

Please Note: If you're new to Revit, you may be interested in my "[Beginner's Guide to Revit Architecture](#)" **84 part video tutorial training course**

. The course is 100% free with no catches or exclusions. You don't even need to sign-up. Just enjoy the course and drop me line if you found it useful. The [full course itinerary can be viewed here](#)

In this article we are going to look at what happens once you (or your Client) have chosen a **preferred**

Option (Using **Design Options**

). You can of course just leave all the other options as they are and work on your preferred option. But this is a little messy and unnecessary. A better solution is to unify your preferred option with the main model and then jettison all other design options. This makes it a lot simpler to progress with the development and detailing of your design, whilst also reducing the size and complexity of your Revit Project File. So let's look at a real world example. (Note: If you are totally new to Design Options,

[please read this article first](#)

)

Here are 3 different proposals I have created using **Design Options**....

Design Options: Choosing a preferred Option

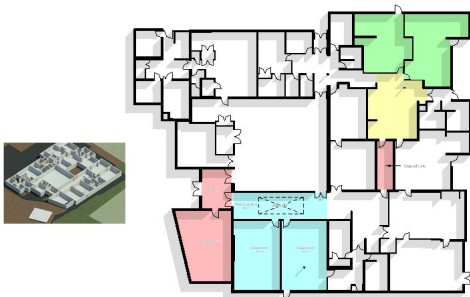
OPTION 1



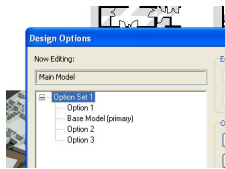
OPTION 2



OPTION 3



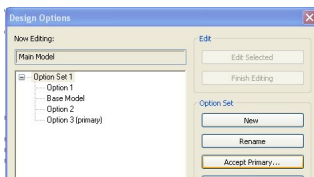
And here is an image of the Design Options control panel, for this project....



One thing worth noting here is that there are actually FOUR Design Options- one of these being called “Base Model”, which I have set as my Primary option. This Design Option has no “optional elements within it. It’s sole purpose is to ensure that there are no preferred options at this stage (when looking at options). If I hadn’t of included this then one of my (proper) options would have to be designated as the “Primary” option. And at that stage in the process I really didn’t have a bias towards any particular option. So you can think of the “Base Model (Primary)” option as a sort of “filler” or “spacer” to ensure that the other remaining options are all considered equally. This technique is most useful when you are adapting or extending an existing building- and you have no pre-conceived ideas of a design solution. Note: If you’re still not sure of how this concept works or why we use it, please ask away on our Forums and I’ll explain in more detail.

OK, back to the job in hand. As it was, my Client (and I!) decided that they liked Option 3. At that point I then had no need for the other Options or (consequently) for the use of the whole Design Options tool set, within this Revit Project. So let’s loom at how I integrate Option 3 and get rid of everything else.

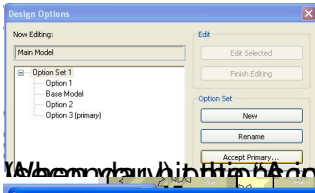
This process is really simple to do and involves just two steps. The first step is to make you preferred option the “Primary” option. In our example we want to make “Option 3” the Primary Option. Simply highlight “Option 3” from the list and then hit the “Make Primary” button.....



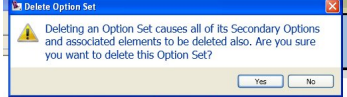
This has the effect of telling Revit that this is how the project is going to proceed- this is the “likely” design solution. Switching to any of the various model views of your project, you should see all the elements that were defined in Option 3.

At this point, we still have separate Options, each containing different elements. What we want to now do is combine the elements in our Primary Option, back into the Main Model. We simply do this by selecting “Accept Primary”.....

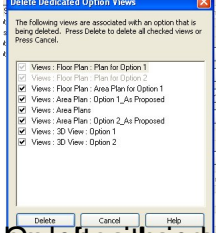
Design Options: Choosing a preferred Option



When you delete the preferred Option Set, you will be deleting it along with all the other



options that are associated with it.



options that are no longer required. What you should



delete the Option Set before you delete any other options for the design. You can delete more