# Revit Architecture 2010 Basics:



# from the Ground Up



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## Lesson 3 Mass Elements

Mass Elements are used to give you a conceptual idea of the space and shape of a building without having to take the time to put in a lot of detail. It allows you to create alternative designs quickly and easily and get approval before you put in a lot of effort.

### Massing Tools

In-Place Mass	-	
	In-Place Mass	G Show Mass D Place Mass Model by Face

In-Place Mass	Creates a solid shape
Show Mass	Controls the visibility of mass objects
🕄 Place Mass	Inserts a mass group into the active project
Model by Face  Roof	Model by Face: Converts a face into a Roof, Curtain Wall System, Wall, or Floor.
ie Curtain System	
Wall	
The Floor	

#### Exercise 3-1 Adding a Level

Drawing Name: default.rte [metric default.rte] Estimated Time: 5 minutes

This exercise reinforces the following skills:

- □ Switching Elevation Views
- Basics
- □ Add a Level

This tutorial uses metric or Imperial units. Metric units will be designated in brackets.

Revit uses a level to define another floor or story in a building.





In the Options bar located on the lower left of the screen, enable Make Plan View.

This should be enabled if you want Revit to automatically create a floor plan view of this level. If you forget to check this box, you can create the floor plan view later using the **View** Ribbon.

**TIP:** Double click on the blue elevation symbol to automatically switch to the floor plan view for that elevation.



Basically, you place a new level by picking two points at the desired height.
 Right click and select **Cancel** twice to exit the Level command.



If you need to adjust the position of the tag, just click on the line, three blue grips will appear. These can be clicked and dragged as needed. You can also right click on a level tag and select 'Hide annotation in view' and the tag and level line will disappear in that view only.

Hide Annotation in View is only enabled if an object is selected first.

12. Save the file as *ex3-1.rvt*.

#### Exercise 3-2 Adding Mass Elements

Drawing Name:	ex3-1.rvt
Estimated Time:	10 minutes

This exercise reinforces the following skills:

- Switching Elevation Views
- Add Mass
- 1.  $rac{1}{2}$  Open or continue working in the file *ex3-1.rvt*.

2. Views (all) Activate the Level 1 view.

- 3. Massing & Site Select the Site & Massing ribbon.
- 4. Select the **In-Place Mass** tool.

Massing - Show Mass Enabled
Revit has enabled the Show Mass mode, so the newly created mass will be visible.
To temporarily show or hide masses, select the Massing & Site ribbon tab and then click the Show Mass button on the Massing panel.
Masses will not print or export unless you make the Mass category permanently visible in the View Visibility/Graphics dialog.
Do not show me this message again

Masses, by default, are invisible. However, in order to create and edit masses you need to see what you are doing. Revit brings up a dialog to let you know that the software is switching the visibility of masses to ON, so you can work.

Press Close.



6.	Name X	Enter Level 1 in the Name field.
	Name: Level 1	Press OK.
	OK Cancel	
7.	$ \bigcirc \bigcirc$	ol.
8.	✓ Chain Offset: 0' 0" □ Radius: 1' 0"	

Enable **Chain** in the Options bar located on the bottom of the screen. This allows you to draw lines without always having to pick the start point.



11.



9. Create the shape shown The top figure shows the units in Imperial units. The bottom figure shows the units in millimeters.



Switch to a 3D view.

Activate the View ribbon and select 3D View.

- Massing & Site Switch back to the Massing & Site ribbon.
- 12. Window around the entire figure so it is highlighted.



#### Select the Form tool under Create Form.





The Mass is created.

15. Save the file as *ex3-2.rvt*.

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**TIP:** Object tracking will only work if the sketch objects are active and available in the current sketch. You can use **Pick** to copy entities into the current sketch.

#### Exercise 3-3 Modifying Mass Elements

Drawing Name: ex3-2.rvt Estimated Time: 30 minutes

This exercise reinforces the following skills:

- □ Show Mass
- □ Align
- □ Modify Mass
- □ Mirror
- □ Create Form
- □ Save View

A short video of this exercise is available on my website to help users with this exercise. Access at *www.mossdesigns.com/ex3-3-revit.avi*.

1. Open *ex3-2.rvt*.

🕞 Show Mass

If you don't see the mass, click **Show Mass** on the Massing & Site ribbon to turn mass visibility ON.



To adjust the horizontal position of the level lines, simply select the line and use the grip to extend or shorten it.







When you used the Pick Line tool, you copied those lines into the current sketch. You need to delete those two lines or you will get a warning error because they create a self-intersecting profile.

- 18. Select the two copied lines. Right click and select **Delete**.
- 19. Select the circle sketch so it is highlighted.



Bring your mouse down in the Vertical direction and pick for the second point of the mirror axis.





