

Modifying the Display of Stairs in Plan View

Reference Number: **KB-03036**

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The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION



I would like to show more detail for my stairs. How do I add a break line and show tread overhang, railings and newels in plan view?

ANSWER

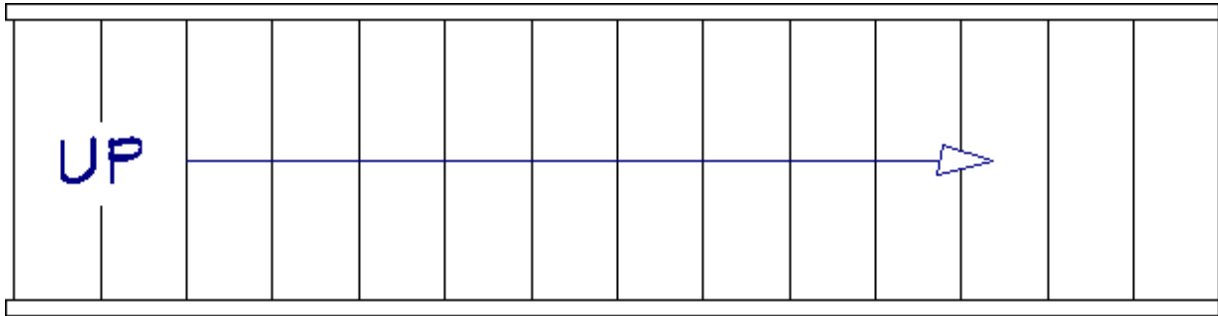
You can specify how different stair components are displayed in a plan view by accessing the Staircase Specification dialog.

Note: This article assumes that a staircase is already present in a plan.

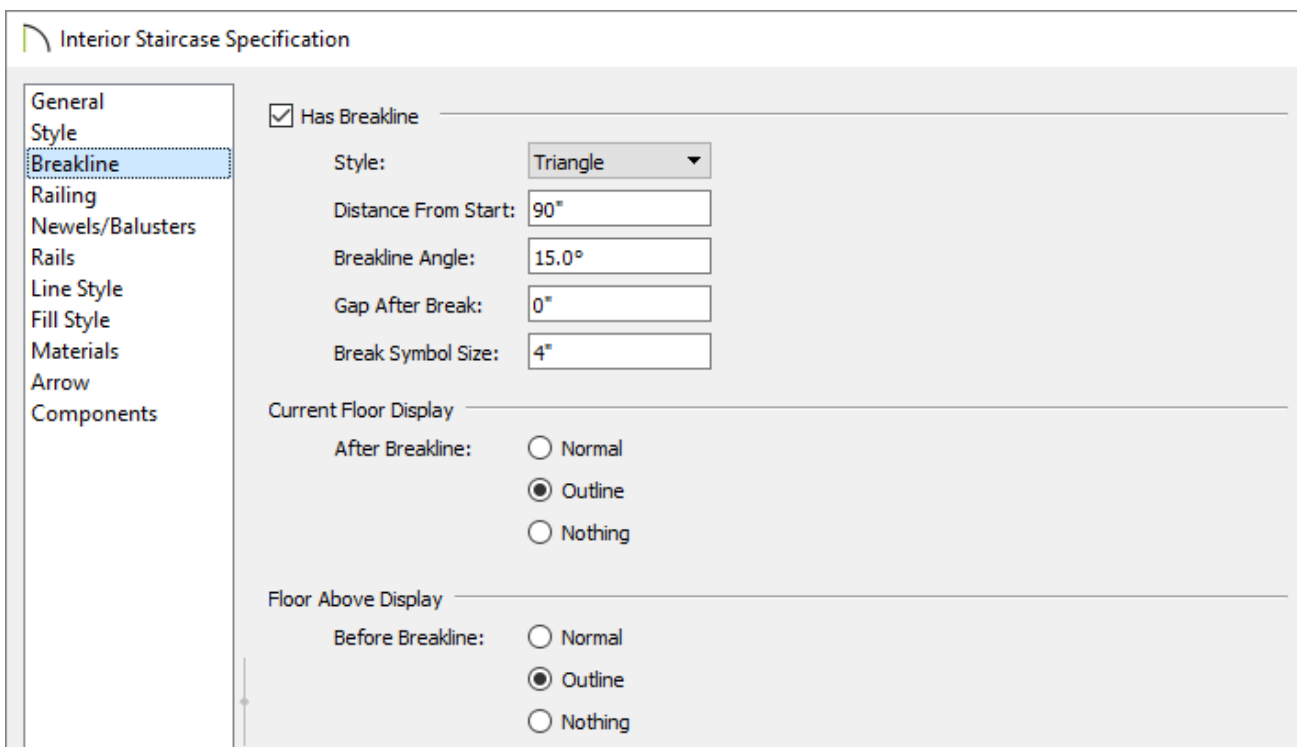
To display a stair breakline

1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, select the staircase and then click the **Open Object**  edit button.

