

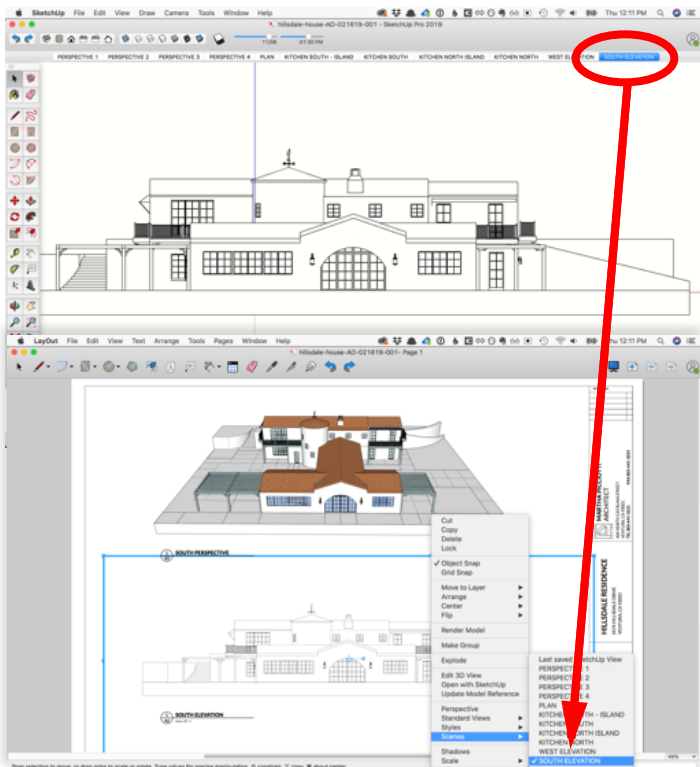
LayOut Checklist: 7 Things To Get Right In SketchUp



Thank you for watching our YouTube video: [Watch This Before You Get Started With LayOut for SketchUp Pro \(2019\)!](#)

As we covered in the video, this is our LayOut Checklist: The 7 things you need to get right in SketchUp before you get started with LayOut.

#1 Create Scenes Before Viewports



In LayOut, you set-up views of your SketchUp model called **Viewports**.

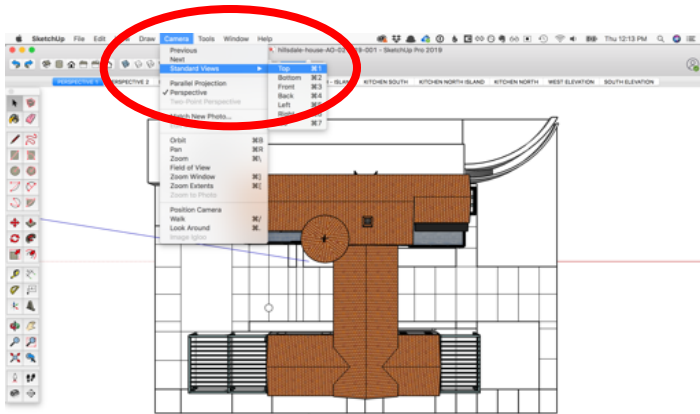
But before you do that, you must first create a **Scene** in SketchUp.

Later in LayOut, you link your Viewport to the SketchUp Scene you created.



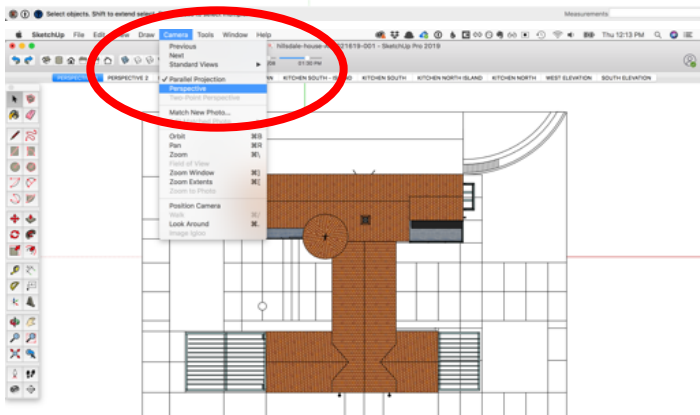
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#2 Get the Right Camera Views

