

"Autoplate" menu option (F5)

The **Autoplate** method allows the user to quickly create a layout containing multiple lines, all of which are evenly distributed proportionally to the available plate size. Users can toggle the left and right margin spacing of the available text area as well as adjust the text occupancy percentage, determining optimum line height and spacing between lines. This feature is particularly useful for pendants and signs where there is a defined area to create a layout for.

Autoplate Screenshot

The screenshot shows the 'Autoplate' dialog box with the following sections:

- Plate Dimensions:** Width: 120.00 mm, Height: 100.00 mm.
- Number of Lines:** 3.
- New or Existing Lines?:** Are these changes to apply to the existing lines in your layout or to be added as new additional lines?
 - ☐ Create Layout
 - ☒ Add these lines to existing layout
- Apply Changes?:** Yes, No.
- Line Details:**
 - Text Occupies: 44.00 %
 - Margin Percent: 10.00 %
 - Top Margin: 0.00 mm
 - Bottom Margin: 0.00 mm
 - Left Margin: 6.10 mm
 - Right Margin: 6.10 mm
- Line Details Table:**

Line	Ratios	Line Ht	Locked
1	1.00	14.67	☐
2	1.00	14.67	☐
3	1.00	14.67	☐
- Preview:** A black rectangular area on the right showing three white horizontal bars representing the text lines.

The dialog allows the user to configure the size of the plate, and the number of lines. The **Line Details** section Individual line heights can be tweaked through the line details table at the bottom by either adjusting the ratio value of the line or locking in a specific line height. Unless the tick box at the bottom is ticked, the autoplate will reformat any existing lines on the plate to suit the new layout defined. The preview pane on the right will update to reflect the changes made.

Line details

- **Text Occupies (%)**:

The percentage in height covered by sum of the heights of the text lines in comparison with the total plate height.

For example, if your plate is 60 mm high, the "**Text Occupies**" value is 50%, the sum of the line heights will always remain 30 mm (50% of 60 mm). 3 lines of equal height will be 10 mm each.

- **Margin Percent (%)**:

The percentage of the left and right margins' widths in comparison with the plate width.

A Margin percent of 10% on a sheet of 100 mm wide will result in a left and right margin of 10

mm each.

- **Top Margin**
- **Bottom Margin**
- **Left Margin**
- **Right Margin**

Line details table

- **Line:**
- **Ratios**
- **Line Ht**
- **Locked** (checkbox)

Access through...

- the **[F5]** function key on the keyboard
- the **Autoplate** shortcut  in the shortcut lists on the left
- the **Plate** menu and selecting **Autolayout**.

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