Chief Architect®
Architectural Home Design Software

Working With Allowed Angles

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QUESTION

I have walls drawn at off angles in my design. Is there an easy way to draw additional walls at a particular angle value or increment?

ANSWER

The angle increment, as well as additional, custom snap angle values can be specified in the General Plan Defaults. This allows for line-based objects, such as walls, to be drawn at specific angles as long as Angle Snaps are enabled.

> Angle increments will only work with Angle Snaps enabled. You can toggle Angle Snaps by navigating to Edit> Snap Settings> Angle Snaps. When Angle Snaps are disabled, an icon will follow your cursor signifying that they are disabled,

which is often undesired. To learn more about snaps and behaviors, please access the "Working with Edit Behaviors" resource in the Related Articles section below.

This article will cover the following:

- Determining the angle using the object specification
- Determining the angle using the angular dimension tool
- Adding the angle as an allowed angle in your general plan defaults

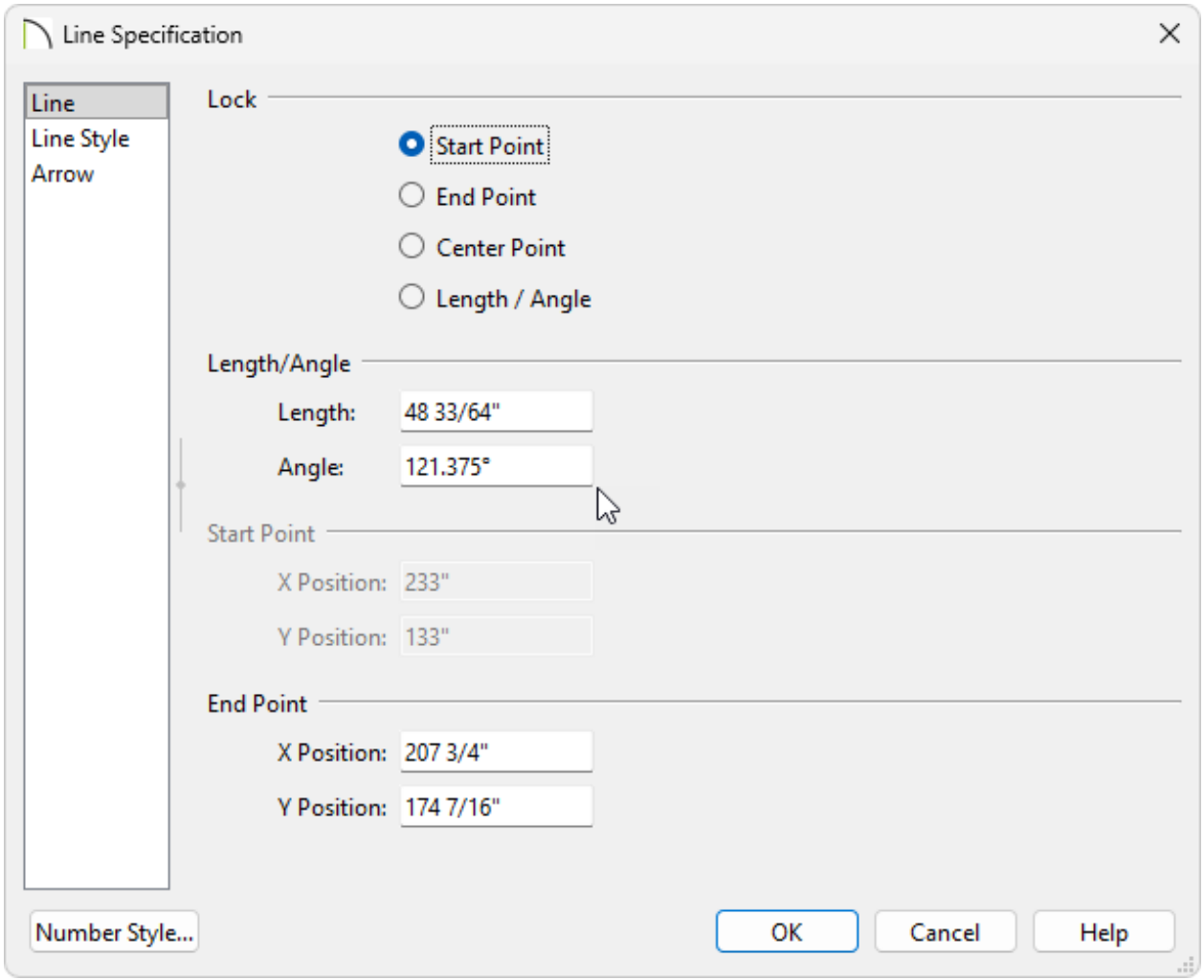
After importing a DWG of a floor plan that contains walls or lines at off angles, it may be necessary to first determine the angle value of the components. To do so, follow the instructions in the first or second section below.

