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Visio 2007 Introduction

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Exploring the Visio Environment

In this unit you will be introduced to the visual aspects of Visio and the layout of the working areas. An understanding of what Visio is and some of the overall tools available to you will also be obtained.

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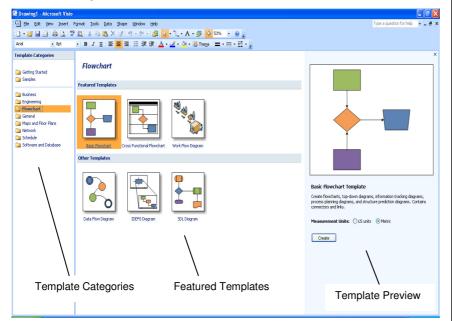
Objectives

Upon completion of this unit you will be familiar with:

- Getting Started Window
- The Visio Work Area
- Overview of Templates, Stencils and Objects
- Changing View Settings

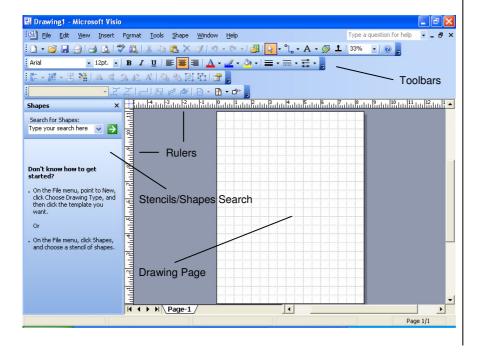
Getting Started

Templates Window



The built-in Templates will open a new Drawing with the relevant Stencils and Toolbars open ready for use.

The Visio Drawing Window

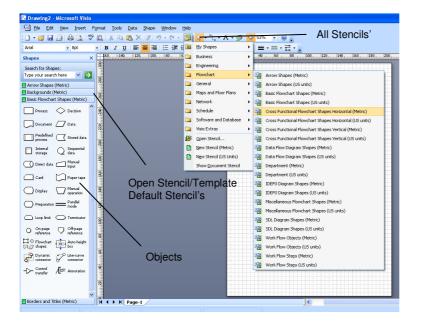


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There are many aspects to the Drawing Window

- Toolbars
- Rulers
- Stencils and Shapes Search Pane
- Drawing Page

Overview of Stencils and Objects

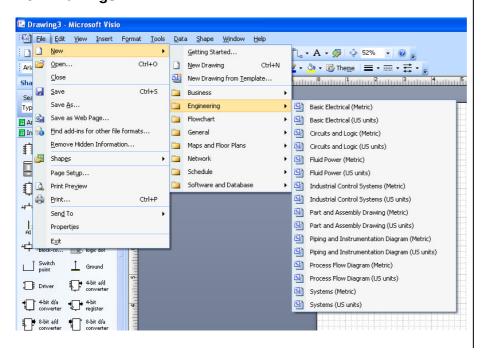


It is easy to open additional Stencils should the built-in Template not provide them by default.

Select the Shapes button on the Standard Toolbar to view and open available Stencils.



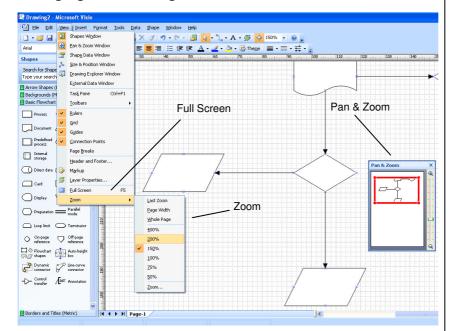
New Drawings



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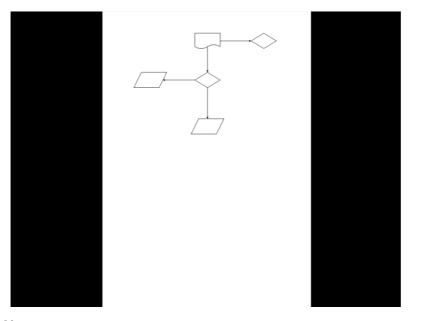
It is easy to create a New Drawing from the built-in Templates if you are already in an existing Drawing.

