

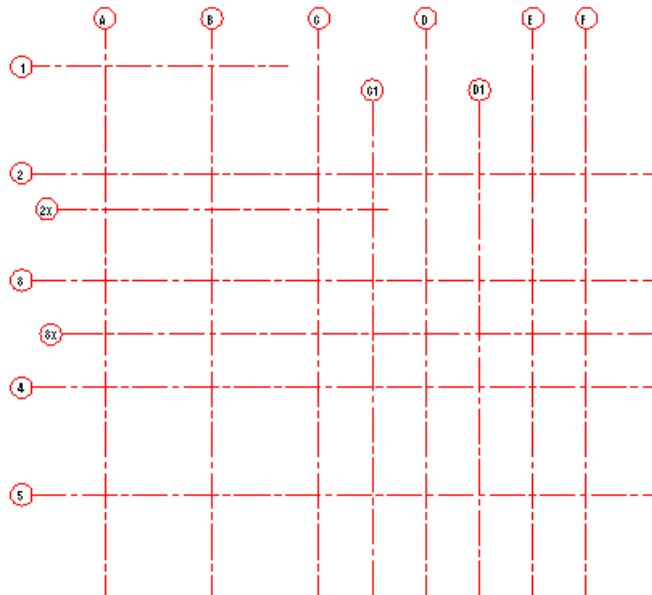
UNDERSTANDING GRID LINES

Grid lines are dark thin lines or arcs with bubbles at one end that run all the way through a floor plan to provide reference locations on the plan.

Use:

Grid lines create a series of reference points that:

- Orient viewers to the polar bearings
- Identify items so that they are easily found ie column at “ 5-A ”
- Act as primary reference points for basic dimensions (commercial building partitions are often dimensioned from grid lines)



Location:

- The centre of STRUCTURAL columns
- The centre or face of a bearing walls, demising walls
- Minor structural elements receive intermediate minor grid bubbles (e.g. Ax) and lines that do not extent the full way through the building

Graphic Conventions:

- There is some variation in graphic convention of grid lines, but they almost always have a circle at one end with an alphabetic or numeric designation within it.
- It is common for the line to be ‘centre’ type (long dash – short dash – long dash) to identify it as a non-constructed element.
- Bubbles can be thin or thick pen weight, and range from 13mm to 25mm in size. Text should be fully centred (both vertically and horizontally) and NOT overlap bubble boundaries.
- Grid lines located close together can be offset with an angled line to provide space for the bubbles to not overlap.
- Structural elements placed in an arc or circle receive arced or circular grid lines.
- Drafting convention varies regarding whether number or letters are placed horizontally (ie on vertical lines), however it is agreed that letters / numbers increase from left to right, and top to bottom. HOWEVER, there is an argument that can suggest otherwise...
- DIMENSION your grids. This is forgotten ALL THE TIME.
- FINALLY: there are certain letters and numbers that we SKIP in the sequential series so as not to confuse letters to numbers. Typically, these are letters “I” and “O”.

Activity:

Given the preliminary shape selected by your team, setup a grid system that follows these rules and save the file as “grid_coord.dwg”. Use this grid as the basis for assembling your floor plan ie. X’Ref’d into your plan drawings. Share the file amongst all your group members, but not among other groups.