Hi All,

I thought I would post this to help. When I started practicing, it took me 1 1/2 hours to do an interior layout vignette. By the time I was done, 2 weeks, I could do them in 1/2 hour. So, here are my steps and what I did on the test:

1. Open plan, before reading program, it helps calm the nerves.
2. Draw a whole pile of 3' circles outside the upper left hand corner of the plan. Just make a messy little pile. This will give you some to grab when you need them. You can select the circle tool just once and make many circles, instead of picking the circle tool multiple times.
3. Then do the same with 5' circles, should only need 5 or so.
4. Grab the stupid little RBO tag and put it near the main entrance into the space. This will probably be the reception area, and it is very easy to forget that tag.
5. Go to the code and check what your door clearances are. Back to the drawing, draw a pile of push side rectangles just below your circles. You can draw rectangles right on top of each other. That way you only have to look at the text bar below only once, then the other rectangles right on top, without looking. This is very fast. Then repeat for pull side clearances.
6. Makesome rectangles in both directions. They can be 4'x4'6" or whatever. This will save time later and you don't have to rotate as you create doors, just grab the one you need.
7. Grab the conference room table and put in the middle of your space. This gives a great scale of space when you get back.
8. By now, you have done all that, in 5 minutes or less, practice this set up stuff, will become very quick. This simple stuff helps you to calm down and get down to business on the furniture layout.
9. Go read the program. I did write down furniture and spaces in a quick chart on the paper provided. Write down any additional doors and windows needed in each room.
10. Double check the codes. Make sure they are the same.
11. Go back to the drawing. Draw, very quickly, the walls for the rooms. Just do it sloppy, does not have to be perfect. Place the furniture from the tools in their allocated spaces. Now you have a real good idea of space requirements.
12. Start with the conference room. This one seems to require the most space. Or, like in the alts on the FTP, start with the room needing the most space. Go through and start making that one room into a real room with walls cleaned up and so on.
13. Move through each space, cleaning up the walls. Add doors as you go. Remember, when you move a wall with a door in it, it will disappear and must be redrawn.
14. Use your sketched rectangles and circles. Just move as needed.
15. Recheck your work. Reread the program and double check.
16. Viola, 30 minutes, just like that. On my test, I checked and checked for 15 minutes and decided to quit before I overthought anything or made a stupid move. I finished 15 minutes early.

P.S. T44 means "Table for Four"

So, I just thought I would post to help anybody out. Good Luck!

Attached is a graphic showing clearance at chairs with tables and desks.