Changing View Settings



The Pan & Zoom Window combined with the Zoom tool make working with detailed and complex diagrams easier to ensure the minute details are completed correctly and then allow an overall view of the drawing.

Full Screen



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Full Screen is used for reading/viewing your drawings on screen. It allows the viewer to focus only on the drawing.

Drawing Tools

In this unit you will learn to create objects and lines using the Drawing Toolbar, add shapes to your drawing and how to find shapes and stencils.

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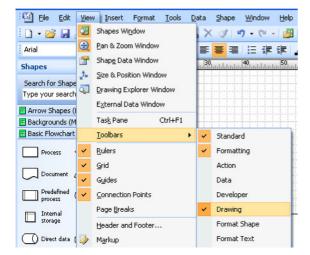
Objectives

Upon completion of this unit you will be able to:

- Use the Drawing Toolbar
- Draw rectangles and ovals
- Draw lines and curves
- Add shapes to a drawing
- Find stencils and shapes

The Drawing Toolbar



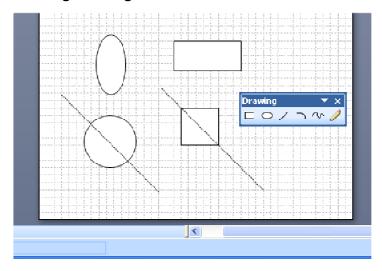


The Drawing Toolbar contains the basic tools.

To access the Drawing Toolbar:

View-Toolbars-Drawing

Drawing Rectangles and Ovals



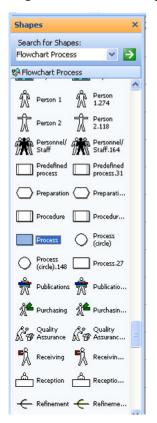
The Oval and Rectangle tools are also the Circle and Square tools.

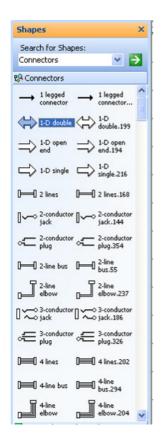
The diagonal perforated line appears to show when a perfect shape has been achieved.

The Shift key also aids when trying to create a perfect shape.

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Finding Stencils and Shapes



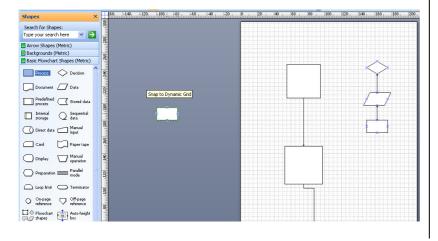


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In the Shapes Pane you can search for required Shapes and Connectors.

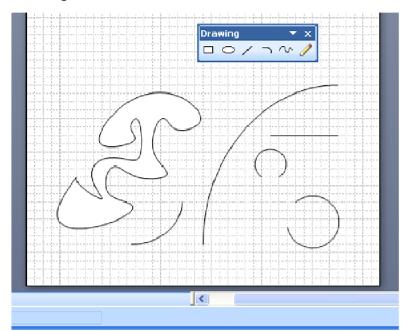
The Shapes Window is on by default. If the Shapes Window is closed it can be found in the View Menu.

Adding Shapes to a Drawing



To add a Shape to a Drawing simply drag and drop the Shape from the Stencil onto the Page.

Drawing Lines and Curves



The Lines tools can be used to add to drawings. Simply select the line you require and drag and drop.

Notes			

Creating Basic Diagrams

In this unit you will gain skills that allow you to control shapes and connection tools which will help make creating diagrams easy.