To determine the angle using the object specification

1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on the line and use the **Open Object** edit tool to open the **Line/Polyline Specification**.

2. In the **Line Specification**, on the LINE panel take note of the **Angle**, as it is the angle we will add as an allowed angle.

   In the **Polyline Specification**, on the SELECTED LINE panel take note of the **Angle**, as it is the angle we will add as an allowed angle.

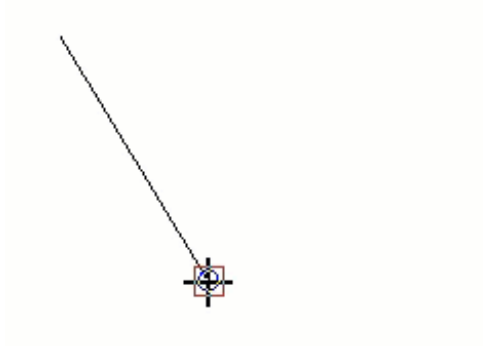


3. Click **OK** to close the dialog.

Additionally, you could use the Angular Dimension tool to measure the angle of the selected line.

To determine the angle using the angular dimension tool

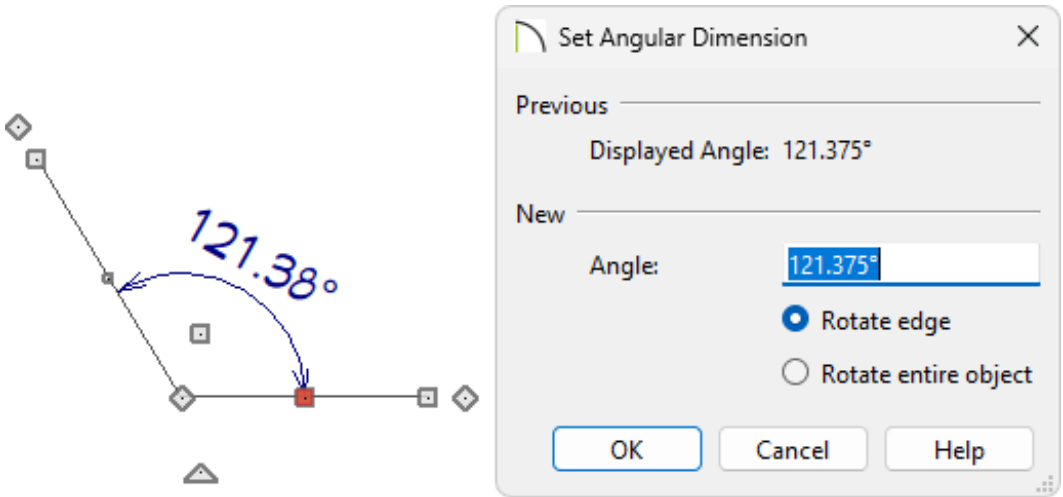
1. Select **CAD> Lines> Draw Line** and use the **Draw Line** tool to draw a horizontal line from your angled line.



