CAD Layer Standards

AutoCAD Layer Naming Convention

4th Dimension Architects

Layer Naming Format

DISCIPLINE-ELEMENT-STATUS

Complete Layer List

Architectural Layers (A-)

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
A-WALL-NEW	7 (White)	0.35	New walls
A-WALL-EXIST	8 (Gray)	0.25	Existing walls
A-WALL-DEMO	1 (Red)	0.25	Walls to demolish
A-WALL-PART	7	0.25	Partition walls
A-DOOR-NEW	3 (Green)	0.25	New doors
A-DOOR-EXIST	8	0.18	Existing doors
A-WIND-NEW	5 (Blue)	0.25	New windows
A-WIND-EXIST	8	0.18	Existing windows
A-STAIR	7	0.35	Staircases
A-RAMP	7	0.25	Ramps
A-LIFT	7	0.25	Elevators
A-ROOF	7	0.25	Roof elements
A-CLNG	4 (Cyan)	0.18	Ceiling
A-FLOR	7	0.18	Floor finishes
A-SLAB	7	0.35	Floor slab
A-BEAM	7	0.25	Beams (exposed)
A-COLS	7	0.35	Columns
A-BALC	7	0.25	Balcony
A-RAIL	7	0.18	Railings

Interior Layers (I-)

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
I-FURN	6 (Magenta)	0.18	Furniture
I-FURN-SOFT	6	0.13	Soft furnishing
I-EQPM	6	0.18	Equipment
I-APPL	6	0.18	Appliances
I-FIXT	6	0.18	Fixtures
I-ACCS	6	0.13	Accessories
I-CASE	6	0.18	Casework/Built-in
I-PLNT	3	0.13	Plants
I-ART	6	0.13	Artwork

Annotation Layers

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
A-DIMS	2 (Yellow)	0.18	Dimensions
A-TEXT	7	0.18	General text
A-NOTE	7	0.18	Notes
A-SYMB	7	0.18	Symbols
A-LEVL	2	0.18	Level markers
A-GRID	8	0.13	Grid lines
A-MATCH	3	0.18	Match lines
A-SECT	1	0.25	Section markers
A-DETL	1	0.25	Detail markers
A-ROOM	4	0.18	Room names/numbers
A-AREA	4	0.18	Area calculations
A-TAGS	7	0.18	Door/window tags
A-NORTH	7	0.25	North arrow
A-SCALE	7	0.18	Scale bars

Hatching Layers

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
A-HATCH-SOLID	8	0.13	Solid fill
A-HATCH-WALL	8	0.13	Wall hatch
A-HATCH-CONC	8	0.13	Concrete hatch
A-HATCH-BRICK	8	0.13	Brick hatch
A-HATCH-WOOD	8	0.13	Wood hatch

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
A-HATCH-TILE	8	0.13	Tile hatch
A-HATCH-EARTH	8	0.13	Earth/soil
A-HATCH-INSUL	8	0.13	Insulation

Site Layers (L-)

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
L-PROP	7	0.35	Property line
L-SETB	2	0.25	Setback lines
L-ROAD	8	0.25	Roads
L-PAVE	8	0.18	Paving
L-PLNT	3	0.18	Planting
L-TREE	3	0.18	Trees
L-LAWN	3	0.13	Lawn area
L-CONT	8	0.13	Contours
L-BLDG-ADJ	8	0.18	Adjacent buildings

Electrical Layers (E-)

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
E-LITE	2	0.18	Lighting
E-POWR	1	0.18	Power outlets
E-SWCH	2	0.18	Switches
E-DATA	5	0.18	Data/telecom
E-SECU	1	0.18	Security

Plumbing Layers (P-)

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
P-FIXT	5	0.18	Plumbing fixtures
P-PIPE	5	0.18	Pipes
P-EQPM	5	0.18	Equipment

Utility Layers

Layer Name	Color	Lineweight	Description
X-BORDER	7	0.50	Drawing border
X-TITLE	7	0.35	Title block
X-VPRT	9	0.13	Viewport frame
X-XREF	8	0.13	Xref only

| X-NPLT | 9 | 0.00 | Non-plot |
| DEFPOINTS | - | - | AutoCAD default |

Color Chart Reference

Number	Color	Typical Use
1	Red	Demo, sections
2	Yellow	Dimensions, electrical
3	Green	Doors, planting
4	Cyan	Ceiling, rooms
5	Blue	Windows, plumbing
6	Magenta	Interior/furniture
7	White/Black	Primary elements
8	Gray	Existing, background
9	Light Gray	Non-plot, viewport

Best Practices

1. **Never use Layer 0** for drawing objects
2. **Always freeze unused layers** rather than turning off
3. **Lock reference layers** to prevent accidental edits
4. **Purge unused layers** before issue
5. **Use layer filters** for efficient layer management

Reference: Based on AIA CAD Layer Guidelines and NCS v6.0