

Controlling the Offset or Depth of a Door or Window

Reference Number: **KB-00418**

Last Modified: **February 6, 2026**

QUESTION

I am designing a plan with thick exterior walls and very deep doors or windows. How can I control where the object is inset within the jamb or frame?

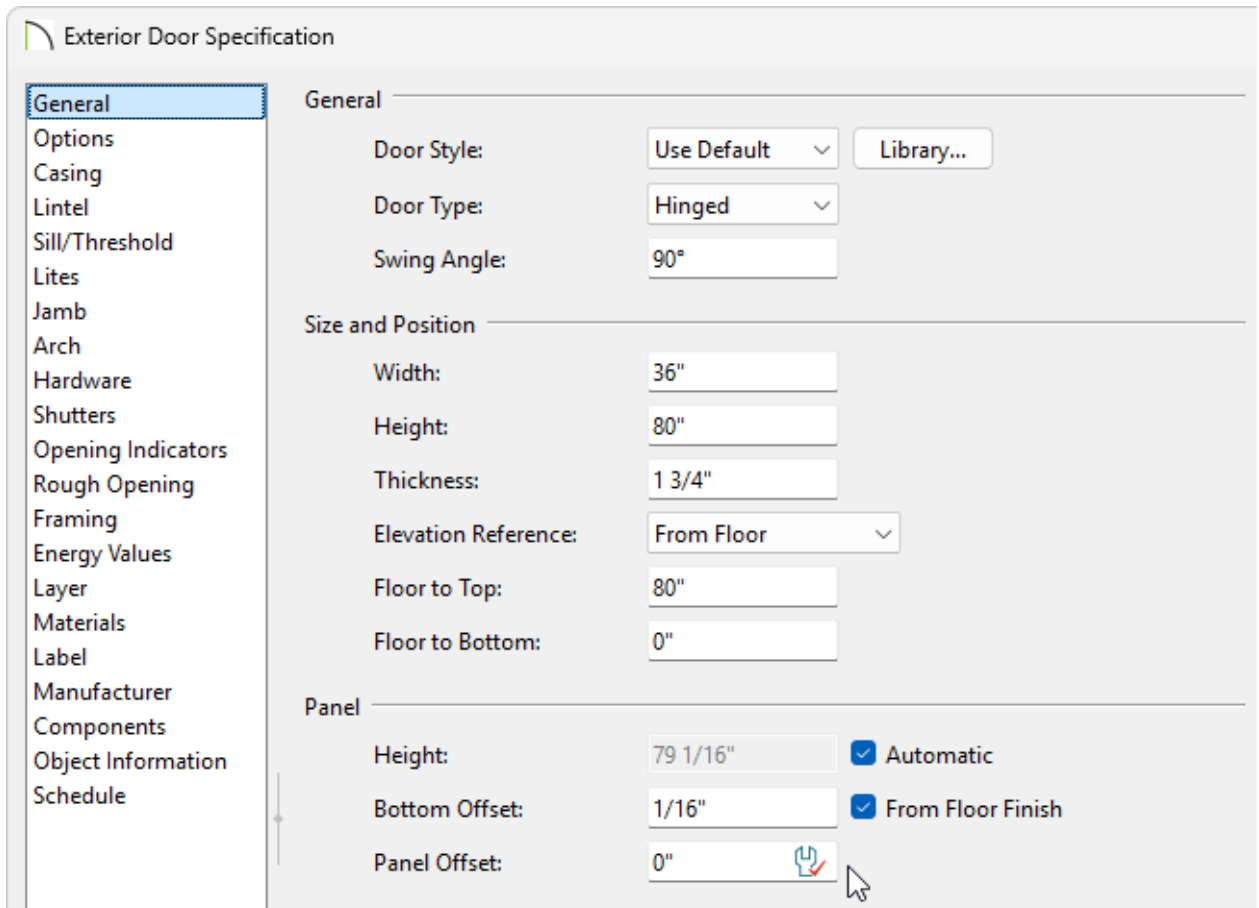
ANSWER

A home that employs thick wall types, such as straw bale, brick, rammed earth, or logs, may have very deep doors and windows. In Chief Architect, you can specify the offset or depth for a door or window, whether it is located near the exterior of the wall, near the interior, or at the center.

To control the offset or depth of a door*

**Applies to Chief Architect Premier X16 and newer versions.*

1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click on a door to select it, then click on the **Open Object**  button.
2. In the **Door Specification** dialog that displays:



- On the **GENERAL** panel, specify your desired **Panel Offset** value. This value can be negative or positive.