2. Select **CAD> Dimensions> Angular Dimension** to select the tool.

3. Click and drag from your horizontal line to the off angled line to create a dimension.

4. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on your horizontal line and then click into the drawn angular dimension value to open the **Set Angular Dimension dialog**.

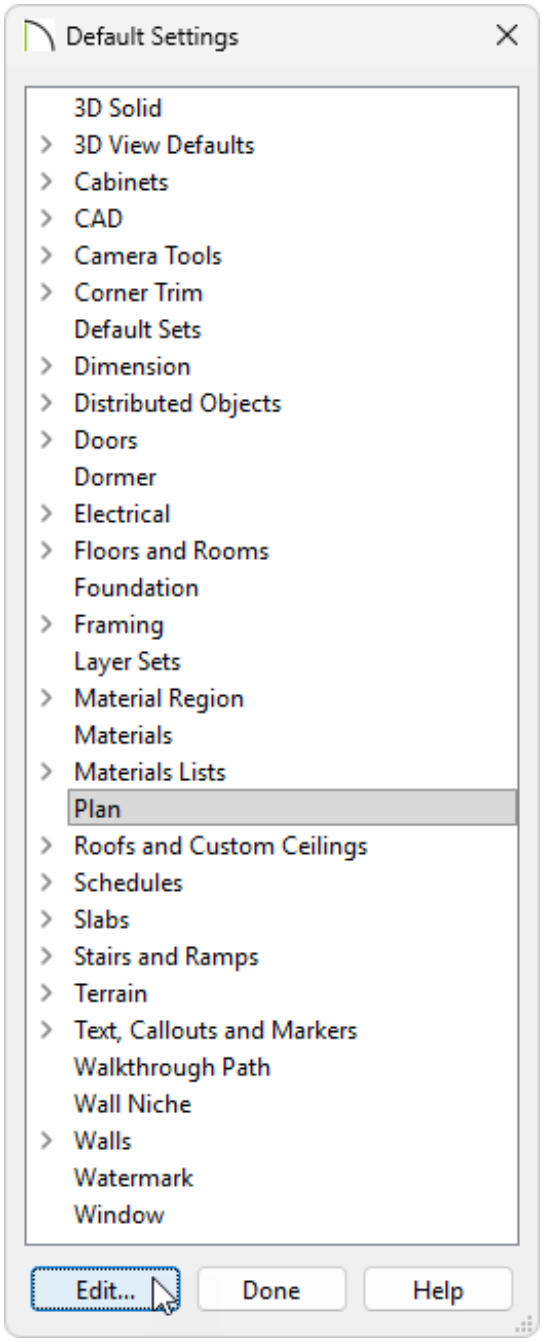


5. Take note of this angle, as it is the angle we will add as an allowed angle.

Now that we have our needed angle, we are ready to add it as an allowed angle.

