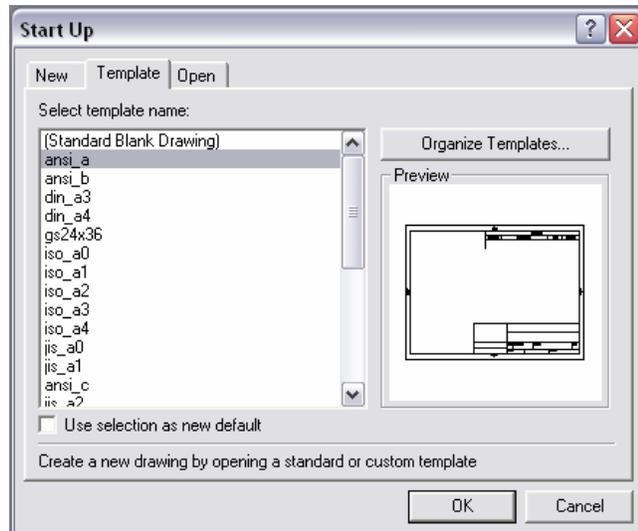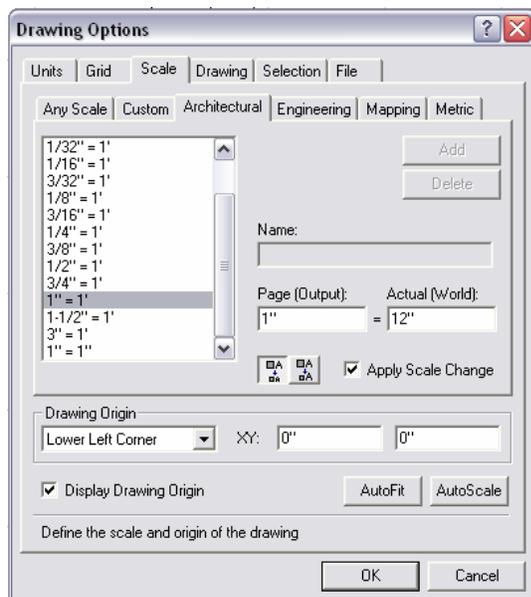# Setting Up a Drawing

In most instances you will want your new drawing to start with a template. Choose that tab and select the American Standard for A sized paper ansi_a. (most common are A at 8.5"x11" and B at 11"x17").

Templates simplify things by remembering a default scale.

Choose your working scale.
Tools >> Drawing Options >> Scale

Pick from the standard scales, for example Architecture's 1" in paper to 1' in space.
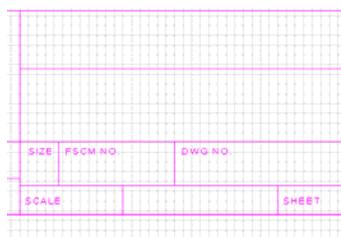
NOTE: the Page (output) to Actual (world) ratio of 1"=12" — this rescales everything on the page by a factor of 12.

Now your title Block is too small. Click to select the title block.

NOTE: One of the icons in the left side toolbar shows Scale selected (toolbars can provide quicker access to menu items).
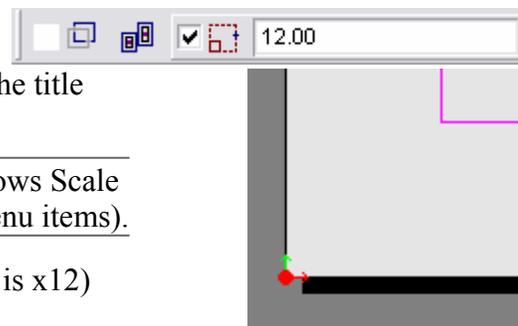
Go to the Edit Bar and enter 12 (remember 1"=12" is x12)

Now you need a reference point to scale from. Click on the origin (The green and red xy-axis in the lower left) — the point will try to jump to it since the snap is on.

