



## Xenotech Project #110 Suggested "Save Preferences"

File | Save Preferences *Suggestions*

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Like the manual and *On Line Help*, I strongly recommend that before saving preferences you exit the program, re-start it, make modifications and then save preferences. This assures that you start with your previously saved preferences instead of inadvertently "storing" a change you forgot you made (**Reverse Plate OR Grid Cut Out on**, for instance).

### Line\Group | Hatch Fill Setup...

#### Sort Hatch Lines area

Sort =Not checked <sup>1</sup>  
 BiDirectional=checked  
 Connect Hatch=checked

### Page|Snap Spacing...

Horizontal [X] Snap Amount = 0.0" <sup>2</sup>  
 Vertical [Y] Snap Amount = .3"  
 Line Nudge Amount= .1" <sup>3</sup>

### Toolkit Settings:

Letter Height=.175" (factory setting = .5") <sup>3</sup>  
 Slant Angle 45° (factory setting = 30°)

### Misc|Setup...

Underline Percentage =.25  
 Italic Angle=17 degrees  
 Display Percentages as 100 (not 1)

### finally Font | Install Resident Font...

The following represent what I actually use, but the point is: install the 8 fonts you are most likely to use before saving preferences and that way they will be available every time you start your system. Personally,I like to select fonts that can be used equally as well for all types engraving: that is diamond drag, plastic, acrylic and burnishing.

**Gothic**  
**Utility**  
**Cursive**  
**Helvetica 4 Line**  
**Roman3Line UCLC**  
**X14or** (ornaments)  
**Clarendon 4 Line**  
**Fifth Avenue**

<sup>1</sup> Extremely useful to know that this eliminates the "reflection distortion" that often ruins an otherwise beautiful engraving job. This distortion is caused by the Sort setting telling the hatch program it is OK to engrave part from bottom toward top and part from top toward bottom!

<sup>2</sup> Extremely useful to know that this also determines the **Duplicate Line** offsets! For instance, if we want to duplicate a circle exactly .75 to the left and 1.5" above existing circle, we would *temporarily* adjust the Xsnap to .75 and the Ysnap to -1.5. My suggested default settings as shown above make creating top/bottom arc pairs much easier. For instance after getting "top" arc just the way we want it, we can **Edit | Duplicate Line** and we will not have to change the **X-Center** to get it back in center of plate[because of the Xoffset=0"]. Now we change the **Beginning & Ending Angles** and finally the **Y-Center to complete** the bottom 1/2 of an arc keeping the other common attributes [font, height, radius, etc.].

<sup>3</sup> Default .5" is unreasonably large for anyone except for those who do mostly large plastic signs. For most engraving

applications the 1/2" letter runs off the side and the bottom of the plate. While we all know how to fix this, **why?** The smaller letters will almost always visibly fit on the plate even before doing **Plate | Even Spacing**. And, I find it much easier to increase the size of some or all the letters than to "jerk" them back on the plate and then reduce them.

=====End of Xenotech Project #110 Suggested "Save Preferences" Copyright Engraving Concepts 2006=====