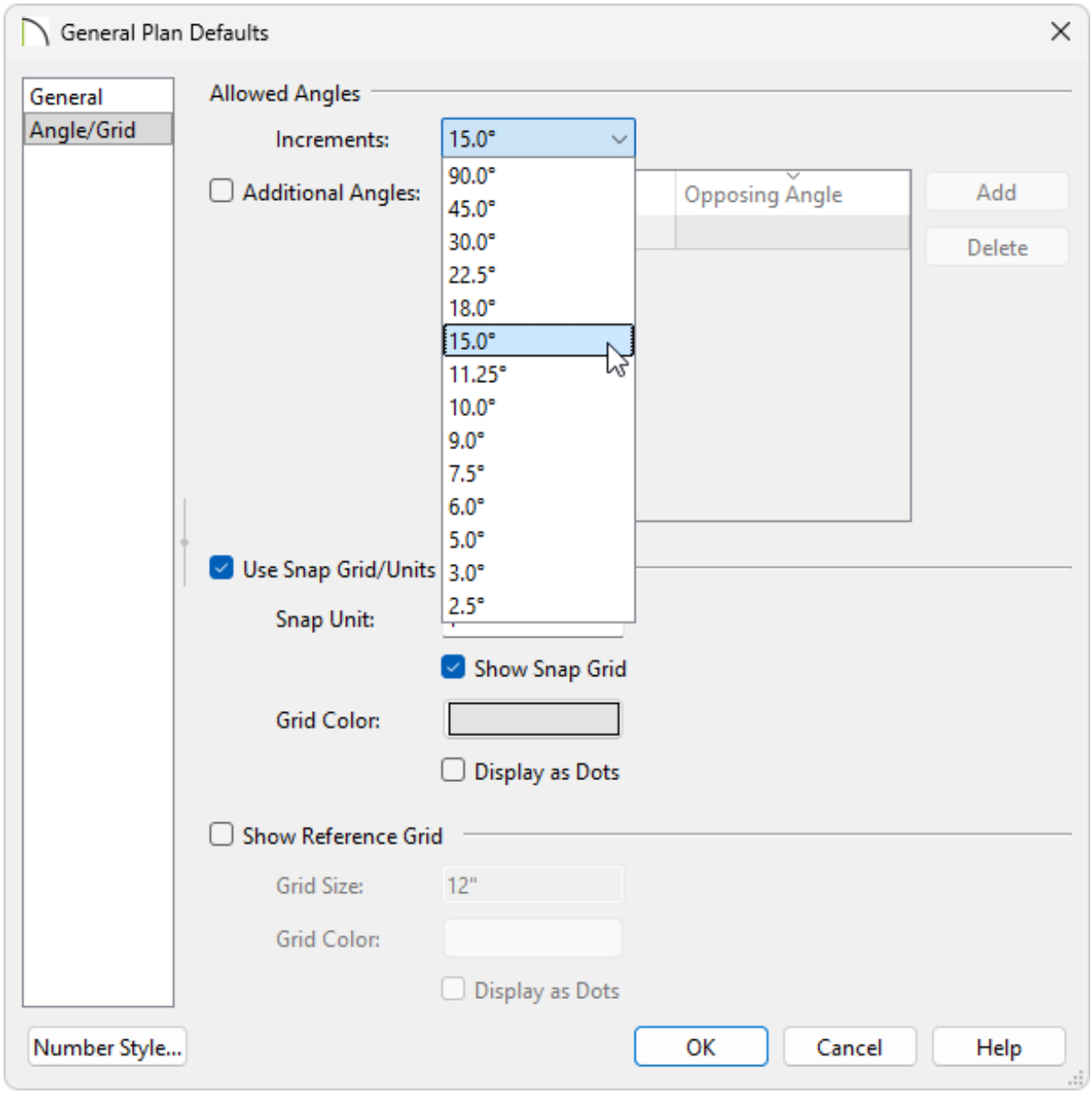
To add the angle as an allowed angle in your general plan defaults

1. Go to **Edit> Default Settings**, and in the **Default Settings** dialog that displays, select **Plan**, then click **Edit**.



