

Plotting in AutoCAD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rf4myvZY86A>

Layout Tab Improvements

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVrL8PxBNh8>

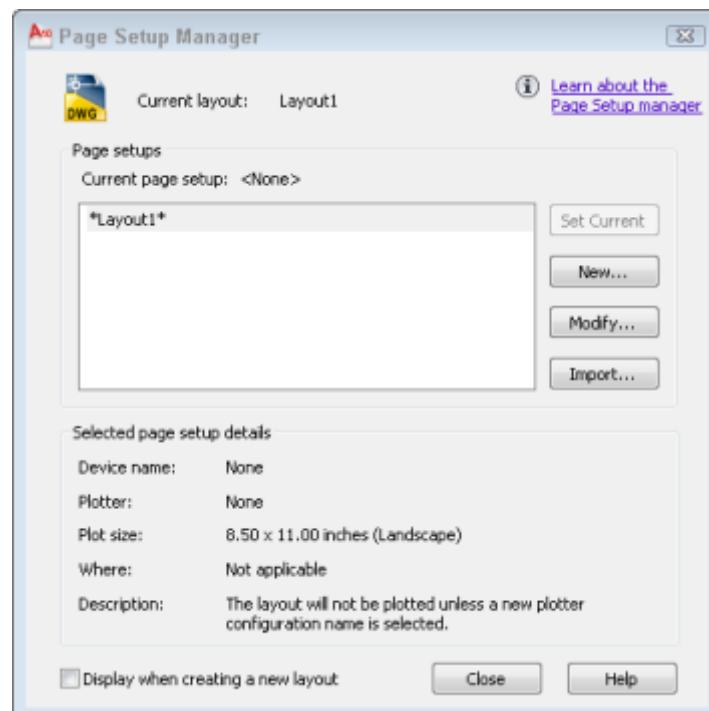
Tutorial: Create a page setup for plotting

Do you change your plot settings a lot? Do you plot drawings in various ways, for example, a draft plot and a final plot? Or do you create various layouts and need to plot them differently?

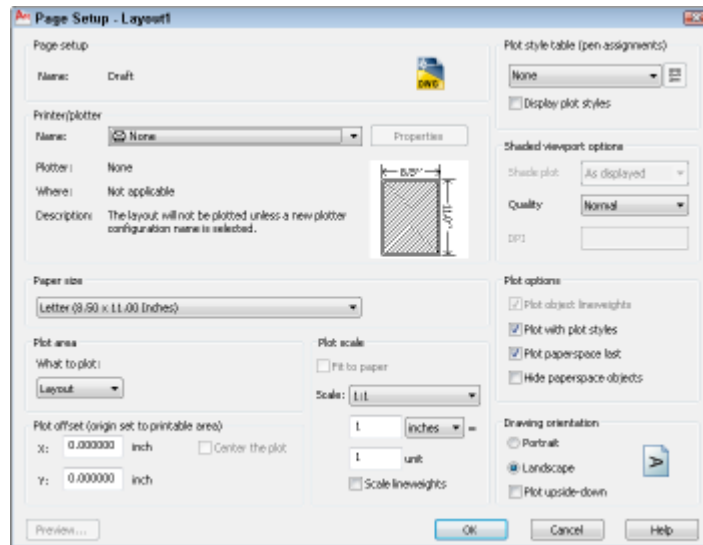
You can save page setups, which contain settings for plotting. A page setup is attached to a layout, so you can easily switch settings from one layout to another.

Creating a page setup is like specifying plotting settings, so you should know how to use the Plot dialog box first.

1. To create a new page setup, right-click the desired tab (including the Model tab), and choose Page Setup Manager. (If you don't see the layout tabs, you have model and layout buttons on the status bar. Right-click either button and choose Display Layout and Model tabs.)



1. In the Page Setup Manager, click New. Enter a name. If you have existing page setups, you can choose one from the Start With list, to avoid having to create all the settings from scratch. Click OK.



3. In the Printer/Plotter section, choose the desired printer or plotter from the drop-down list. This lets you use different devices for different layouts.
4. In the Paper Size section, choose a paper size. This allows you to use different sheet sizes for different layouts.
5. In the Plot Area section, choose what you want to plot. Your choices depend on whether you're on a Model or Layout tab, and can include: Layout, Display, Limits, Extents, and Window.
6. In the Plot Offset section, you can specify an offset from the lower-left corner. You might do this to place several plots on different parts of one sheet of paper. You can also center the plot by checking the Center the Plot check box.
7. In the Plot Scale section, set the scale from the drop-down list, or check the Fit to Paper check box. You can also type a scale in the text boxes. Most layouts are plotted at 1:1 because you scale the individual viewports. You can also check the Scale Lineweights check box to scale the lineweights along with your drawing.
8. In the Plot Style Table section, choose a plot style table if you want to use one. Plot styles determine how plots look and let you create different looks for different plots.
9. In the Shaded Viewport Options section, you specify how a model plot (not a layout plot) looks. You can choose from visual styles and resolution options. The Shade Plot drop-down list is not available if you're on a Layout tab. You can also choose a quality from the Quality drop-down list.
10. In the Plot Options section, you can choose whether or not you want to plot lineweights and plot styles. You can also choose whether you want to plot paper space objects last. Finally, if you created 3D objects in paper space (who ever does that?), you can hide their back lines.
11. In the Drawing Orientation section, you can plot portrait, landscape (the default), or upside down.
12. Click the Preview button to see if you like the result.
13. Click OK to return to the Page Setup Manager. Select the new page setup, click Set Current, and click Close.

To modify a page setup, open the Page Setup Manager again, choose the page setup, and click Modify.

To use the page setup, start the PLOT command. In the Plot dialog box, choose the page setup from the Name drop-down list in the Page Setup section at the top of the dialog box. Then plot the drawing.

