Creating a Plot Plan in Home Designer Pro

The information in this article applies to:

Pro

QUESTION

I would like to know how to create a plot plan in Home Designer Pro. How is this accomplished?

ANSWER

Once you have created a floor plan, you are probably ready to create your plot plan. Use the following procedure to learn how to create a basic plot plan, then take what you learn and apply it to your own design.

To begin creating a plot plan


2. Next, select CAD > Lines > North Pointer, then click and drag a North Arrow straight up in your floor plan view.
3. Next, select **CAD > Points > Place Point** and click one time to place a point to the lower left as a start point for the property line.

4. Once the point is on the screen (it should look like an x), select **CAD > Lines > Input Line** to display the **New CAD Line** dialog.

5. Click on the **Num Style** button to display the **Number Style / Angle Style** dialog, and make the following changes:

   ![Dialog Number/Angle Style](image)

   **Note:** These settings only apply to numbers displayed in the specification dialogs and status bar. They do NOT apply to objects that display in plan and
other view windows.

- Under Number Style, move the radio button to **Decimal Feet**.
- Under Angle Style, move the radio button to **Quadrant Bearing**.
- Click **OK** to return to the **New CAD Line** dialog.

6. In the End Point section of the dialog, make the following selections:

![New CAD Line dialog](image)

- Click the radio button beside **Relative to Start Point**.
- Place a check in the box beside **Polar**.

7. Next, using the numbers that follow, enter the information to define the property line.
   Press the **Next** button to stay in the dialog to enter the next value.

   - Distance = 122.21', Angle = N82° 49'E
   - Distance = 98.75', Angle = N2° 17'W
   - Distance = 143.56', Angle = N87° 47'W
   - Distance = 122.33', Angle = S12° 20'E
The above coordinates serve as an example only. Use these coordinates to learn how to create a plot plan. Once you understand the process, you can substitute in your own coordinates.

8. Press **OK** after entering in the last value to close the dialog and return to floor plan view, where we can see the polyline we created.

9. Next, use the **Select Objects** tool to select the polyline you created, and click on the **Open Object** tool to display the **Polyline Specification** dialog.

10. Go to the **Line Style** panel, and in the lower right of the dialog in the Display Options category, check the boxes beside **Show Length** and **Show Angle** then click the **OK** button to return to your floor plan view.
Note that it defaults to having lengths of inches and angles in regular degrees. Most property lines are shown in bearings and decimal feet.

To change the display to decimal feet and bearings

1. Select **Edit > Default Settings**.

2. Expand the **CAD** category, select **General CAD**, and click on the **Edit** button.

3. In the **CAD Defaults** dialog:
Under Display Line Angle as, select **Quadrant Bearing**.

Under Display Line Length as, move the radio button to **Decimal Feet**.

Click **OK** to apply the change and close the **CAD Defaults** dialog.

4. Click **Done** to close the **Default Settings** dialog.

5. In Home Designer Pro 2012 and newer, to increase the size of the Length and Angle displayed on your Plot Plan polyline, select **Edit > Default Settings**.

6. Under **Text, Callouts and Markers**, select **Text Styles** and then click the **Edit** button.

7. Select Default Text Style and then click **Copy**. Choose a descriptive name for the new text style. In this example, the Plot Plan Text Style is used, then click **OK**.

8. Choose a higher value for the **Character Height**. In this example, we will use 2' 6", and then click **OK**, click **OK** again, and then click **Done** to close the Default Settings.
9. Next, select **Tools > Display Options**.

10. Navigate down to the **CAD, Default** layer, click to highlight its name, and use the Text Style drop down menu to select the **Plot Plan Text Style** that we created and click **OK**.

Now the property line should display properly.
If you want to add details such as the property offset, now is the time to make these changes.

**To create setback lines**

1. Select **Edit> Preferences** and under the Edit category, select **Behaviors**.

2. Under Edit Type, move the radio button to **Concentric**, and in the **Jump** field, type in the setback distance required by your local planning department, such as 10'.
3. Click **OK** to close the **Preferences** dialog and return to floor plan view.

4. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click the plot plan polyline to select it, then click the **Copy/Paste** edit button.

5. Place your cursor over a corner edit handle, click and drag towards the center of the polyline until a copy of the polyline appears inside.
6. Select the inner polyline and click the Open Object edit button to open the Polyline Specification dialog.

7. On the Line Style panel, select a dashed line style from the drop-down list, then uncheck Show Length and Show Angle, and click OK.

8. When you have finished creating your concentric copy, select Edit> Edit Behaviors> Default to restore the default edit behavior.

9. Finally, select CAD> Points> Delete Temporary Points to remove the point that we started our plot plan polyline from.