In the instance that the staircase has multiple stair segments, such as switchback or L shaped staircases, select the segment that will need to contain the break line.



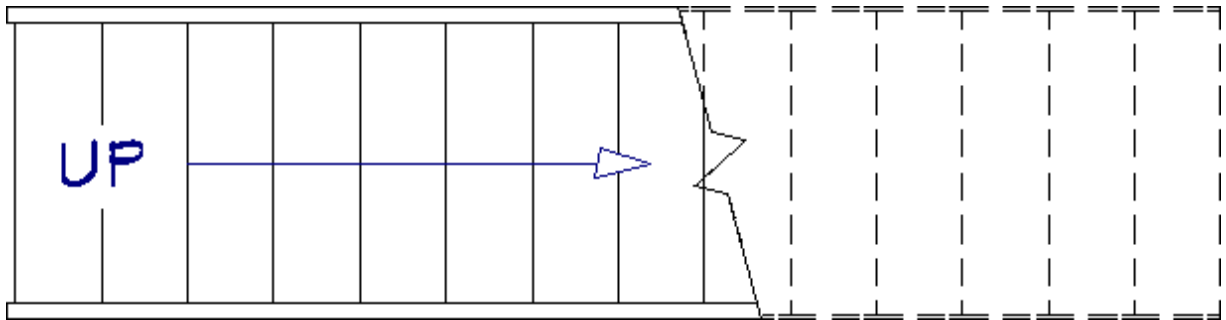
2. On the **BREAK LINE** panel of the **Staircase Specification** dialog that opens, check the **Has Breakline** box.





- Select the break line **Style** from the drop-down list.
- Specify the **Distance From Start**, which is the distance from the front of the stair segment to the break line, measured from the staircase's center line.
- Specify the **Breakline Angle**. An angle of 0 produces a break line that is perpendicular to the sides of a straight staircase.
- Specify the **Gap After Break** if desired. This creates a second break line and

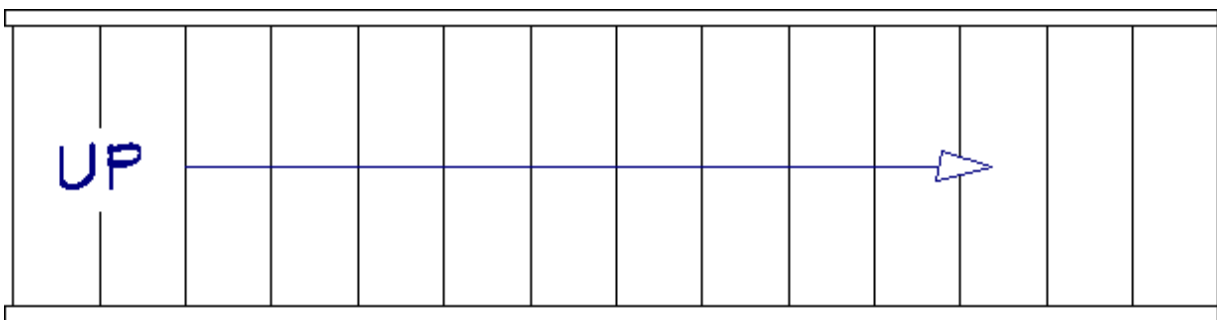
specifies the distance between the two. A value of 0 produces no gap.

- Specify the **Break Symbol Size**, which is the total height of the break symbol measured from the top corner to the bottom corner.
- The **Current Floor Display** section controls the appearance of the portion of the staircase located after the break line on the floor where the stairs are drawn.
- The **Floor Above Display** section controls the appearance of the portion of the staircase located before the break line, as seen from the floor above where the stairs are drawn.



To display newels, balusters, and handrails

1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, select the staircase and then click the **Open Object**  edit button.



2. On the **NEWELS/BALUSTERS** panel of the **Staircase Specification** dialog, remove the check from **Use Defaults** under the Plan Display section.

Interior Staircase Specification

General
Style
Breakline
Railing
Newels/Balusters
Rails
Line Style
Fill Style
Materials
Arrow
Components

Newels

Has Newel Posts

Type: Square Library...

Width: 2"

Height: 42"

Offset: 0"

Spacing: 96" On Center

Rail Passes Over Newel

Balusters

Type: Square Library...