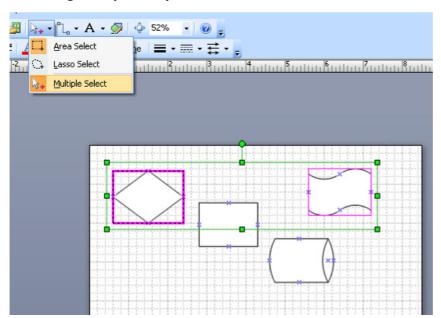
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Objectives

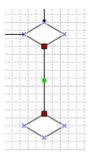
Upon completion of this topic you will be able to:

- Select multiple shapes
- Connect shapes
- Align shapes
- Distribute shapes
- Group shapes
- Use Snap & Glue
- Rotate & Flip shapes
- Work with Guides

Selecting Multiple Shapes

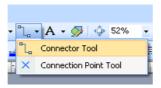


Connecting Shapes





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There are many ways to select more than one shape at a time.

The Multiple Select tool allows you to click on individual shapes and it will hold the selection.

The other method to achieve this is to hold the shift key down while selecting each shape.

The Lasso and Area Select allow multiple shapes to be selected by one click and drag over the desired shapes.

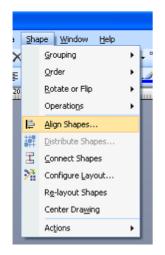
There are a number of ways to Connect shapes.

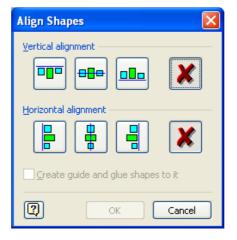
 All at once using the Connect Shapes option under the Shape Menu:

> Shape-Connect Shapes

 As they are dragged onto the page or individually using the Connector Tool from the Standard Toolbar.

Aligning Shapes

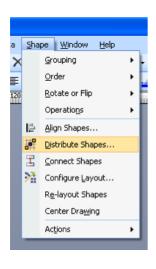


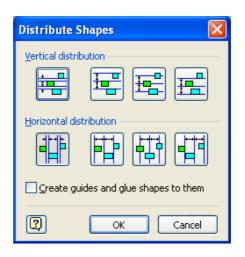


If the shapes need to be lined up either vertically or horizontally use the Align Shapes Dialogue box under the Shape menu.

Aligning Shapes ensures the connector lines are straight.

Distributing Shapes

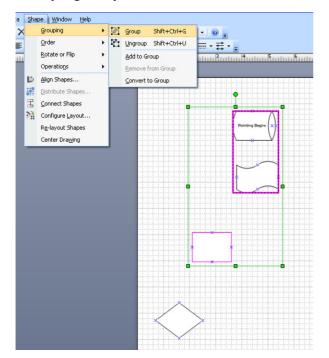




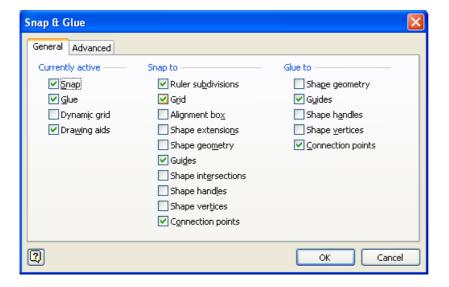
Distribution of shapes controls the spacing between the shapes to ensure the distance between the shapes is the same.

Notes

Grouping Shapes



Snap & Glue



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Use Grouping to keep shapes together so they don't move in relation to each other once in the desired position.

You can have multiple groups.

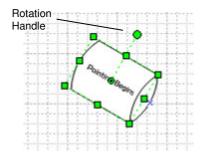
Shapes in groups can still be singled out so you can work with a grouped shape independently.

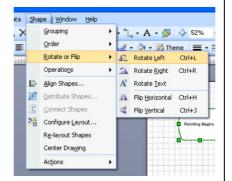
Shape-Grouping-Group

Use Snap & Glue to aid in the positioning of shapes.

Tools-Snap & Glue

Rotate or Flip





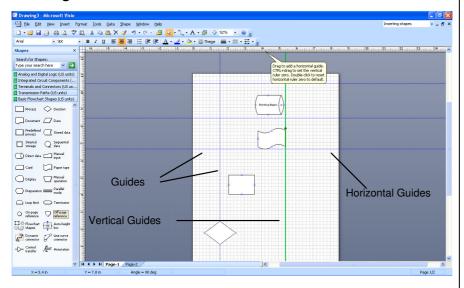
The Rotate Handle positioned at the top of the shape allows the shape to be turned any where from 0 to 360°

You can also use the Rotate or Flip option from the Shape Menu.

