

AutoCAD - Linking the Scale of a Viewport to text in Paper Space

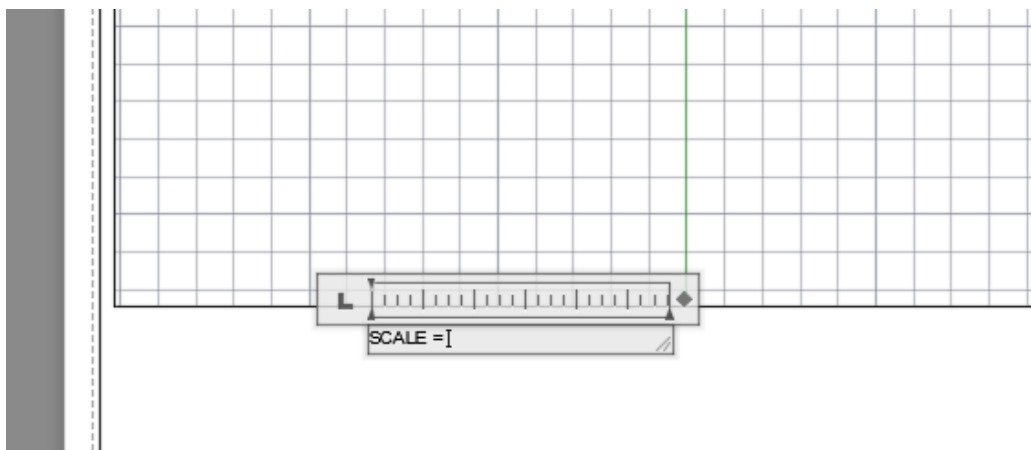
A common question that crops up in many AutoCAD essentials courses during the section on Model Space and Paper Space.

Can the scale of the viewport be linked to textual data in Paper Space?

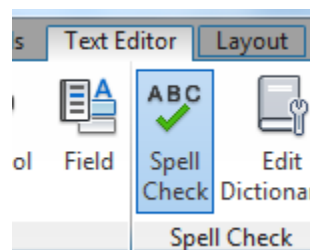
This function can be applied to most recent versions of AutoCAD and is quite easy to accomplish.

Simply create the viewport in paper space.

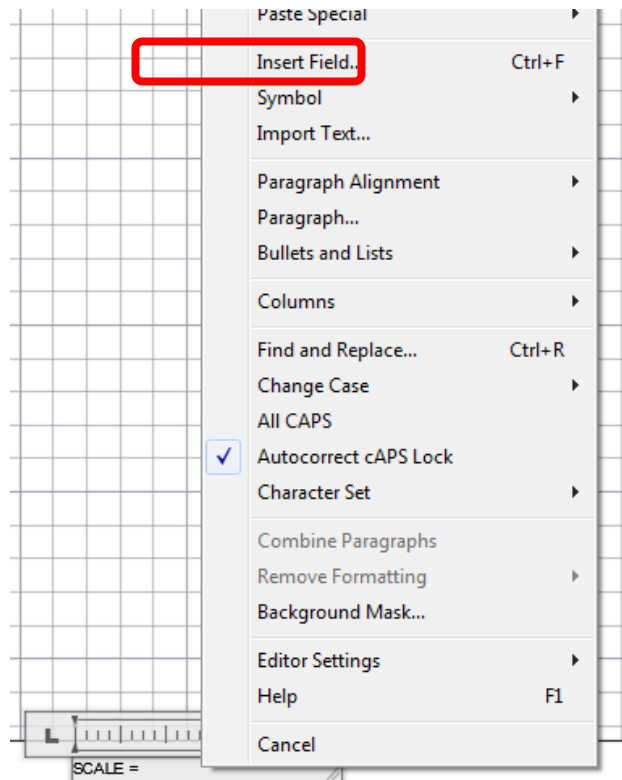
While in paper space add some text using the "Mtext" command, such as the word "SCALE=", ideally below the viewport.



With the text window still open either select the command "Field" from the "Text Editor" tab.

