

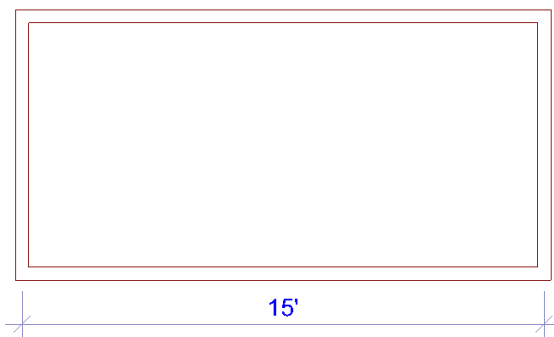
## Entering Exact Lengths when Drawing Walls

When you point and click to draw walls, on-screen dimensions are displayed that let you know how long each wall is as you are drawing it. If you know the exact dimensions that you want your wall layout to have, you may want to enter these dimensions while drawing instead of using the on-screen dimensions.

### Choosing the Right Wall Tool

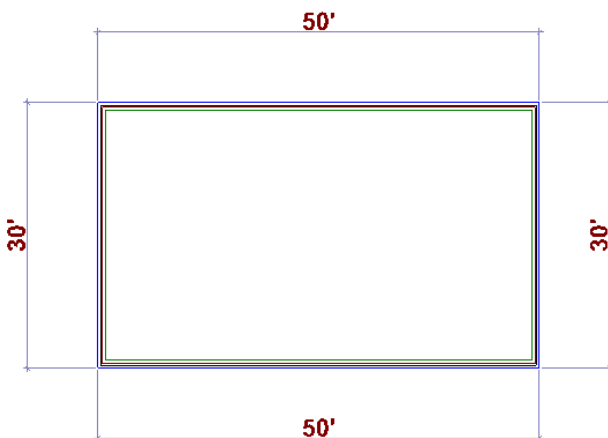
There are two tools available for drawing walls: the **Walls** tool and the **Walls by Baseline** tool. The tool you select depends on what you want the finished result to be.

When you use the **Walls** tool, perimeter walls are drawn *on center*, regardless of how dimensions are specified. If you want to enter exact lengths when using the **Walls** tool, you can enter them in the Commander (see *Using the Commander* later in this document). Just remember that the dimensions measure from center line to center line, and not the inner or outer wall lines.



The **Walls by Baseline** tool is ideal when you do not want to draw perimeter walls on center. It is especially useful when you know the exact dimensions you want your finished wall layout to have, whether they measure the exterior side or the interior side of the layout. With this tool you draw the outline of your wall layout, and then specify how you want to offset the wall mass from that baseline — from the outer face of the veneer, from the outer face of the wall core or stud, or from the inner face of the wall. (See *Using the Walls by Baseline Tool* later in this document.)

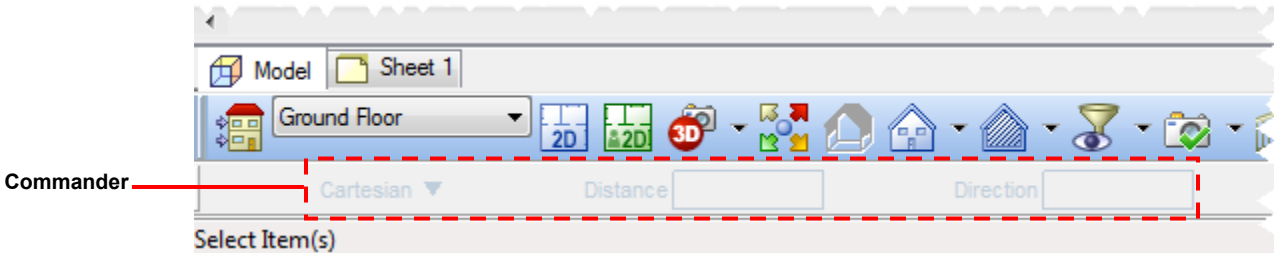
Let's say, for example, that you want the outside of your brick to measure 30' x 50'. Simply draw a 30' x 50' rectangle, and then when prompted, select the *Outer Face of Veneer* offset. The wall mass will be offset inward from the baseline that you drew. In other words, the baseline that you drew represents the outer brick wall line.



### Using the Commander

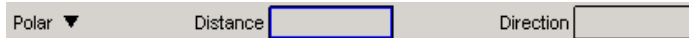
Whether you are using the **Walls** tool or **Walls by Baseline** tool, you can enter precise lengths for walls using the Commander.