Shape-Rotate or Flip

Use both Horizontal and Vertical Guides to assist with the placing of Shapes and lines.

Working with Guides



Notes

Formatting Shapes

In this unit you will not only learn to add text to shapes and connectors but also how to format text, shapes, connectors and apply Themes. This will allow creation of a consistent look throughout your drawings.

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Objectives

Upon completion of this unit you will be able to:

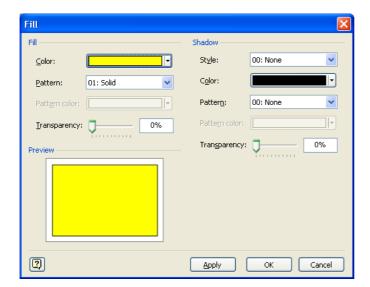
- Change shape and line colour
- Add text to shapes
- Format text
- Use the Format Painter
- Duplicate shapes
- Resize shapes
- Use Themes

Formatting Shapes

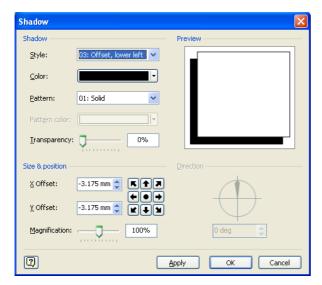
Using the Format Shape Toolbar



Using the Fill Dialogue Box



Using the Shadow Dialogue Box



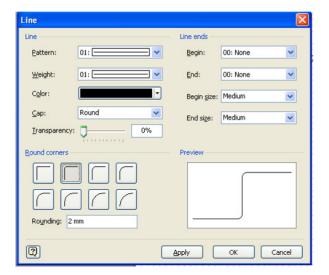
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The Format Shape
Toolbar allows you to alter
the selected Shapes
Corner Rounding,
Transparency, Fill Pattern
and Shadow Colour.

The Fill Dialogue box allows you to change the colour and transparency of the selected Shape and its shadow.

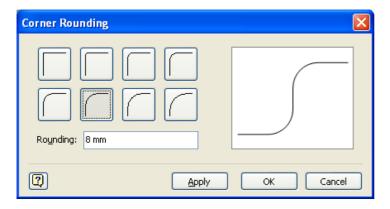
The Shadow Dialogue box is where you set and change the Shadows colouring, transparency and Size and Position.

Formatting Lines and Shape Outlines



The Line Dialogue box allows you to change the Line Style which includes, Pattern, Weight, Colour, Beginning, Sharpness of the corners etc.

Formatting Line and Shape Corners

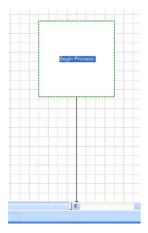


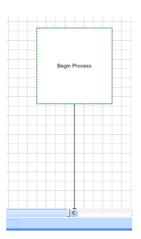
The Corner Rounding
Dialogue box controls the
sharpness of both Line
and Shape corners.

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Adding Text to Shapes





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Formatting Text





To add text to a Shape either:

 Double-click on the Shape and type.

or

 Select the shape and type.

The window will zoom in to focus only on that shape.

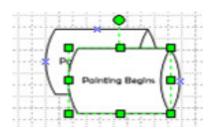
Once you have completed typing then press Enter.

The window will zoom back out.

The Format Text Toolbar allows quick access to some of the features found in the Format Text Dialogue Box.

Use the Format Text Dialogue box to format not only Fonts but also Characters, Paragraphs, Text Blocks, Tabs and Bullets.

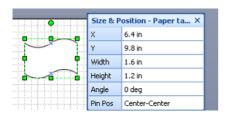
Using the Format Painter and Duplication

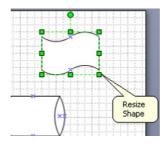






Resize Shapes





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Duplicate is a quick way to create an exact copy of a shape and all its information.

