# Offsetting Railings, Rails, and Newel Posts

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The information in this article applies to:



## QUESTION

How can I offset my railings, rails, or newel posts from the floor platform they are associated with?



## ANSWER

The entirety of a railing, which consists of balusters, newel posts, and rails, can be offset using the Horizontal Offset setting located on the Rail Style panel of the Railing and Deck Railing Specification.

Individual rails, newel posts, and start and end posts, can also be offset independently by accessing their respective panels within the Railing and Deck Railing Specification.

- Offsetting an entire railing
- Offsetting individual rails
- <u>Offsetting newel posts</u>
- <u>Offsetting start and end posts</u>

#### To offset an entire railing

- 1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on the railing or staircase that you want to offset, then click the **Open Object** edit tool.
- 2. On the RAIL STYLE or RAILING panel of the dialog that displays, specify either a positive or negative value in the **Horizontal Offset** field, then click **OK**.

**Note:** A positive value offsets the railings in the direction of their interior surface, while a negative value offsets them outward. Room definition is not affected by this offset so you can offset a railing relative to the floor platform edge it defines.

Railing Specification	1		
General	Specify Railing		
Structure	Balusters		Open with Middle Rail
Root	O Solid		O Panels
Wall Types	0.000		
Wall Cap	Open		
Wall Covering	Horizontal Offset:	12"	
Rail Style	Newels/Posts		
Rails			
Layer	Post to Rail		
Materials	O Post to Beam		
Label	O Post to Ceiling		
Components Object Information	O Rail to Post		
Schedule			

### To offset individual rails

- 1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on the railing or staircase that you want to offset the individual rails for, then click the **Open Object** click tool.
- 2. On the RAILS panel of the dialog that displays, notice that **Horizontal** and **Vertical Offset** columns are available for each rail within the Rail Profiles table.

**Note:** The Horizontal Offset column allows you to move a rail inwards or outwards from its default position.

The Vertical Offset column allows you to move a rail to be higher or lower than its default position.

3. Double-click in the desired cell to change to open the field for editing, enter in your desired value, then click **OK**.

**Note:** A positive value offsets the railings in the direction of their interior surface, while a negative value offsets them outward.

	-			1			
Name	Width	Height	Repeat Distance	Horiz. Offset	Vertical Offset		Rej
Top Rail							D
Default	2"	1 1/2"	N/A	12"	0"		Add
Middle Ra	il						
9 Default	4 1/2"	2"	N/A	0"	0"		
sters Bottom R	ail						
Default	2"	1 1/2"	N/A	0"	0"		
Beam							
Default	4 1/2"	8"	N/A	0"	0"		
Selected	onic op	Prof	ïle Rotatior	n: 0	.0°		
		FIO	ne notation		.0		
		Ref	lect Horizo	ntal	Reflect Ve	rtical	
			Count Com	ponents	in Materia	als List	
Ţ							

#### To offset newel posts

- 1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on the railing or staircase that you want to offset the newel posts for, then click the **Open Object** edit tool.
- 2. On the NEWELS/BALUSTERS panel of the dialog that displays, under the Newels/Posts section, specify either a positive or negative value in the **Horizontal** and/or **Bottom**

**Note:** The Horizontal Offset is the amount each newel is offset from the center of the railing. You can, for example, use this setting to create a fence with the posts on one side of the fence boards.

- A positive value offsets the newels/posts towards the interior; a negative value, towards the exterior.
- When this value is negative and Full Posts are specified for the start/end posts of a railing, a newel is created on each side of an exterior corner rather than one centered on the corner.

The Bottom Offset is the amount each newel is raised or lowered. When this value is 0, the newels' bottom edges are positioned on the surface of the floor finish.

Individual newel posts can also be adjusted manually using the Move Newels edit tool. To learn more, please see the <u>Related Articles</u> section below.

Railing Specification	i	
General	Railing	
Structure Roof	Height:	36"
Foundation	Newels/Posts	
Wall Types Wall Cap	Width:	2" Use Wall Width
Wall Covering	Height:	36"
Rail Style	Herizontal Officiate	6"
Newels/Balusters	Honzontai Onset.	
Rails	Bottom Offset:	0"
Layer		
Materials	Spacing Method:	Automatic 🗸
Label	Max Spacing:	96" On Center
Components	max opacing.	on center
Object Information	Туре:	Square 🗸 Library
Schedule		

### To offset start and end posts

- 1. Using the **Select Objects** tool, click on the railing that you want to offset the start and end posts for, then click the **Open Object** edit tool.
- On the RAIL STYLE panel of the dialog that displays, under the Start/End Posts section, specify a positive value in the Start and End Wall Offset fields, which are the distances between the railing's half posts and the intersecting wall, then click OK.

A **Uniform Offsets** box is available, which applies the same offset to both ends of the railing.

Railing Specification	1
General	Specify Railing
Roof	Balusters Open with Middle Rail
Foundation	○ Solid ○ Panels
Wall Types Wall Cap	○ Open
Wall Covering	Horizontal Offset: 0"
Rail Style Newels/Balusters Rails	Newels/Posts
Layer Materials	O Post to Beam
Label	O Post to Ceiling
Object Information	○ Rail to Post
Schedule	Start/End Posts
	Start Type: Auto Post Half (Full) $\lor$ End Type: Auto Post Half (Full) $\lor$
	Start Wall Offset: 2" End Wall Offset: 2" 🗹 Uniform Offsets
	Square Half Post

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#### **Related Articles**

Creating Custom Balusters and Railing Panels (/support/article/KB-02893/creatingcustom-balusters-and-railing-panels.html)

- Manually Adding Railings to a Staircase (/support/article/KB-00082/manually-addingrailings-to-a-staircase.html)
- Manually Adjusting Newel Posts (/support/article/KB-03195/manually-adjustingnewel-posts.html)
- Positioning a Railing Directly Above Another on a Tiered Deck (/support/article/KB-00833/positioning-a-railing-directly-above-another-on-a-tiered-deck.html)
- Specifying Glass, Cable, or Decorative Railing Panels (/support/article/KB-01029/specifying-glass-cable-or-decorative-railing-panels.html)



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