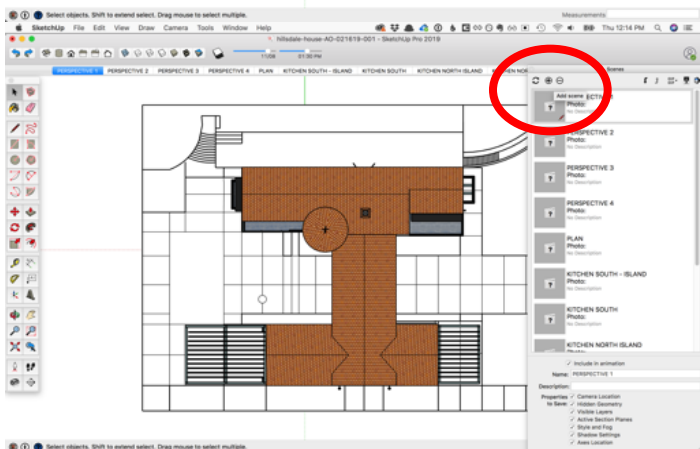


To set-up more traditional plan or elevation style drawings in LayOut, you need to master your **Camera** in SketchUp.

For standard views (e.g., Plan view), in SketchUp, go to your top menu and select **Camera > Standard Views >** and pick the view you want.



For 2D views be sure to toggle your camera **Perspective** on/off by going to your top menu and selecting **Camera > Perspective** (each time you repeat this step, you will toggle whether it is on or off).



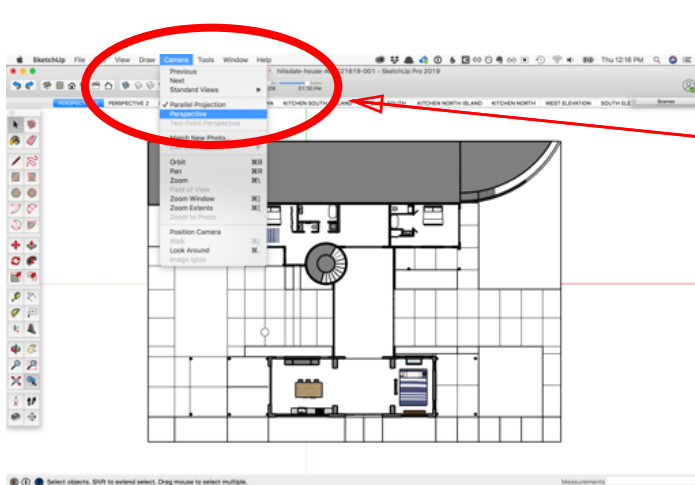
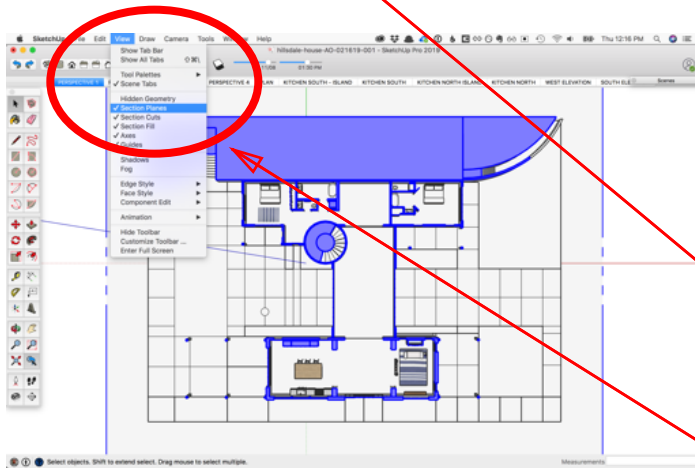
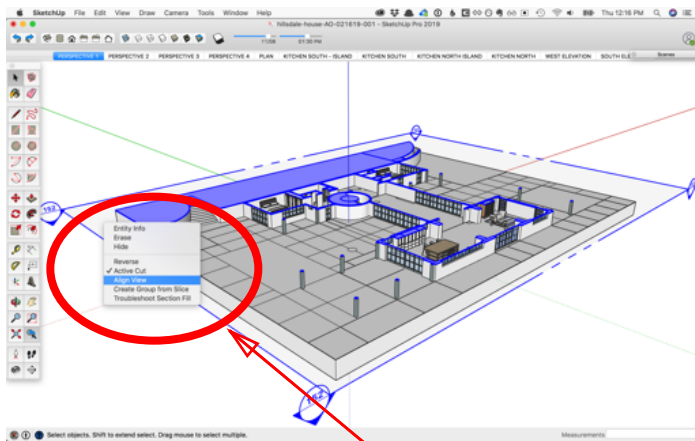
Be sure to save or update a **Scene** once you have the right camera view.