Width: 1 1/2"

Spacing: 4 1/2" On Center

Cut Baluster Top

Panels

Thickness: 1 3/16"

Type: Solid Library...

Plan Display

Use Defaults

Draw Newels

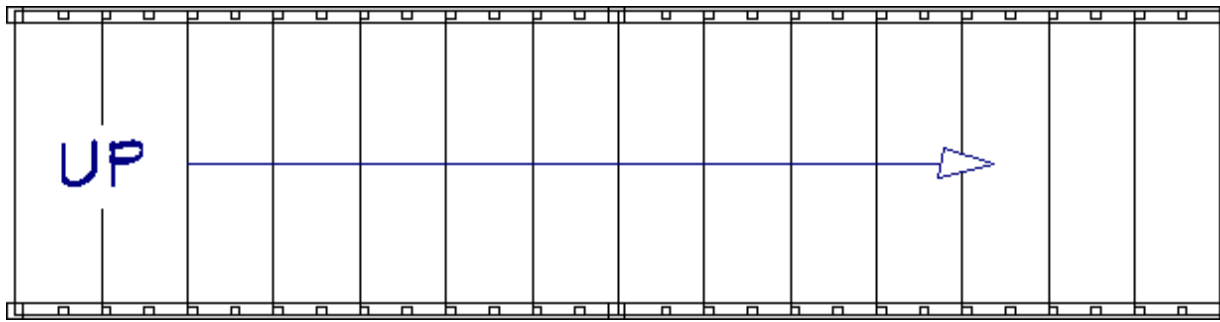
Draw Balusters

Draw Rails


Fill Style...

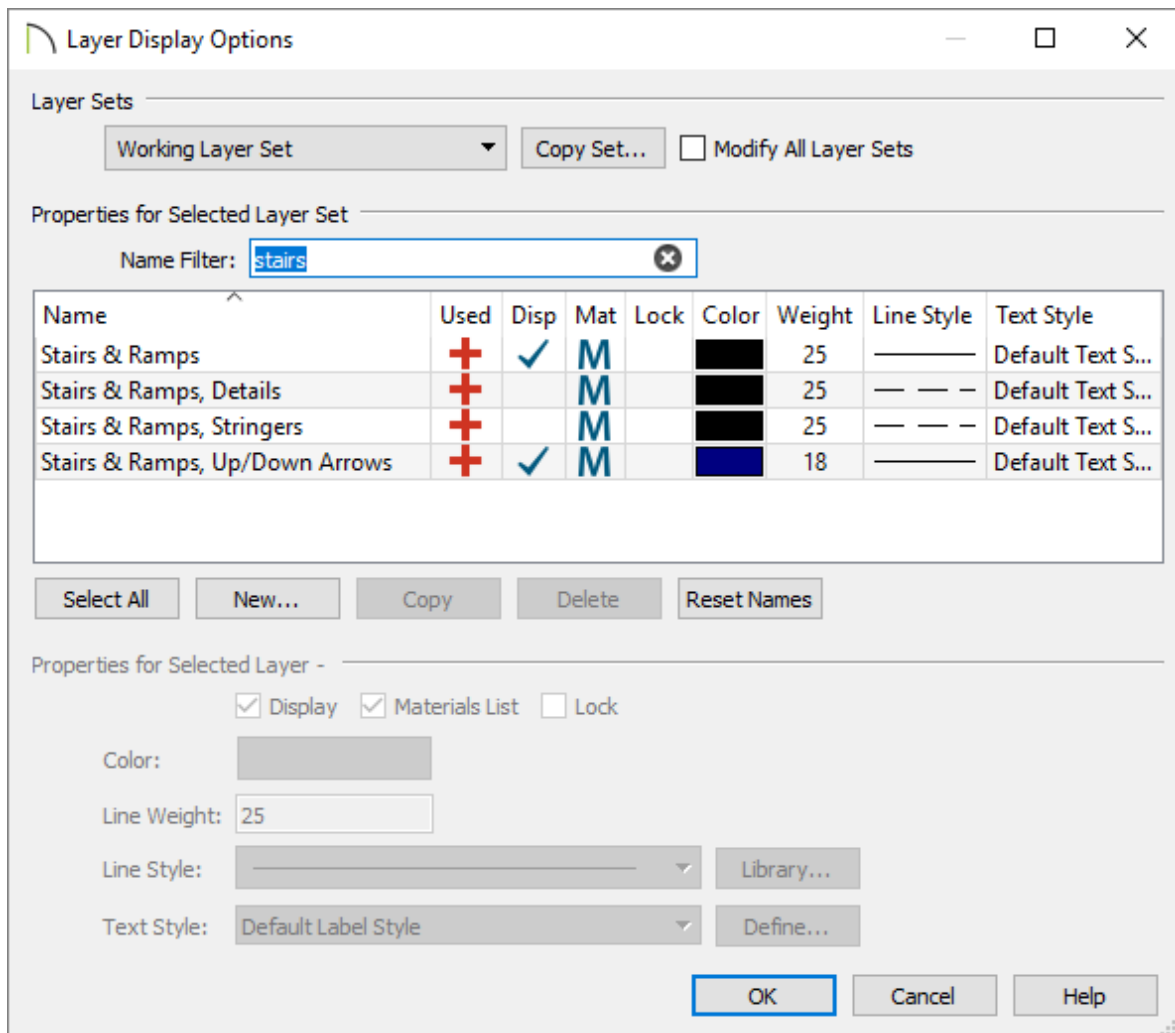
- Check **Draw Newels** to display newel posts.
- Check **Draw Balusters** to display balusters.
- Check **Draw Rails** to display the handrails.