Now to fill in the title block. Aside from layers and styles, templates can include fields automatically linked to a database.
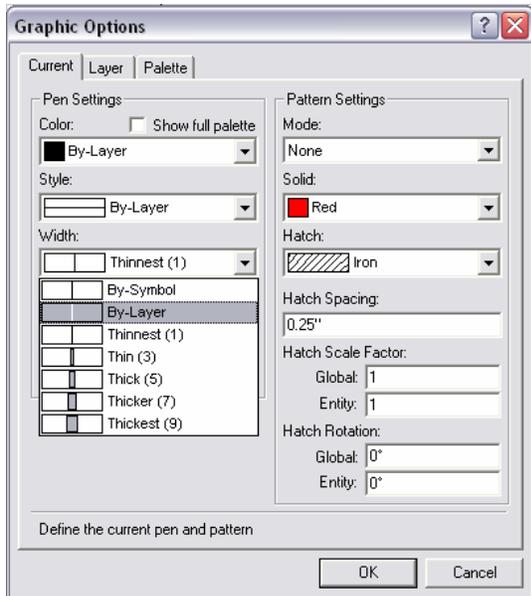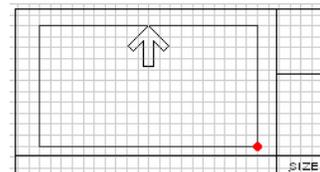Database >> Edit Entity Fields…

Click on the title block and fill in the blanks in the menu. The ansi_a template does not have many linked fields.
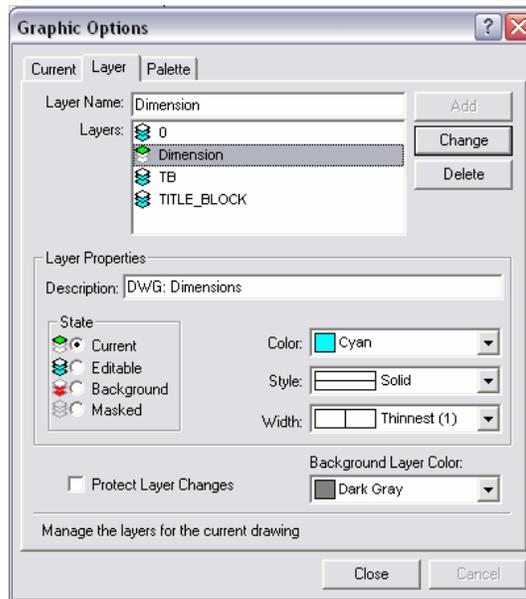
Draw >> Text >> Rectangle

Then set .125" (output size) and positioning from the edit box.
Click at the corner and drag across for the area to type.

It is best to have each line type as a separate
layer so it may be changed later.
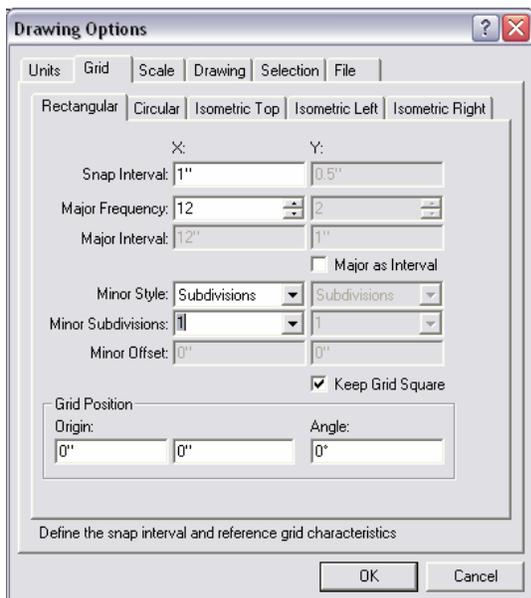Tools >> Graphic Options >> Current

Change the Color, Style and Width from their
respective defaults of Black, Solid and Thinnest
to By-Layer.

Now select the Layer tab.

Create a new layer for each line type.
To make a new layer, type "Dimensions" where
it says Layer Name and click Add. Select it and
change the color to Cyan and click Change to
update the change. Repeat this for layers 01 etc.

NOTE: only the first 9 styles: solid thru border
will not be affected by the scale in printing, etc.

Set the grid and snap:
Tools >> Drawing Options >> Grid

Check Keep Grid Square. Try 1" with a major
ever 12" (i.e. a foot). Let the minor be 1".

NOTE: Setting the snap interval as large as
practical improves accuracy. It is easy to reset.

File >> Save As...

>>End Setting Up a Drawing.