- Select the Shape
- Edit Menu
- Duplicate

Shortcut:

■ Ctrl + D Duplicate

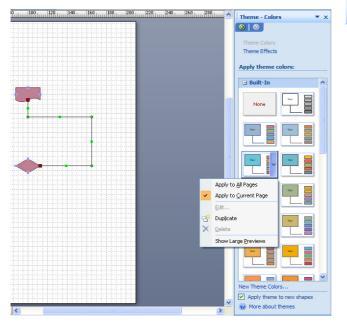
Use the Format Painter to copy formats from one shape to another.

- A single click will allow one use.
- A double click will allow multiple uses.

Either select the corner handle to resize (and keep in proportion) the shape or for more accurate resizing use the Size & Position Window.

- View menu
- Size & Position

Using Themes





Themes are a quick and consistent method with which to format drawings.

Use the Themes Task Pane to apply and modify the built in Themes.

The Theme colours and effects are also set using the Themes Task Pane.

Notes			

Working with Pages

In this unit you will learn how to work with both Foreground and Background pages and prepare drawing pages for printing.

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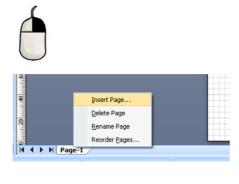
Objectives

Upon completion of this unit you will be able to:

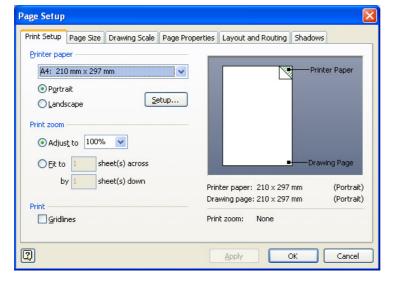
- Insert, name and delete pages
- Alter the Page and Printer setup
- Create Background pages
- Insert Headers and Footers

Inserting, Naming and Deleting Pages





Page Setup Print Setup



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New Pages can be created by either:

- Insert , New Page or
- Right click on an existing Page, select, Insert Page

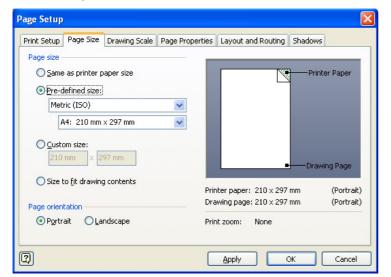
The Deleting and Renaming of pages is managed on the page tab by right clicking.

The Page Setup dialogue box is used to ready the drawing for output to printer.

Print Setup Tab is used to set the printer paper and zoom.

Page Setup

Page Size

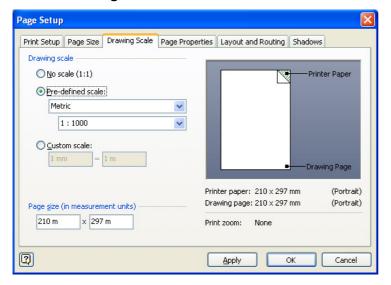


The Page Size Tab allows the on-screen size of the drawing to be set.

This may be different to the Printer paper size.

Page Setup

Drawing Scale



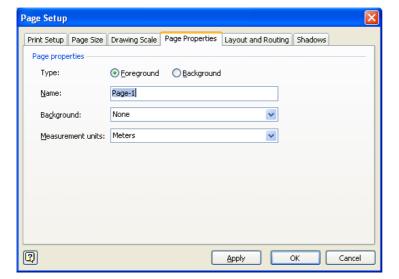
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Use the Drawing Scale Tab to set the scale of the current page.

No scale will match the Page Size and Print Setup options selected.

Page Setup

Page Properties

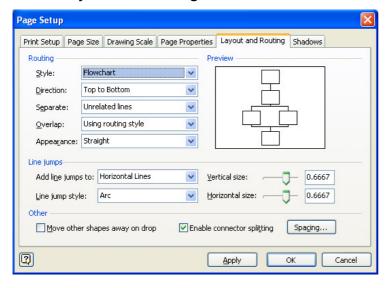


The Page Properties Tab appears every time a new Page is Inserted.

Used to name pages, set measurements and the Page Type – Foreground or Background.