- - Pick on a mass element to activate the element's grips. You can use the grips to change the element's shape, size, and location.
     You can only use the View→Orient menu to activate 3D views when
  - You can only use the View → Orient menu to activate 3D views when you are already in 3D view mode.

#### Exercise 3-4 Creating Wall by Face

Drawing Name:	ex3-3.rvt
Estimated Time:	15 minutes

This exercise reinforces the following skills:

- □ Wall by Face
- □ Trim
- □ Show Mass

You can add doors and windows to your conceptual model to make it easier to visualize.

- 1. Open *ex3-3.rvt*.
- 2. B Views Activate the SAVED view under 3D Views.
- 3. Massing & Site Activate the Massing & Site ribbon.
- 4. Model by Face ▼ Select Model by Face→Wall. Roof Curtain System Wall
- 5. Under **Change Element Type**, you can set the wall type.



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*Imperial:* Set the Default Wall Type to: **Basic Wall: Generic- 8 in**.

*Metric:* Set the Default Wall Type to: **Basic Wall: Generic- 200 mm**.

6.

Enable Pick Faces in the ribbon



Select each wall and cylinder. The cylinder will be halved by the walls, so you will have to select each half.

You will have to do some cleanup work on the corners where the towers are.

- 8. Floor Plans Activate Level 2 under Floor Plans.
- 9. Select the **Trim** tool from the Modify ribbon to clean up where the tower joins with the walls.

When you select to trim, be sure to select the section you want to keep.

10. Select the first line or wall to trim/extend. (Click on the part you want to keep)

Note that you have some instructions in the lower left of the screen to assist you.

11. Disable Show Mass so you only see the walls.



12. Trim the walls as shown on Level 2.





Towers will have a base constraint of Level 2 and top constraint of Level 3.

The remaining walls will have a base constraint of Level 1 and Top Constraint of Level 3.

There will be small sections of walls that will also have these constraints on the east and west sides.



16. Save as *ex3-4.rvt*.

#### Exercise 3-5 Adding Doors and Windows

Drawing Name:	ex3-4.rvt
Estimated Time:	30 minutes

This exercise reinforces the following skills:

- Basics
- Door
- □ Load from Library
- □ Window
- □ Array
- □ Mirror
- □ Shading

You can add doors and windows to your conceptual model to make it easier to visualize.





After you have placed the door, you can flip the door by picking on it then pick on the vertical or horizontal arrows.

Return to the Home ribbon.

. x.

11. Pick the Window tool. Window

2

Home

12. Select Load Family. J. Load Family

💒 Local Disk (C:) 13. 🗋 ProgramData Autodesk RAC 2010 Imperial Library Windows



Browse to the Windows folder under the Imperial or Metric library. Use Imperial if you are using Imperial units or use Metric if you are using Metric units.

14.	File name:     Casement with Trim       Files of type:     Family Files (*.rfa)	rfa For Ir Locat	mperial Units: the the <i>Casement with Trim.rfa</i> file.
	File name:     M_Casement with Tr       Files of type:     Family Files (*.rfa)	im.rfa Fo	or Metric Units: ocate the <i>M_Casement with Trim.rfa</i> file.
		Pı	ress Open.
15.	Casement with Trim		For Imperial Units:
	Change Element Type	• Trim	From the drop-down list, select the 24" x 48" size for the Casement with Trim window
	r 16" x 24"		window.
	16" x 48"		
	16" x 72"		
	24" x 24"		
	24" x 48"		
	M_Casement with Trim	For Metr	ic Units:
	0406 x 0610mm	From the	drop-down list, select the 0610 x 1830 mm size
0406 x 1220mm 0406 x 1830mm 0610 x 0610mm 0610 x 1220mm		for the M Casement with Trim window.	
			_
	0610 x 1830mm		
16.    Pla		ce the wind	ow 6'-6" [3000 mm] from the inner left wall.

Dimensions in Revit work differently. Revit uses *temporary* dimensions and *permanent* dimensions. Permanent dimensions are the parametric dimensions attached to each object. You can modify these dimensions by clicking on the object. Temporary dimensions are the dimensions you place using the Dimension tool or typing 'DI'. The dimension values of temporary dimensions can only be modified by changing the permanent dimensions.

If you want to define the position of an object using a dimension that doesn't appear when you pick the object, you can apply a temporary dimension using the Dimension tool. This will add a permanent dimension to the object that can then be used to position the object.



Set the array quantity to **5** on the options bar located on the bottom of the screen. Set the distance for the array to **6' 0'' [1300 mm]**.



21. You should see a preview of the array.







 Window around the entire array to select all the windows.

The array count will display.



25. Left pick anywhere in the graphics window to complete the command.



28. Save the file as *ex3-5.rvt*.