

Drilling Holes

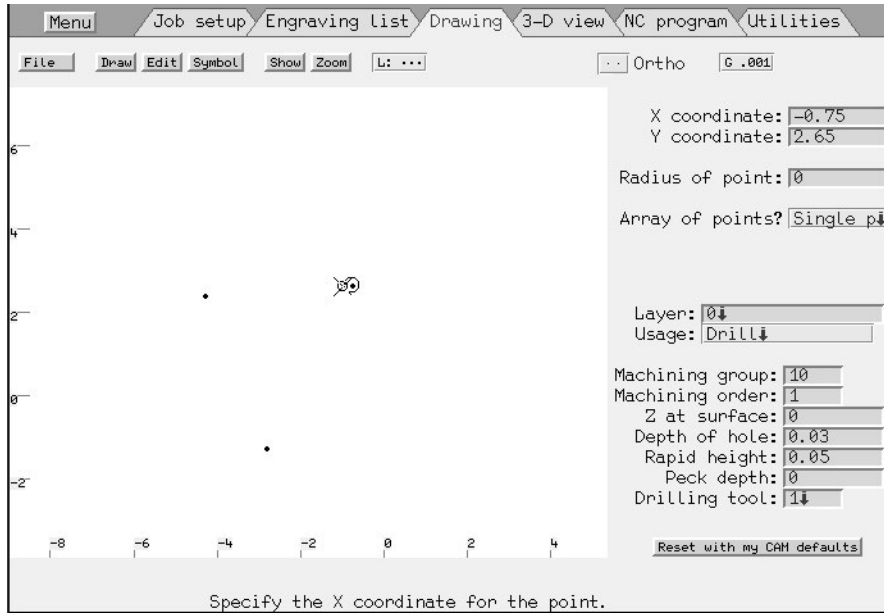


Figure 14-1

This field does **not** affect the NC program

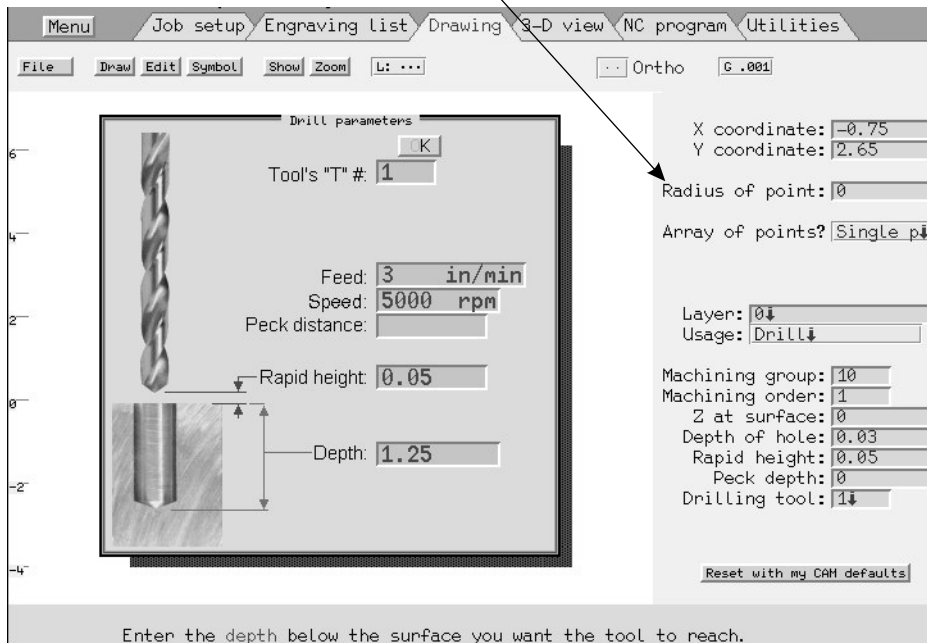


Figure 14-2

To drill holes with MillWrite you first create **points** or **arrays of points**. You can create a point from the **Draw** menu, or you can click the right mouse button to bring up the **New Item** menu and then pick the **Draw Points** option.