Page Setup

Layout and Routing

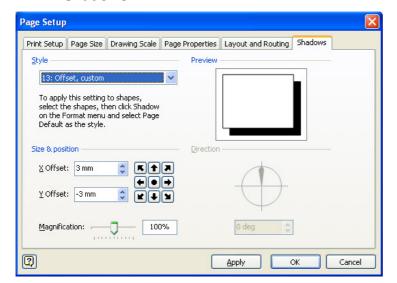


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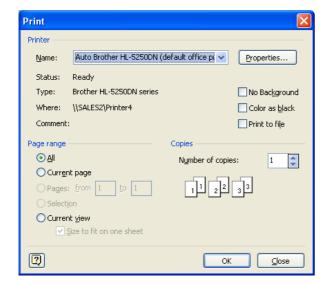
The Layout and Routing Tab sets the default behaviour and style for Dynamic Connecters on the current page.

Page Setup

Shadows



Page and Printer Setup



The Shadow Tab allows the default shadow for the current page to be set.

To apply the default shadow to a shape:

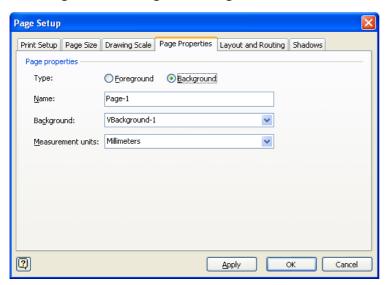
- Select the shape
- Format
- Shadow
- Style Page default

The Print dialogue box will look at options specific to your printer.

This dialogue box allows the selection of how many pages and which pages are to be printed.

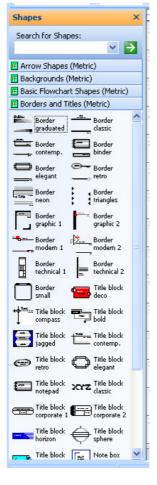
Notes

Creating Blank Background Pages



Creating Background Pages Using Templates





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Use Background Pages to set unchanging items that need to be used on multiple Foreground Pages such as Titles, Logos etc.

- Insert Page
- Page Properties
- Type Background

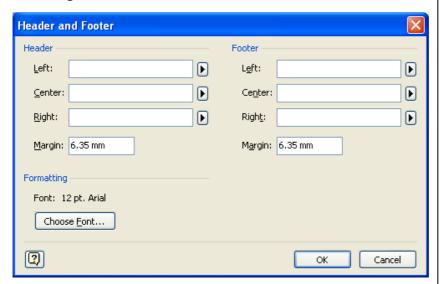
The Backgrounds and Borders and Titles Stencils are opened by default when a Built in Template is opened.

To create a Background Page simply:

- Select Background
- Drag and Drop over Foreground page

Do the same for Borders and Titles.

Inserting Headers and Footers



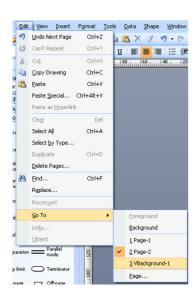
Header and Footers will appear at the top and bottom of all Foreground pages.

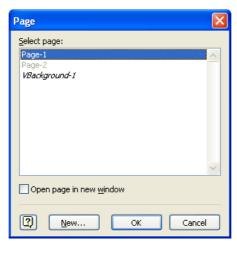
To apply a Header and Footer:

- View
- Header and Footer

Headers and Footers are only visible in Print Preview.

Go to Pages





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There is more than one way to Go To a Page.

- Edit
- Go To
- Page

This also contains an option to create a New Page.

or

- Edit
- Go To
- Select the desired page.

or use the Page Tabs at the bottom of the Drawing Area.