#3 Give each Active Section Cut its own Scene

When you use the **Section Plane** tool, it will place a Section Plane into your SketchUp model and that plane will create a Section Cut. That Section Cut is considered the **Active Cut** - meaning that it is actively cutting the model.

As a best practice, for every section cut you add to the model, you should save a Scene specifically to display that section cut. The steps are:

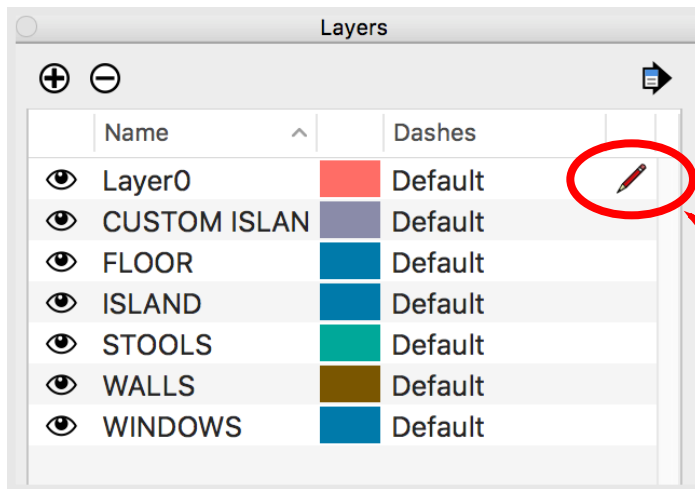
- 1) Add a **Section Plane** (it will become the **Active Cut**)
- 2) Right-click on the plane and pick the option for **Align View**
- 3) To hide the plane, in your top menu select **View > Section Planes**
- 4) Remember to turn off **Perspective** if needed
- 5) Then **Pan** and/or **Zoom** to center the Section Cut
- 6) In your **Scenes** window, click the “+” icon to create a new scene with the view of your Section Cut saved





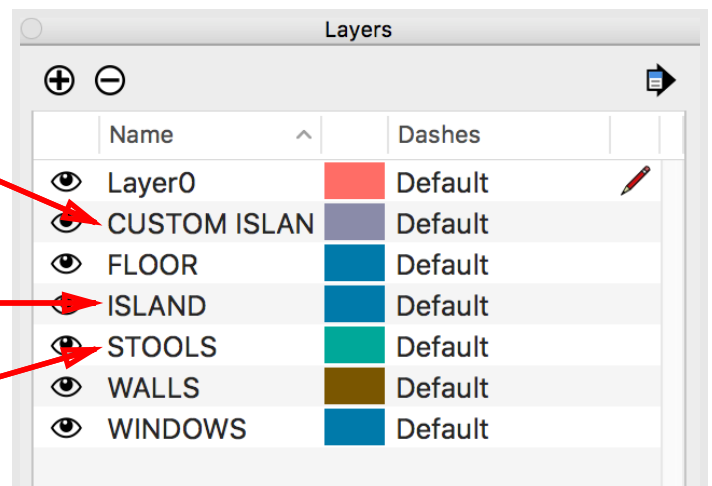
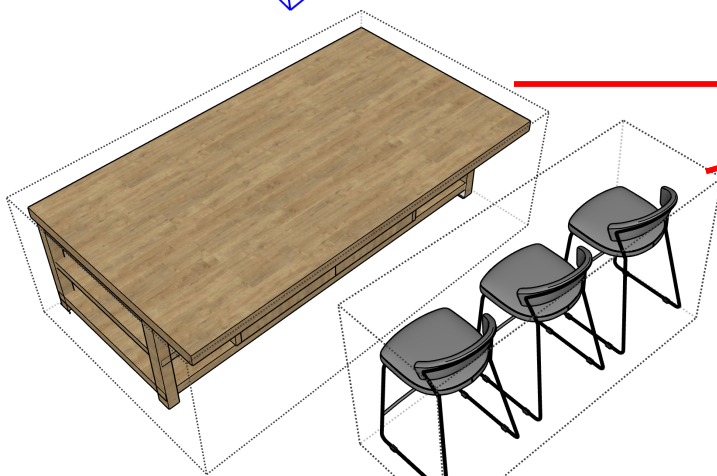
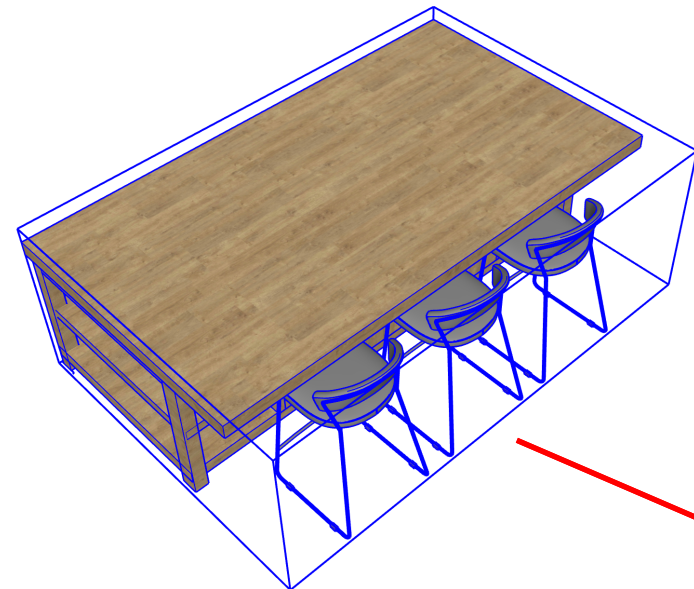
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#4 Use Layers the Right Way