In Figure 14-1 are three points. To set or edit the drilling parameters for one of the points, touch the mouse to the point. This will bring up the parameters along the right side of the screen, just as with any line, arc, or rectangle.

The procedure for setting the tool for drilling is the same as if you were setting the tool for engraving or pocketing. Specifically, click the left mouse button or press **Enter** on the **Drilling Tool** field. This brings up the drilling tool options, as seen in Figure 14-2.

MillWrite uses the information that you enter here to create G81 (drill) or G83 (drill and peck) operations for the NC program.

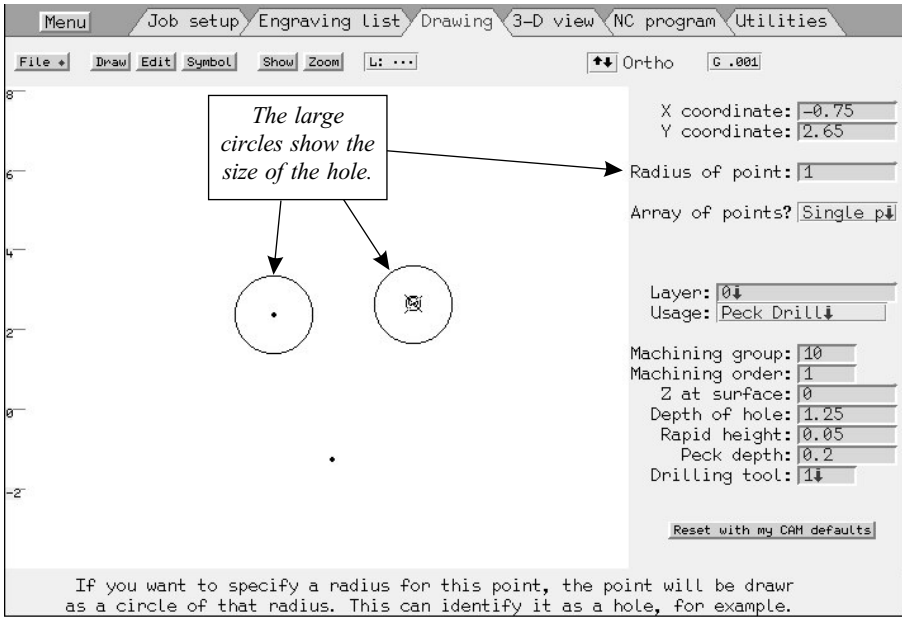
NOTE: If your machine does not use it G81 or G83 codes, MillWrite will create the necessary code to do the drilling and or pecking with G0 and G1 codes. However you must let MillWrite know that your machine does not use G81 or G83 codes by selecting an appropriate NC format at the **Job Setup** page, such as "Wood Router".

Below the data fields for X and Y coordinate is a data field called **"Radius Of The Point"**. The value you enter here does **not** affect the NC program. The purpose for this field is to let MillWrite draw a circle that is the size of the hole so that you can see how big the hole is. This lets you check for errors, such as holes that are too close to other holes.

For example, if you are drilling a hole that is 2 inches in diameter, you could specify the radius to be 1 inch. MillWrite will then draw a circle with a 2 inch diameter at the point. If you had another point that also had a 2 inch diameter, this would let you see if the two holes are overlapping.

In figure 14-3, two of the holes have been set for radius of 1 inch. MillWrite drew a 2 inch diameter circle around each of those holes. This gives you an idea of whether you're specifying the correct size holes and in the correct location.

Figure 14-3



You can set any of the points to be an **array** of points. Just click the data field called **Array of Points**. The menu seen in figure 14-4 will appear. MillWrite has four different styles of rectangular arrays and one style for circular arrays.

Figure 14-4

In figure 14-5, one of the points has been set to be a circular array. A few new data fields have appeared to allow you to specify the number and location of points in the array.

In figure 14-5, the five points were specified as being 22.5° apart. If you do **not** specify the spacing between points, MillWrite will space them evenly around a complete circle. In this example of an array with five points, MillWrite would separate each point by 72°.

MillWrite puts a small circle at the center of a circular array, but the center of the array will **not** be drilled. However, you can move the entire array by grabbing the center point and dragging it with the mouse.

Figure 14-5