Building Diagrams

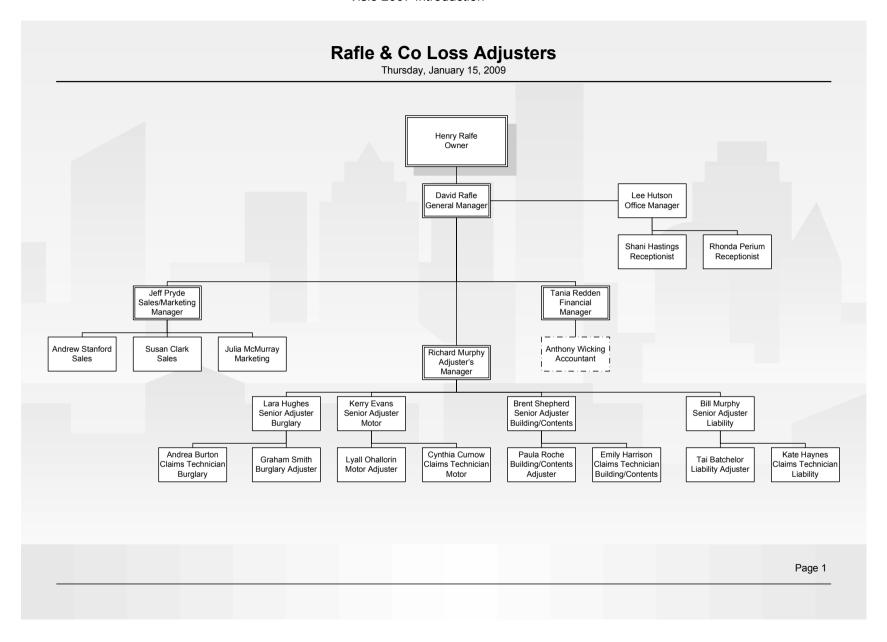
In this unit you will learn to create Organisation, Flow and Brainstorming Diagrams.

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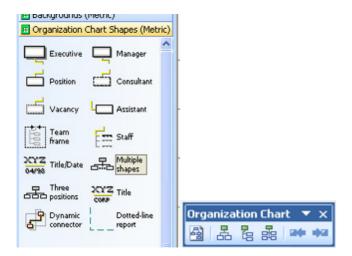
Objectives

Upon completion of this unit you will be able to:

- Create Organisation Charts
- Create Basic Flowcharts
- Create Brainstorming Diagrams



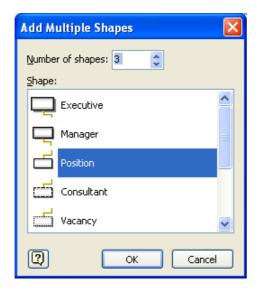
Creating Organisation Charts Organisation Chart Shapes



The Organisation Chart Shapes Stencil provides the shapes to create a chart.

The Organisation Chart Toolbar provides tools to change the layout and navigate around you Organisation Chart.

Adding Multiple Shapes



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Use the Add Multiple Shapes tool on the Organization Chart Shapes Stencil to insert more than one shape at a time.

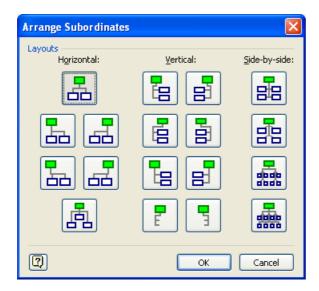
The maximum number of shapes that can be added at the same time is 50.

Notes

Changing Position Type



Arranging Subordinates



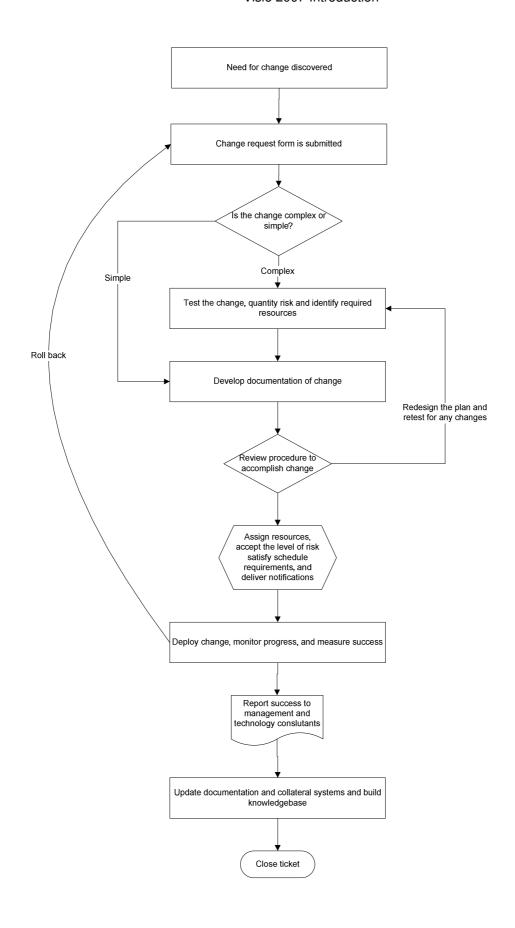
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If a manager receives a promotion to executive, use the Change the Position dialogue box to reflect this promotion.