For each Scene, you can use **Layers** to make sure you're showing the right stuff and hiding the rest. Here are some rules for using Layers the right way:

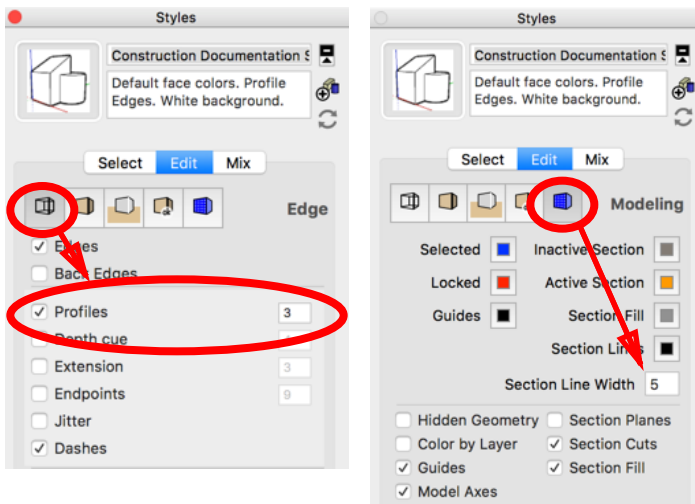
- 1) Leave **Layer0** as the **Active Layer**
- 2) Assign only **Groups** and **Components** to Layers (never assign loose edges and faces to Layers)
- 3) Take advantage of **Nested Groups** and **Components** where you can assign a Parent level Group or Component to one Layer while assigning a Child level Group or Component to another Layer





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#5 Control Line Weights via Styles



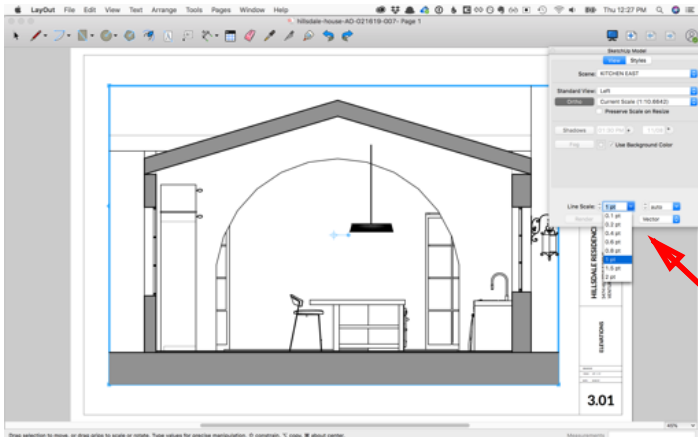
To control line weights in LayOut, follow these steps:

1) In SketchUp, in your **Styles** window, for your **Edge** settings decide whether your **Profile** edges should have a different line weight (if Yes, turn them on, if No then turn them off).

