

Customizing Stair Stringers

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The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION



How do I customize the number and placement of stair stringers?




ANSWER

Stair stringers can be customized on the Stringers panel of the Stair Specification dialog or Stair Defaults dialog in X12, Home Designer 2021, and newer versions. In X11, Home Designer 2020, and prior, a limited number of stringer options can be found by accessing the Style panel.

To customize stair stringers

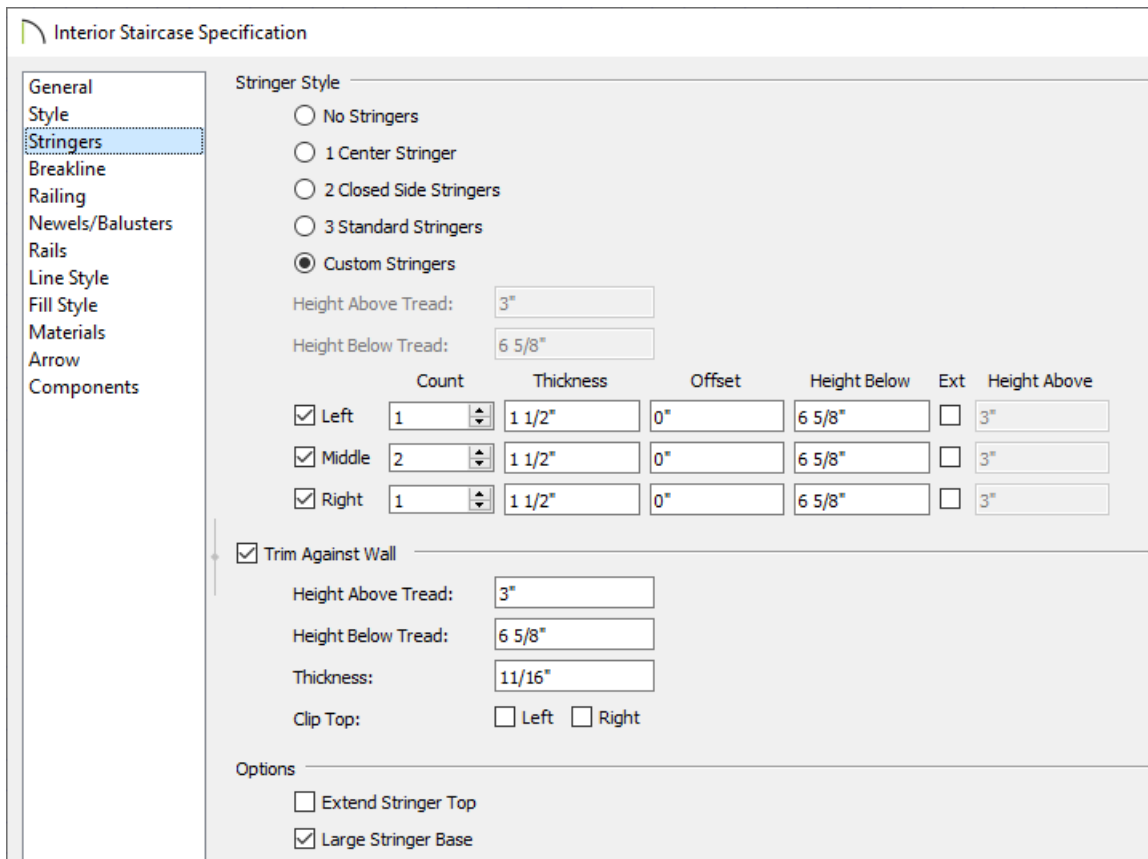
1. Using the **Select Objects**  tool, click on a staircase you would like to edit the stringers for and click the **Open Object**  edit tool.

In Chief Architect Premier and Chief Architect Interiors, you can also navigate to **Edit > Default Settings** , expand the **Stairs and Ramps** category, click on **Interior** or **Exterior Stairs** in the list, then click the **Edit** button.

Any changes made in the Stair Defaults dialog will only apply to staircases created in the plan going forward. Changes made in the Stair Defaults dialog will not retroactively apply to already existing staircases.

2. In the **Staircase Specification** or **Stair Defaults** dialog that opens, click on the **STRINGERS** panel.

In X11, Home Designer 2020, and prior versions, click on the **STYLE** panel.



The screenshot shows the 'Interior Staircase Specification' dialog box with the 'Stringers' panel selected. The 'Stringer Style' section has 'Custom Stringers' selected. Below this, there are input fields for 'Height Above Tread' (3") and 'Height Below Tread' (6 5/8"). A table lists stringer specifications for Left, Middle, and Right stringers. The 'Trim Against Wall' section is checked, with input fields for 'Height Above Tread' (3"), 'Height Below Tread' (6 5/8"), and 'Thickness' (11/16"). The 'Options' section has 'Extend Stringer Top' unchecked and 'Large Stringer Base' checked.

| | Count | Thickness | Offset | Height Below | Ext | Height Above |
|--|-------|-----------|--------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left | 1 | 1 1/2" | 0" | 6 5/8" | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3" |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle | 2 | 1 1/2" | 0" | 6 5/8" | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3" |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right | 1 | 1 1/2" | 0" | 6 5/8" | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3" |

- Specify the number of stringers in X12, Home Designer 2021, and newer versions.

If you would like to specify custom stringers, select the **Custom Stringers** radio button.*

In X11, Home Designer 2020, and previous versions, you can check whether or not to have a **Stringer at Wall**, a **Single Stringer**, or a **Closed Stringer**.

- If you choose to create custom stringers, you must select the **Left**, **Middle**, and/or **Right** checkboxes.*
- Specify the **Count**, **Thickness**, and **Offset** of each stringer.*

- Specify the **Height Below** the treads, check **Ext** to specify stringers as exterior stringers, and specify the **Height Above** the stair treads.*

For more information on each of these options, click on the **Help** button at the bottom of the dialog.

- Check **Trim Against Wall** if you would like a trim board to generate when a staircase is butted up against a wall. **Height Above/Below Tread** can be specified for all products. The **Thickness** of the trim, and whether or not it has a **Clip Top** can be specified in Chief Architect Premier, Chief Architect Interiors, and Home Designer Pro.
- **Extend Stringer Top** will extend a triangular portion of the stringer under the landing or platform at the top of the stairs, and checking **Large Stringer Base** will widen the stringers at the foot of the staircase, which may be helpful in cases when walls are created below the stairs.

**Applies to Chief Architect Premier, Chief Architect Interiors, and Home Designer Pro.*

3. Once all desired changes have been made to the stringers, click **OK** to close the dialog.

4. Take a **Camera**  view to see the results.