Note: The Panel Offset field is not available in the Mulled Unit Specification dialog.


- If you would like to adjust the door jamb as well, access the **JAMB** panel, uncheck **Fit Jamb to Wall**, then specify

appropriate **Depth** and **Inset** values.

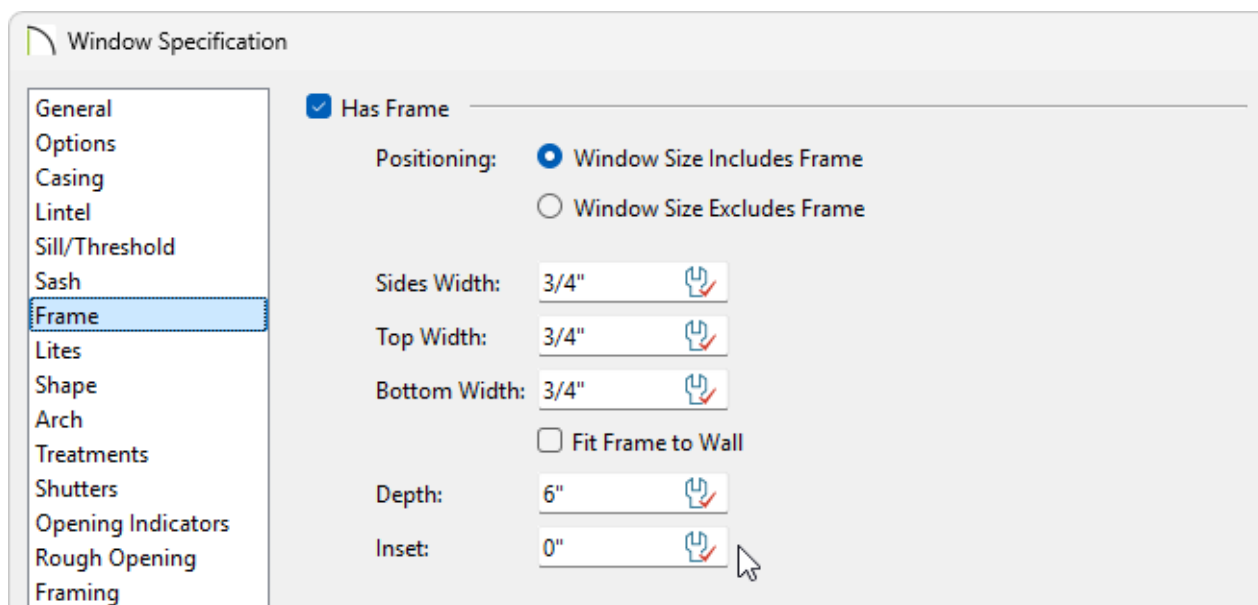
When this box is checked, the frame Depth automatically extends from the Recessed Into Wall layer to the wall's inside surface with an Inset of 0". The Recessed Into Wall layer is specified on the Options Panel of this dialog.

3. When the door is to your liking, click **OK**.

To control the offset or depth of a window

1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click on a window select it, then click on the **Open Object**  button.
2. On the FRAME panel of the **Window Specification** dialog:

Note: The Frame panel is not available in the Mulled Unit Specification.



- On the **FRAME** panel, uncheck the **Fit Frame to Wall** box, specify an appropriate **Depth** value, then specify your desired **Inset** value. This value can be negative or positive.


When this box is checked, the frame Depth automatically extends from the Recessed Into Wall layer to the wall's inside surface with an Inset of 0". The Recessed Into Wall layer is specified on the Options Panel of this same dialog.


- If you would like to adjust the sash separately from the frame, select the **SASH** panel, then specify your desired **Inset** value.

Note: The Sash panel is not available in the Wall Niche, Muller Unit, and Window Symbol Specification dialogs, and the settings on this panel are not available for Pass-Throughs.

3. When the window is to your liking, click **OK**.

Related Articles

 [Controlling Door and Window Framing \(/support/article/KB-00985/controlling-door-and-window-framing.html\)](/support/article/KB-00985/controlling-door-and-window-framing.html)

 [Creating a Mulled Window and Door Unit \(/support/article/KB-00525/creating-a-mulled-window-and-door-unit.html\)](/support/article/KB-00525/creating-a-mulled-window-and-door-unit.html)

 [Creating Custom Muntins \(/support/article/KB-00930/creating-custom-muntins.html\)](/support/article/KB-00930/creating-custom-muntins.html)



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