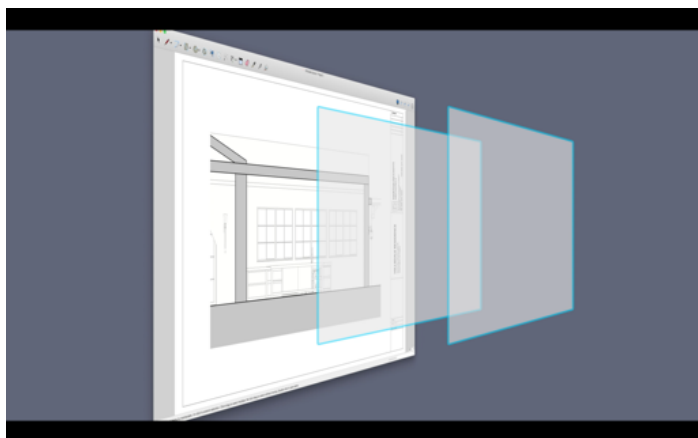
2) Also in SketchUp, in your **Styles** window, under your **SketchUp Model** settings, set how many times thicker than your Edges you want your **Section Cut** lines to be.

3) Save or update a **Scene** with these Styles settings

4) In LayOut, in your **SketchUp Model** dialog you can set your **Line Scale** for a selected Viewport



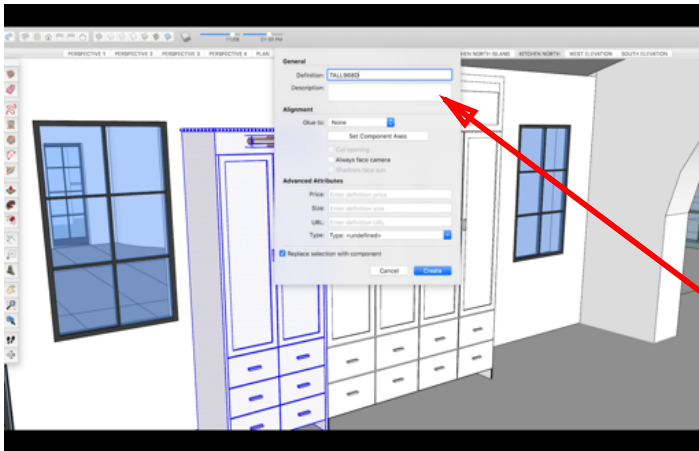
5) If you need more than the 3 line weights you get in a single Viewport, stack multiple viewports on top of one another (each with different line weights and/or other styles and settings)





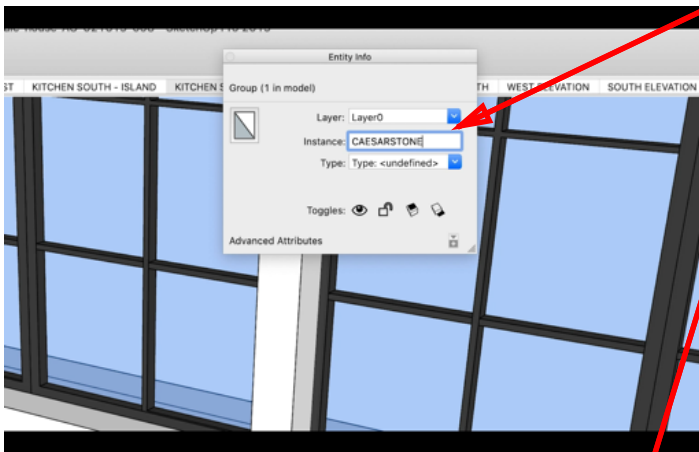
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#6 Name your Groups and Components