1. Make sure that the Commander is displayed at the bottom of the screen.



If the Commander is not displayed, select **Settings > Program Settings**, then click **Workspace** in the left pane of the **Program Settings** dialog and enable the **Commander** check box.

2. Select **Insert > Walls > Walls** (or **Walls by Baseline**).
3. In the catalog panel, select the wall type that you would like to insert.
4. Click a start point for the wall in the drawing area. The Commander becomes active.



5. Type the length you want the wall to be. The value appears in the **Distance** edit box as you type it.
6. Point your cursor in the direction you want the wall to run, then press ENTER. Alternatively you can press the TAB key on your keyboard to move to the **Direction** edit box and enter an angle, and then press ENTER.
7. You can now continue directly with the next wall. When you are done drawing the walls, right-click and select **Finish**.

### Using the Walls by Baseline Tool

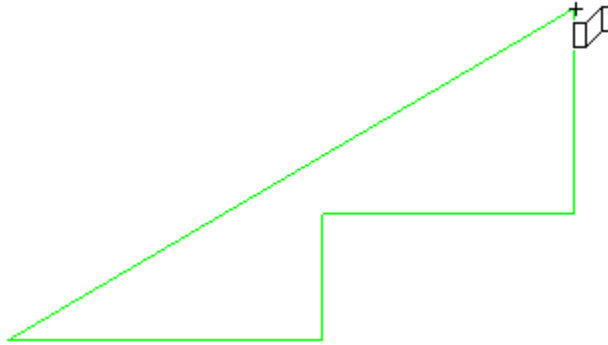
Follow these steps to draw a wall layout that is offset from a specific baseline. Make sure the Commander is displayed below the drawing area.

1. Select **Insert > Walls > Walls by Baseline**.
2. In the catalog panel, select the type of wall that you want to draw.
3. Select a start point for the first wall. The Commander becomes active.

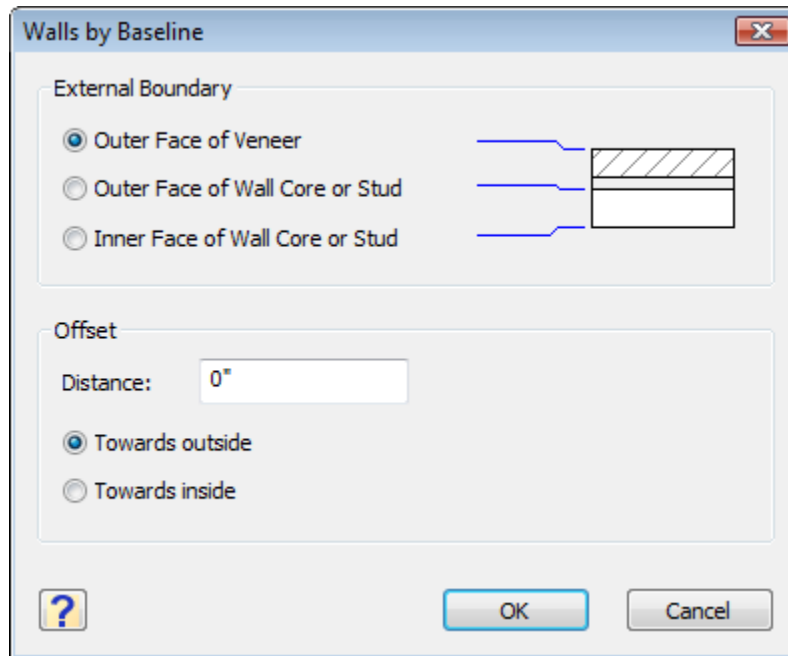


8. Type the length you want the wall to be. The value appears in the **Distance** edit box as you type it.
4. Point your cursor in the direction you want the wall to run, then press ENTER. Alternatively you can press the TAB key on your keyboard to move to the **Direction** edit box and enter an angle, and then press ENTER.

5. Continue adding walls to layout by specifying their length and direction. As you draw walls a closed shape is created that represents the wall layout. The last point picked is always connected back to the start point, so you do not have to define the length or direction of the last wall.



6. Right-click and select **Finish**. The following dialog appears:



7. Select the desired offset option: **Outer Face of Veneer**, **Outer Face of Wall Core or Stud**, or **Inner Face of Wall**. This is basically telling the program which wall line the baseline you drew represents.
8. If you want to offset the walls a specific distance from the baseline, enter the desired offset in the **Distance** edit box, and then specify whether you want to offset the walls toward the outside or toward the inside of the layout.
9. Click **OK**. Your wall layout is created.