



MindMaps for Visio

Fact Sheet

About MindMaps for Visio

The MindMaps for Visio add-in was created to extend the brainstorming functionality provided by Microsoft Visio 2010 and 2013. It activates automatically when you create or open a diagram based on Visio's build-in brainstorming template.

System Requirements

- Microsoft Visio 2010 or 2013
- Microsoft Visio 2010 or 2013 Professional for the mind mapping rules validation
- .NET Framework 4



Features (Standard Edition)

Drag & Drop Topics

You can add new sub-topics by just dragging the master shape from the *Brainstorming Shapes* stencil and dropping it on an existing topic shape. The new topic will be added as a sub-topic automatically.



Figure 1 - Dropping a topic shape on a main topic shape.

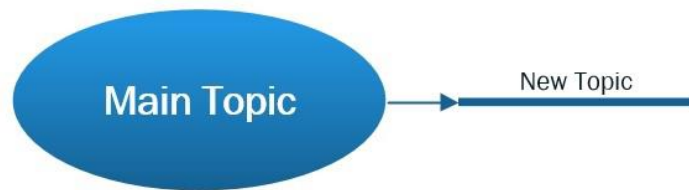


Figure 2 - The topic was automatically added as a sub-topic to the main topic shape.

Dragging existing topics to other topics reattaches them at the target. So whole branches of your mind map can be moved easily.

Add Topics via Keyboard

You can add new topics with a single stroke of the keyboard. Using the keyboard speeds up the creation of large mind maps significantly.

Auto-Connect Legend Shapes

Annotation shapes are automatically connected to topic shapes and moves along when topic shapes are moved.

Circular Layout

Topic shapes are arranged in a circular pattern. Sub-topic shapes are positioned on a half circle in the current layout direction. Connections are only made to the left and right sides of the topic shapes, not all around the shapes.



Quick Links

Instead of dragging and attaching connectors, topic shapes can be connected via a simple click of a ribbon button.

Also multiple topic shapes can be connected via an association just as easily.

Rich Text Notes

The editor window can be used to add rich text notes and links to local files to all shapes and pages. It also offers a fast and easy way to edit the shape's text. The editor offers a standard range of formatting options. Spellchecking can be optionally activated.

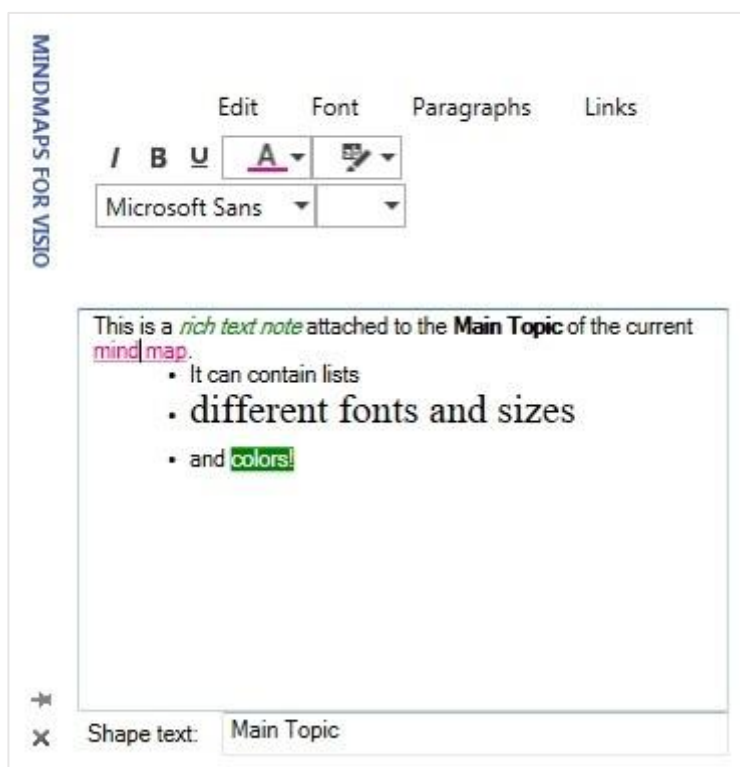


Figure 3 - The rich text editor window containing the text.



Expanding & Collapsing nodes

Topic shapes can be collapsed and expanded to offer a better overview of your mind map. A smart tag is used to offer the expand options and to indicate collapsed nodes.

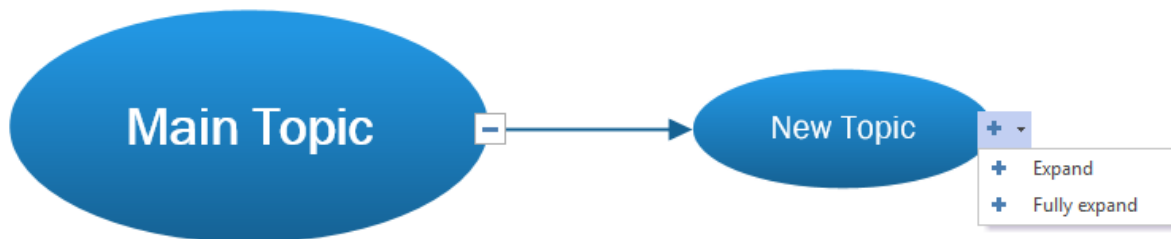


Figure 4 – Topics can be collapsed, expanded or fully expanded – including all sub topics.

Quick Attachments

Using the editor window you can add multiple files as attachments to the shapes in one quick step.

Mind Mapping Rules Validation

Using the integrated rule validation engine mind mapping rules can be checked by Visio.

Extended Word Export

Exporting the mind map to Microsoft Word will generate an elaborate document containing an image of the diagram and the data of all shapes. This contains the rich texts, the hyperlinks, data of associated annotations and relationships between the topics.

Style & Color Inheritance

The styles and colors of newly added sub-topics are automatically set to the same values as the topic they are added to preventing you from formatting every shape on your own.



Path & Branch Selection

With a single click a path back to the main-topic or all the sub-topics can be selected, creating an easy way to apply color and font styles to a whole branch within your mind map.

Full compatibility

Brain storming diagrams created without MindMaps for Visio are fully compatible and editing can continue seamlessly after the installation of MindMaps for Visio.

Mind maps created with the help of MindMaps for Visio can be opened and edited by users without the add-in. Merely the rich text notes of the shapes cannot be viewed or edited by these users.

Multi-Language Support

The add-in adjusts its user-interface in accordance to the language of the operating system. The currently supported languages are English and German.

Import

The import feature helps you to migrate from other Mind Mapping software. Simply import the Mind Map structure of Mindjet, FreeMind or XMind files.



Features (Professional Edition)

SharePoint Website & List Creation

Simply design your new SharePoint site structure as an intuitive mind map. Easily add lists and libraries to your site by adding sub-topics to your mind map. When you are finished the structure is automatically created on your SharePoint server with the push of a button - instantly ready for you and your team. Comprehensive SharePoint knowledge is not required.

Using the import feature you can read your existing SharePoint site structure and continue editing it at any time.



Summary

All described features support you in the faster creation of correct mind maps while not restricting you by forcing the creation of a valid diagram or disabling parts of the existing Visio brainstorming functionalities.

The Professional Edition of MindMaps for Visio gives you a powerful and simple tool to administrate your SharePoint site structure in no time at all.

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