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Product: Revit Architecture 2009
Topic: Creating a Centerline Dimension Style
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Revit Architecture will easily create dimensions with a different extension line type and CL symbol if it is required by the user. The steps below will walk you through the process of setting up a dimension style to represent objects defined by their centerline.

1. Start by selecting the dimension tool on the design bar. If you have already created centerline dimension style or any other dimension style, it can be selected from the type selector on the Options Bar. The most important option on the Options Bar is the Prefer setting. Make sure it is set to "Wall centerlines" to select the walls centerline when hovering over it (Figure 1).

Note: If the Prefer option is not selected at this point, you can hover over the center of the object and press the tab button to cycle through the various parts of the object.
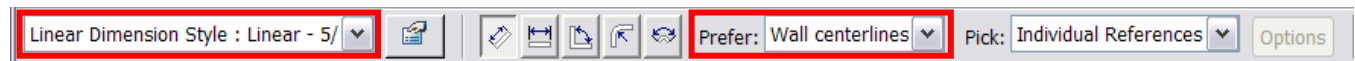

Figure 1

2. When hovering over the walls, notice that a blue dashed line represents the center of the wall (Figure 2). This makes it easy to select that part of the wall. It is also worth noting that the centerline option in the dimension properties will not work unless the center of the wall is selected. You can purposely set the dimension string up so that certain parts take advantage of the centerlines and some do not.

3. After the dimension string has been placed, select it and go to the element properties on the options bar (Figure 3) or by right clicking (Figure 4).
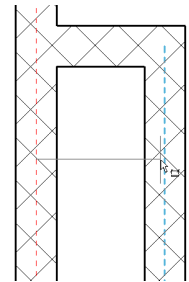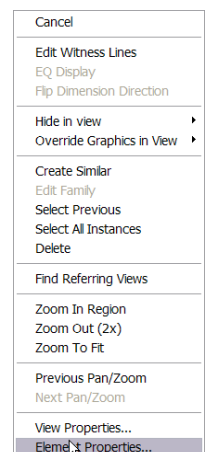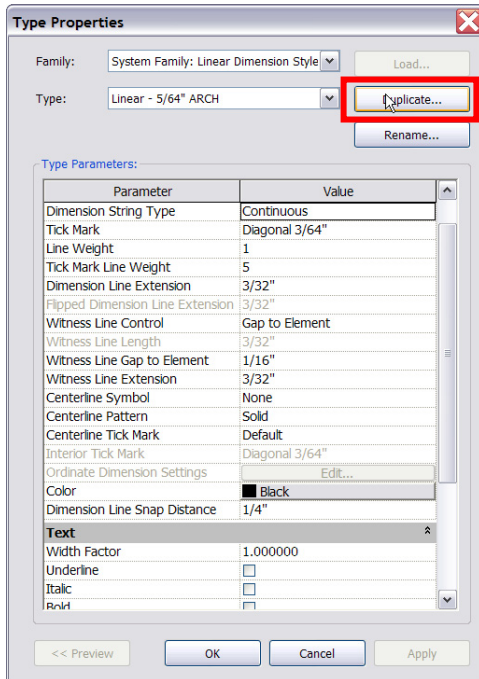

Figure 3   Figure 2

Figure 4

4. In the Type Properties Dialog Click on Duplicate to make a copy to be used for changes (Figure 5). Be sure to give the new dimension style a unique name (Figure 6).

Figure 6

Figure 5

5. The three options that control how the centerline dimension string looks are "Centerline Symbol", "Centerline Pattern" and "Centerline Tick Mark" (Figure 7). After selecting the options in Figure 7, the Dimension String has a CL symbol and dashed extension lines (Figure 8)
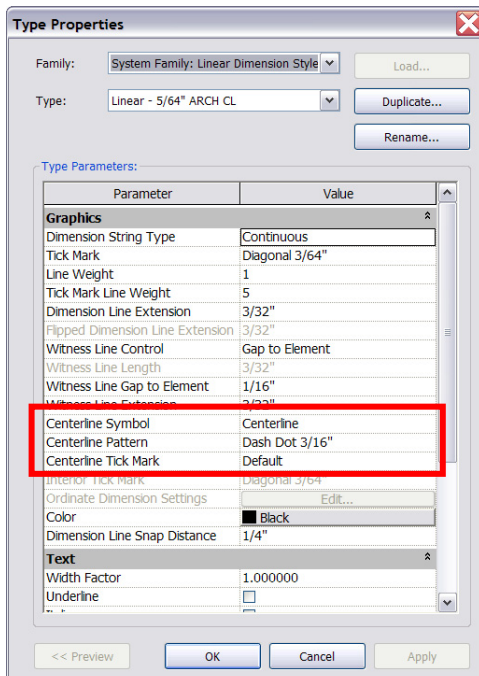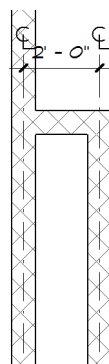
Figure 8

Figure 7