



Alphabet Of Lines

Understanding the basic types of lines used in technical drafting.

Alphabet of Lines

- The drafter uses the alphabet of lines to convey information to the designer who will then construct or manufacture the product.
- Many times that drafter and designer never speak to one another.
- All information is communicated to the designer by the draftsman through the drawings.

7 Basic Line Types

- **Visible**
- **Hidden**
- **Center**
- **Section**
- **Dimension**
- **Extension**
- **Leader**
- **Viewing Plane**

Visible Lines

- Dark, heavy lines.
- Show the outline and shape of an object.
- Define features you can see in a particular view.

THICK



Hidden Lines

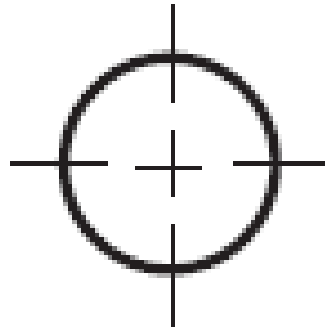
- Light, narrow, short, dashed lines.
- Shows the outline of a feature that can not be seen in a particular view.
- Used to help clarify a feature, but can be omitted if they clutter a drawing.

MEDIUM



Center Lines

- Thin line consisting of long and short dashes.
- Shows the center of holes, slots, paths of rotation, and symmetrical objects.



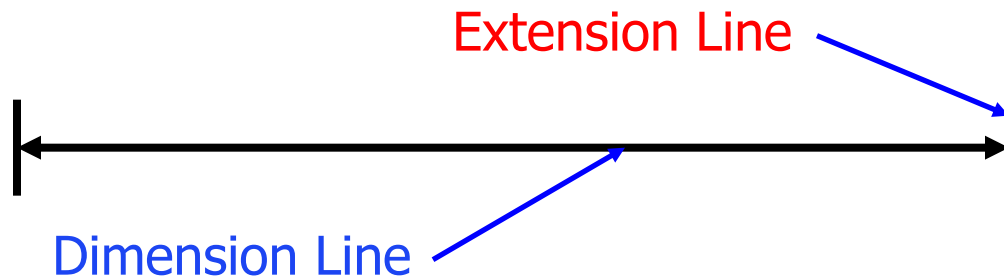
Dimension Lines

- Dark, heavy lines.
- Show the length, width, and height of the features of an object.
- Terminated with arrowheads at the ends.



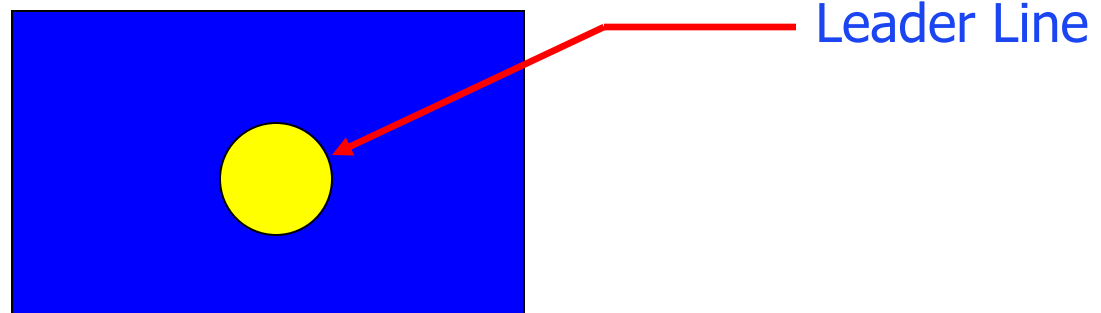
Extension Lines

- Used to show the starting and stopping points of a dimension.
- Must have at least a 1/16th space between the object and the extension line.



Leader Lines

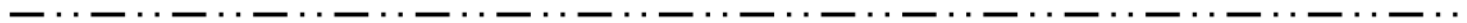
- Thin lines.
- Used to show the dimension of a feature or a note that is too large to be placed beside the feature itself.



Section Lines

- Used to show a cut way view of an object
- The direction of the arrows shows the direction of the section view

Section Line



Resources

Georgia Teacher CTAERN Network
Instructional Resources

Interior Design Student Handbook

[http://dha.cdes.umn.edu/programs/interior/
documents/BasicDraftingStandards.pdf](http://dha.cdes.umn.edu/programs/interior/documents/BasicDraftingStandards.pdf)