

BASIC ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTING SYMBOLS

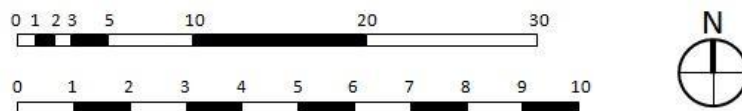
Every symbol is drawn to the same scale as the rest of the floor plan. The meaning of the symbols is a combination of...

- Appearance (a sofa symbol looks like a sofa and a bath symbol looks like a bath)
- Conventions (eg dotted lines used for solid things above the cut line of a floor plan)
- Labelling (eg W for washer and D for dryer)

Putting all these together and with a bit of intuition it's possible to work out most symbols but some are more difficult to figure out. I've explained lots of them on this page all arranged into sensible categories.

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Scale and Compass



Scale and Compass

The scale will tell you if your floor plan is in feet and inches or the metric system. Here the feet and inches scale is on top and the metric underneath. The North arrow tells you about the orientation of the property.

Walls

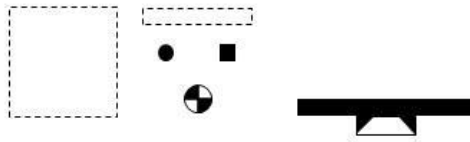


Wall floor plan symbols

The top line represents an exterior wall and the bottom line an interior wall. Sometimes there may not be as much of a difference between exterior and interior walls.

Walls can also be represented by a black outline rather than a solid line.

Architectural Details



The dotted square top left indicates something above the line where the floor plan is cut (typically 4ft). This might be a dropped ceiling. The dotted line might be a ceiling beam.

The solid circle and square represent columns.

The black and white circle is used to indicate floor heights so you can tell if there's a step up or down.

The image at the bottom represents a fireplace.

Doors

From the top...

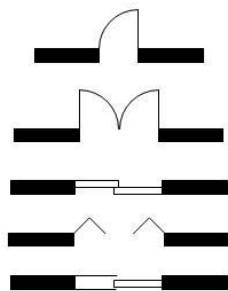
Single door

Double door

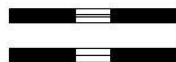
Sliding door

Bi-fold door

Pocket door

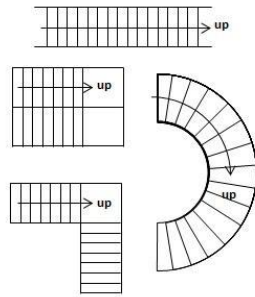


Windows



At the top is a double casement window and underneath a single casement window

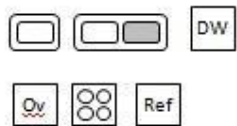
Stairs



Arrangements for stairs

Here's some stair layouts. There's straight up, up and back on yourself and round a corner.
Then there's sweeping staircase style.

Kitchen



Kitchen fittings and appliances

Top row from left ... sink, sink with draining board, dish washer.
Bottom row from left.. oven, cook top, refrigerator.



Kitchen work top with cabinet above

The solid line here represents the work top in the kitchen with the dotted line representing the cabinet above.

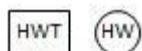
Laundry



Laundry appliances

No prizes - washer and dryer

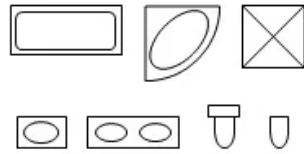
Utilities



Utilities floor plan symbols

HWT - Hot water tank
HW - Hot water heater

Bathroom



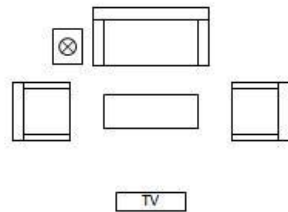
Bathroom fixtures and fittings

Top row from left... bath, corner bath, shower.

Bottom row from left... sink, double sink, toilet, bidet.

Showers can often be different sizes than shown here but will always appear with crossed lines through the center.

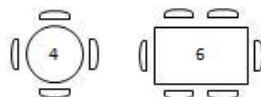
Living Room



Living Room Floor Plan

Here's a little arrangement for you. The sofas and chairs are kind of obvious with the coffee table in the middle. The side table has a lamp on it and the TV is labelled.

Dining Room

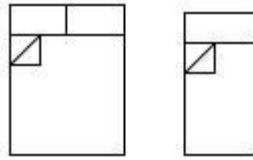


Dining Room Tables

Dining tables - a round one for four and a rectangular one for six.

These tables show chairs in the pushed in position so remember to look for clearance around the table so that people have room to come and go from the table.

Bedroom



Beds

Here you have a queen size bed and a single bed nicely turned down!
Below is a closet with built sides. The dotted line represents the rail.