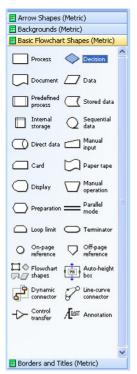
- Select shape
- Organization Chart menu
- Change Position Type Dialogue box
- Select New Position Type
- Click OK

The Arrange Subordinates Dialogue box is used to change the layout of the Subordinate Shapes which allows the chart to better reflect the true nature of the organisation.

- Select the Manager Shape
- Organization Chart Menu
- Arrange Subordinates
- Select desired arrangement
- Click OK

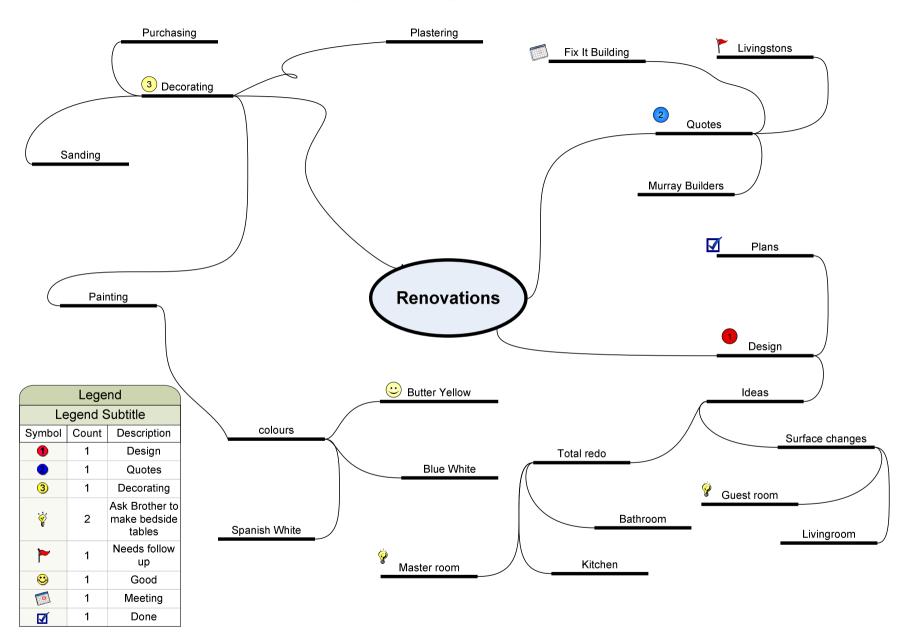


Creating Basic Flowcharts Basic Flowchart Shapes



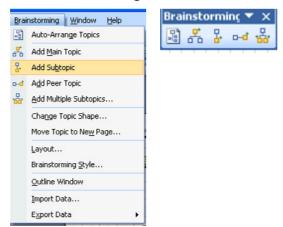
There are many Flowchart Stencils. Using a combination of the skills learnt in the earlier units of this book creating Basic Flowcharts should be relatively simple.

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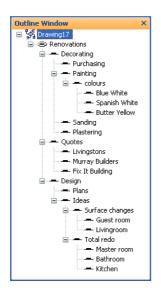
Creating Brainstorming Diagrams

The Brainstorming Menu and Toolbar



To add topics, change the layout and customise the Brainstorming Diagram use the Brainstorming Toolbar and Menu.

The Brainstorming Outline Window



The Outline Window allows a tree overview of the Brainstorming Diagram and can be used to select levels to allow easy selection of topics.

- Select Brainstorming Menu
- Select Outline Window

Notes