

Choosing Views

Mechanical Engineering

The fewest views that describe the part completely, and no more.

Every extra view is another place for the drawing to disagree with itself.

1

Pick the front view first

The one showing most shape, usually the functioning position.

2

Add only what is needed

Two views for a plate; three for most prismatic parts.

3

Section rather than hide

A section beats a mesh of hidden lines every single time.

4

Add auxiliaries for slopes

Project square to a sloped face to see its true shape.

5

Add details for small work

Enlarge at a stated scale and label the detail circle.

A view that adds no new information adds cost, ambiguity and one more thing to keep up to date.