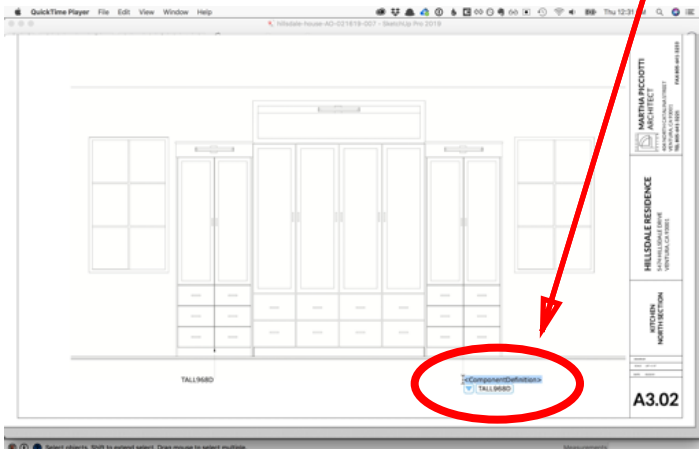
If you name your **Groups** and **Components** in SketchUp first, LayOut can automatically fill those names in when you're using the **Label tool** (as well as the **AutoText** feature).

For **Components**, you name them when you create them.



For **Groups**, you can name them in the **Entity Info** window.

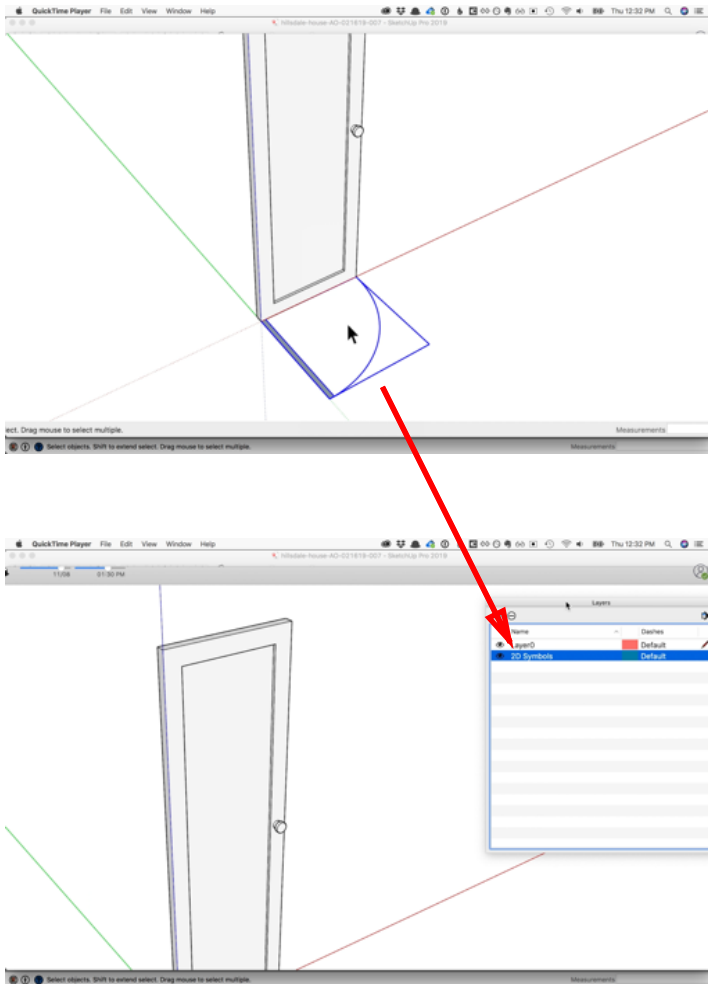
Then when you use the **Label tool** in LayOut, rather than typing the names you can accept the **Component or Group Definition**.





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#7 Draw some 2D symbols in SketchUp



For **2D symbols** that are a part of the design, it's better to draw them in SketchUp. That way any design changes you make in SketchUp will automatically update the position of the 2D symbol in your LayOut Viewport later.

Just be sure to put **2D symbols** into their own **Groups** and onto their own **Layers** so that you can turn them on and off as needed.



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Ron Y.

We hope that our [Watch This Before You Get Started with LayOut for SketchUp Pro](#) video and these notes have gotten you started down the right path.

From here, it's definitely possible to learn everything on your own. But, if you don't have the time to figure out what you need to know, and you can't afford to pick up bad habits, then we recommend checking out our **Video Course Library**.

It's filled with \$8700 worth of SketchUp training exclusively for professionals including our LayOut course.

Head over to our SketchUp School website and [try our Video Course Library for free!](#)

KNOW ANYONE THAT COULD USE THESE NOTES?

Do us a quick favor and **share this PDF with someone** you know would benefit from getting started on the right foot with LayOut for SketchUp Pro.