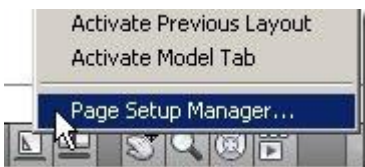
Steps Preparing Your AutoCAD Plot



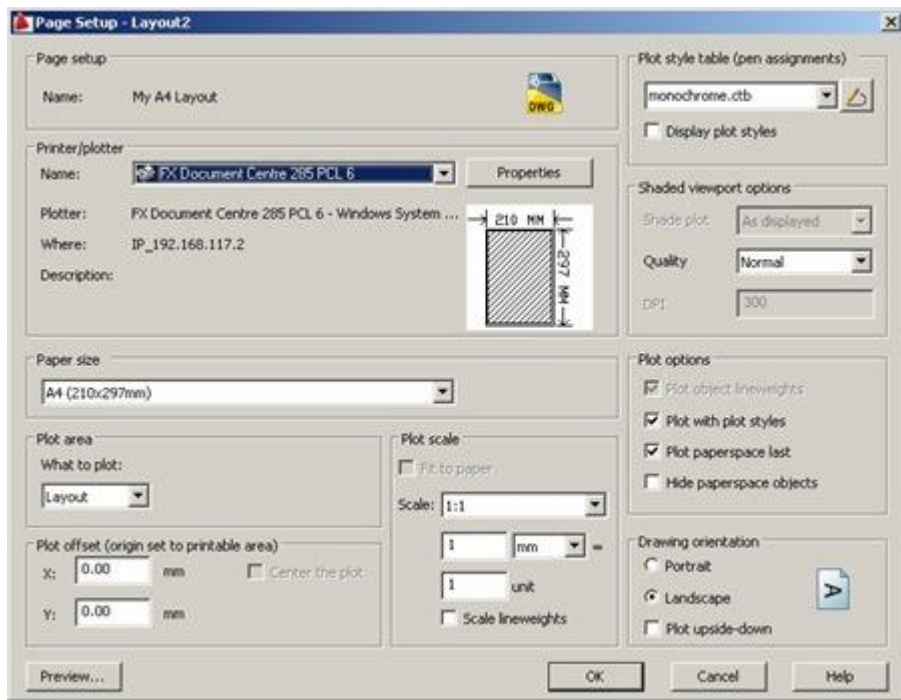
Plotting AutoCAD drawing can be tricky. Especially for [people who just learn AutoCAD](#). Saw several posts in the forum saying they are confused how to do it. Why the plot result is not correctly scaled. Plotting is actually very easy. Simple. Just click plot or publish then you're done. But there are some rules and steps you have to do when you draw and arrange your model in layouts, it's already started when you create your file!

1. Set Your Page/Layout

Next thing you should do is setup your page. [Use layout, because it is easier to understand and easier to manage](#). Open your layout. We should already have a viewport. Delete it, we don't need it at this time. We will create a new one, this one might will be seen too small or too large after we set our page. Now [let's set the page setup](#). Open your page setup manager. You can open it by right clicking over the tab name, then select page setup manager. Or by right click over quick view layout.



On your page setup manager dialog box, you can see a list of your layouts. Let's create a new page setup. Click new, give it name such as 'My A4 layout', then click OK. This will open page setup dialog box.



Set this values below:

1. Your printer/plotter type and sheet size.
2. On what to plot, select Layout.
3. Ensure plot scale 1:1.
4. Plot style table you want to use.

We created this layout with real paper size. So we use scale 1:1. The only scaling we will do is scaling our objects view inside viewports. Click OK. Now click set current to apply the changes to your active layout. Your layout1 is ready. Open your layout2, then open page setup manager again. Select your previous page setup, then click set current. I believe there is an easier way, but can't find it. I usually already have it setup in my template, or simply make a copy from existing layout. Do you have any suggestion how to apply the page setup to multiple layout?

2. Setup Your Title Block

Now you should see your real paper size. The dashed rectangle is the area where your printable area. Place your title block here. You can insert existing title block if you already have one, or draw a new one. Remember, this is 1:1 scale. So if you want to have 3mm height text, use 3mm as it heights.

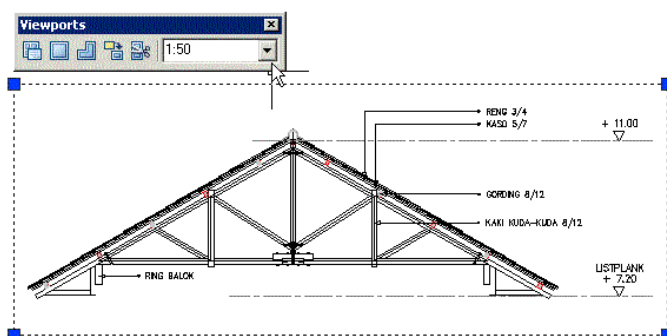


3. Place Viewports and Set the Scale

Now we are ready to place our viewport. You can place it by clicking new in view tab, viewports section, new icon. Or [you can use viewport configuration](#).



In the opened dialog box, select **single** standard viewport, then click OK. Draw your viewport as you desired. You should see all your drawing inside it. Or in the old way, I prefer to type MV then [enter] :) Next, set the scale. Select your viewport, and select the scale you wanted. You can do it from viewports toolbar or annotation scale bar.



4. Plot it!

Just activate plot by hitting [ctrl] + P or typing PLOT [enter]. Or of course, from menu or ribbon. Everything should be ready now, but check it first by seeing the preview. If

you already familiar with it, [you can try to publish multiple drawings at once](#). Not so difficult now, right? I'm looking forward if you have other plotting tips you would like to share.