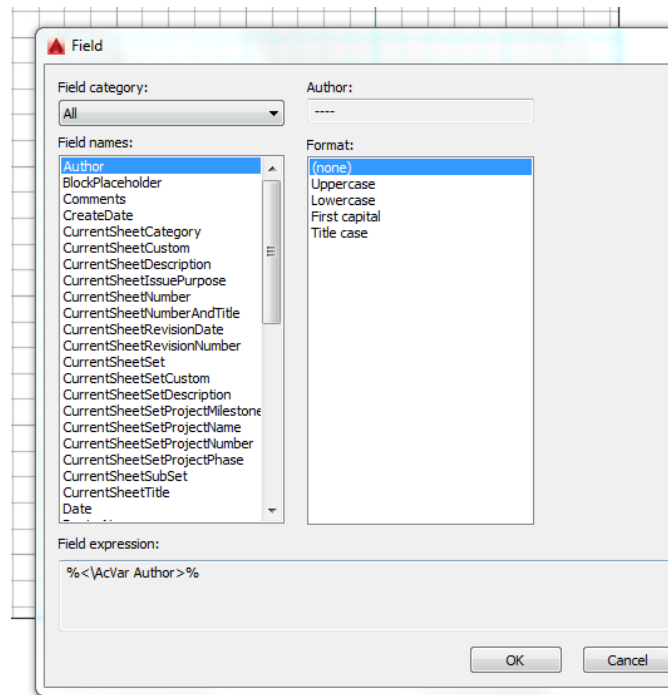


Or right mouse click and from the menu select “*Insert field*”.



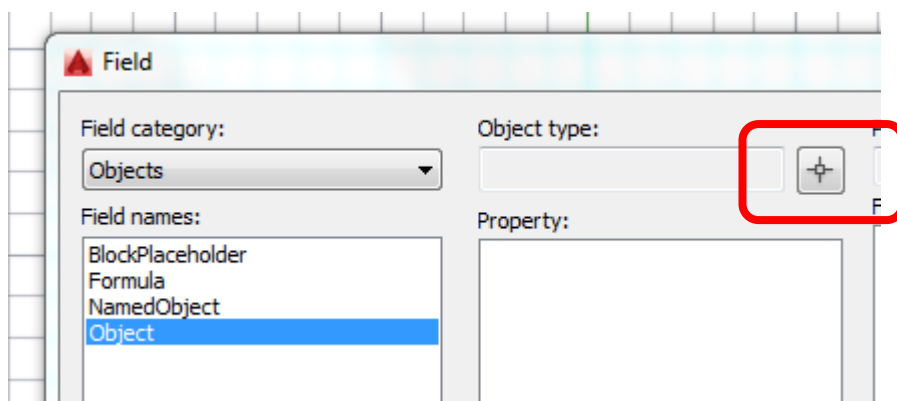
Or Press “*Ctrl+F*”.

The “*Field*” dialogue box is now displayed.



By default all the “Field names” are displayed, to reduce this list change the “Field Category” from “All” to “Objects” this will greatly reduce the “Field List”.

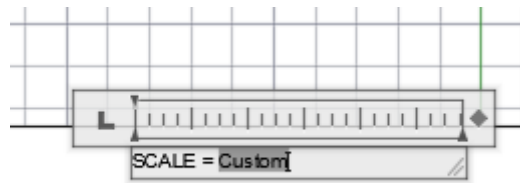
From this list of four items select “Object”, the viewport can now be selected using the “Selection” button with in the dialogue box.



Once selected the “Field” dialogue will again be displayed, but this time showing all “Properties” of the selected object, in this case the “Viewport”.

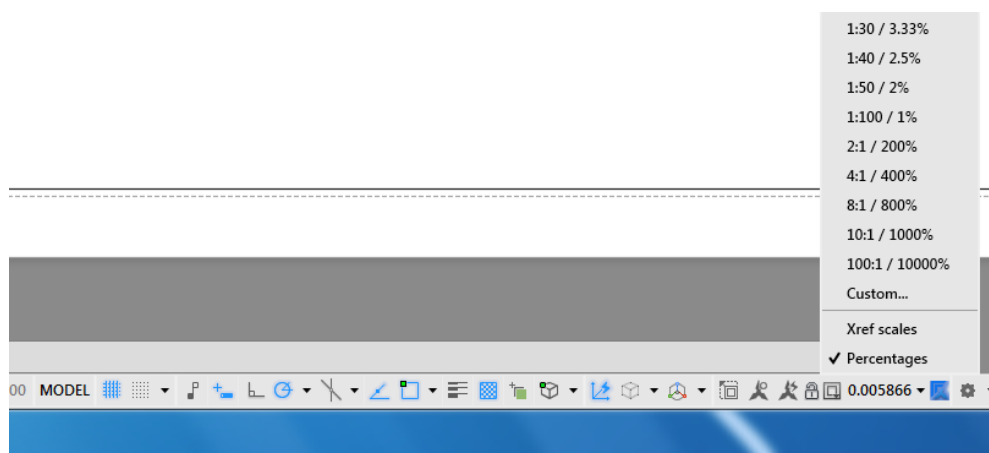
Select “Standard Scale” from the list.

The word “Custom” may be displayed next to the text, this is because the view port scale has not been set.



Only the “Standard Scales” in the “Viewport” scale list will be displayed.

Change to “Viewport” model space and set the scale from the fly out menu on the status line.



Again notice the word custom does not update, so either “Save” the file “*Ctrl+S*” or regen the drawing by typing “*RE*” the field will now update.

Using this method only “Standard Scales” are displayed.

However additional drawing scales may be created and added to the list, these will then become “Standard Scales”.