. Once your desired changes have been made, click **OK** and/or **Done** on each of the dialog boxes.

Related Articles

 Changing the Unit of Measurement for New Files (/support/article/KB-00024/changingthe-unit-of-measurement-for-new-files.html)
 Restoring the Default Plan and Layout Template (/support/article/KB-00333/restoringthe-default-plan-and-layout-template.html)



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