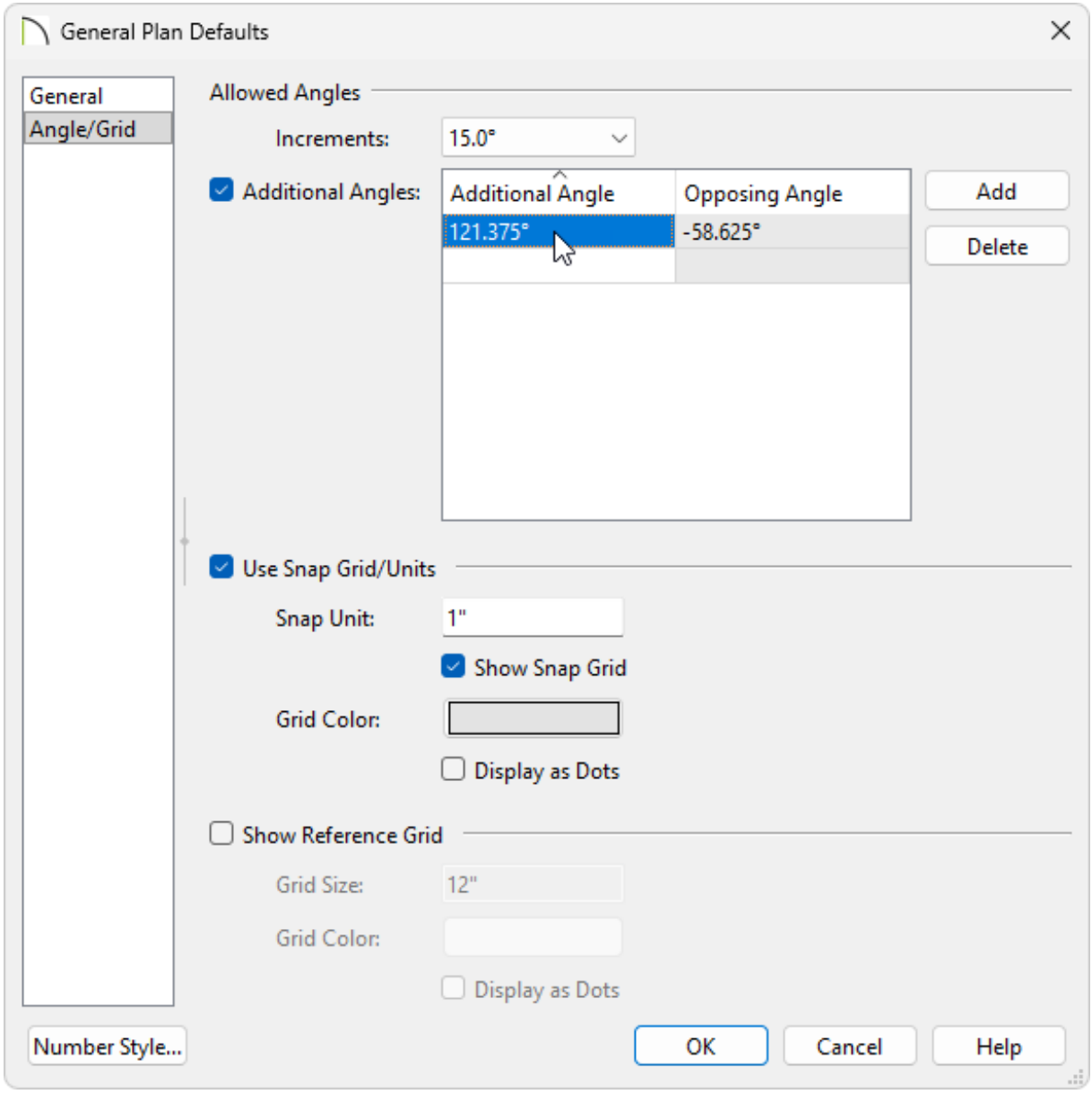
2. On the ANGLE/GRID panel of the **General Plan Defaults** dialog that displays, an **Increments** drop-down is available, where several predefined options are located; select your desired value from the list, of which will be used when Angle Snaps are enabled.

   In Chief Architect X16, Home Designer 2025, and prior versions, the only predefined options that are available are **15 Degrees** and **7 1/2 Degrees**.



3. Check the **Additional Angles** box and click in an empty cell within the **Additional Angle** column to input a custom angle

value that your line/wall needs to be drawn at.



4. Click **OK** and **Done** to close and save your changes.

5. Now, when the **Draw Line** ／ or a **Wall** tool is used, the specified angle value will be recognized.

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Related Articles

- Converting a Polyline into a Terrain Perimeter (/support/article/KB-00324/converting-a-polyline-into-a-terrain-perimeter.html)
- Creating a Plot Plan (/support/article/KB-00575/creating-a-plot-plan.html)
- Understanding Persistent Pointer Icons (/support/article/KB-03143/understanding-persistent-pointer-icons.html)
- Working with Edit Behaviors (https://www.homedesignersoftware.com/support/article/KB-00180/working-with-edit-behaviors.html)

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