Handrails draw over the top of newels and balusters. When displaying the hand rail together with newels and/or balusters, use the Fill Style button to set the fill style to "None"



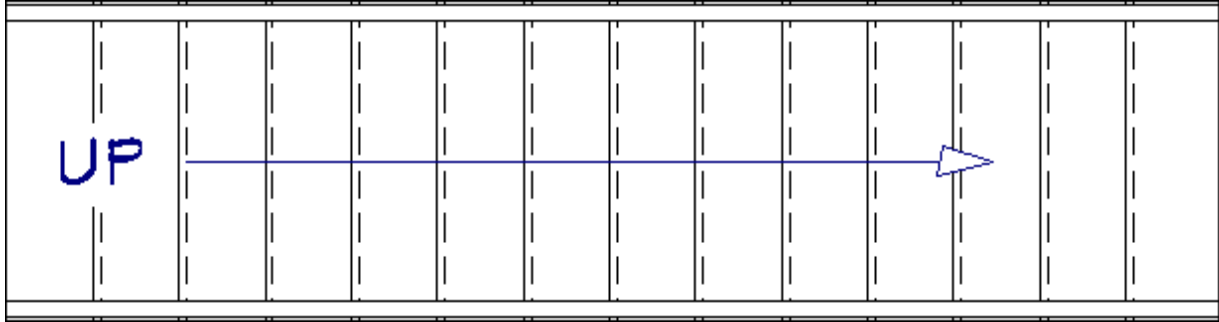
To display tread overhand and stringers

1. From the menu, select **Tools> Layer Settings> Display Options** .
2. In the **Layer Display Options** dialog use the **Name Filter** to search for "stairs."

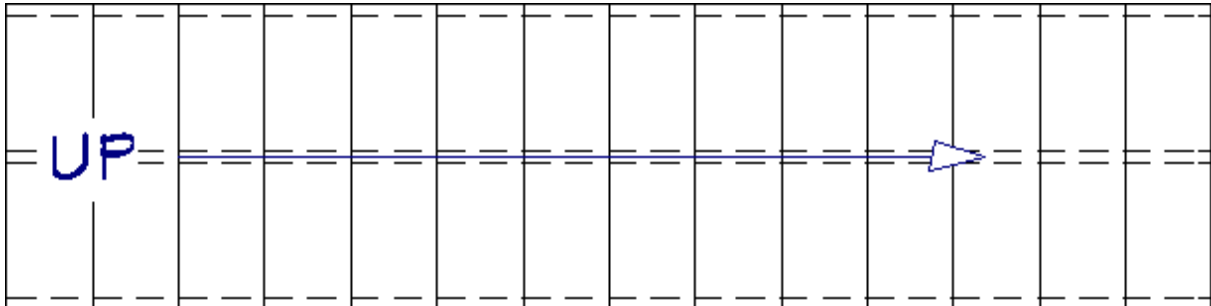


3. Locate the **Stairs & Ramps, Details** layer as well as the **Stairs & Ramps, Stringers** layer.

- Put a check in the **Disp** column for for the **Stairs & Ramps, Details** layer to display the tread overhang.



- Put a check in the **Disp** column for for the **Stairs & Ramps, Stringers** layer to display the stringers.



Note: Since stringers for most staircases are inline with the handrail you will not see the stringers unless the handrail display is turned off, if a single stringer is specified on the Style panel of the Staircase Specification, or if Open Risers are specified so that a middle stringer is generated.

Related Articles

[📄 Creating a Room Under a Staircase \(/support/article/KB-00596/creating-a-room-under-a-staircase.html\)](/support/article/KB-00596/creating-a-room-under-a-staircase.html)



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