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Creating Fill/Hatch Patterns

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## Thread: Creating Fill/Hatch Patterns

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11-04-2012, 08:33 PM

#1



**Joe Carrick**

**Registered User Promoted**

Join Date: Jan 2007  
Location: San Marcos, CA  
Posts: 6,790

### Creating Fill/Hatch Patterns

Fill Patterns are simply text files that can be edited in a simple text editor like **Notepad**. Chief Architects supplies some standards and several custom patterns that are contained in the "Pattern" folder. Each Pattern is made up of a series of Lines.

The format of a Pattern File is as follows:

```
;; PATTERN FILE NAME.PAT
*1-PATTERN_NAME
nAngle, xOrigin,yOrigin, xRepeatDelta,yOffset, [nLength,nSpace]
.....
.....
.....
```

**nAngle** = Angle of the Line (0 is horizontal - angles are measured clockwise)

**xOrigin,yOrigin** = Start Coordinates of the Line

**xRepeatDelta** = Offset of the Repeat Pattern (only valid when nLength & nSpace are present)  
**yOffset** = Spacing between Lines  
**nLength** = Length of a Line (if not provided the line is continuous)  
**nSpace** = negative value indicates length of a space.

#### Example Pattern:

\*CEILING\_GRID\_24X48

0, 0,0, 0,24

0, 0,1, 0,24

90, 0,0, 0,48

90, 1,0, 0,48

This results in a pair of horizontal lines 1" apart repeated 24" o.c.  
 and a pair of vertical lines 1" apart repeated 48" o.c.

In most cases xRepeatDelta will be 0.

If a specific length solid line and spacing is needed then [nLength,nSpace] should be specified as **nLength,-nSpace** such as 23,-1 to result in a line 23" long with a 1" space before the next solid line.

Note that the above is very similar to the AutoCad format but Chief doesn't support a **DOT** in the Line definitions

Joseph P. Carrick, Architect - AIA

ASUS M51AC Desktop, core i7-4770 CPU @3.4 GHZ, 16 GB Ram, NVidia GT640 with 60M with 3GB GM, 30" HiRes (2560/1600)

Monitor , (2) 24" ASUS Monitors

Windows 8.1

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11-04-2012, 09:03 PM

#2



**Joe Carrick**

**Registered User Promoted**

Join Date: Jan 2007  
 Location: San Marcos, CA  
 Posts: 6,790

BTW, For convenience I keep a copy of my Custom Pattern File in the same directory as Chief's Patterns. It's much easier to get to them that way.

But for development and archive purposes I use My Documents.

Joseph P. Carrick, Architect - AIA  
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11-05-2012, 07:09 AM

#3



**Don Randall** ◦  
Chief can "Design Space"



Join Date: Aug 2000  
Location: Virginia Beach,  
VA USA  
Posts: 1,070

Chief Architect with an embedded line style generator has been discussed as far back as 2004.  
A line style generator would definitely be something that needs to be added to Chief's CAD tools.

*Don***CA Premium X6 (16.1.0.50x64) SSA**

Intel i7-4770 (8M Cache) @ 3.4GHz; Windows 8.1 - 64 Bit; 16GB DDR3 (1600MHz);  
NVIDIA GeForce GTX 670;  
Dual HD Monitors (24" and 22");  
Primary Hard Drive: 256GB SSD. 😊

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11-05-2012, 07:34 AM

#4



**Joe Carrick** ◻  
Registered User Promoted

Join Date: Jan 2007  
Location: San Marcos, CA  
Posts: 6,790

 Originally Posted by **Don Randall** 

*Chief Architect with an embedded line style generator has been discussed as far back as 2004.  
A line style generator would definitely be something that needs to be added to Chief's CAD tools.*

It's really a simple enough item to program. A set of lines/arcs (including spaces) drawn from left to right could be analyzed and the Linestyle definition automatically generated.

Joseph P. Carrick, Architect - AIA  
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11-05-2012, 07:59 AM

#5



**perryh**   
**Godzilla fan**

Join Date: Jun 2005  
Location: Southern California  
Posts: 4,865

 Originally Posted by **Don Randall** 

*Chief Architect with an embedded line style generator has been discussed as far back as 2004.  
A line style generator would definitely be something that needs to be added to Chief's CAD tools.*

Don't we already have a line style editor?

Perry  
P.H. DESIGNS L.L.C.  
Eastvale Calif.  
Alienware, liquid cooled  
Ver 10-"X6 x64 SSA  
WIN 8.1 PRO 64 bit  
Nvidia GTX780 3GB.  
i7 920 2.67-- 12 GB Ram  
40" led monitor

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11-05-2012, 08:29 AM

#6



**Joe Carrick**   
**Registered User Promoted**

Join Date: Jan 2007  
Location: San Marcos, CA  
Posts: 6,790

 Originally Posted by **perryh** 

*Don't we already have a line style editor?*

Yes, but it's very limited. You can only have straight inline elements (dashes, text and spaces). There is no facility for anything that's not directly on the path. This is why we have to use a distributed path to cross hatch along a line. 2D Linestyles are a very powerful CAD Tool. Some Cad programs even allow for a beginning and ending terminator to be defined for a Linestyle.

Joseph P. Carrick, Architect - AIA

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