

Chapter 2



Using DrawPlus

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Using DrawPlus

Serif DrawPlus 2.0 can be used as a standalone Windows application working like any other, or via OLE.

Using DrawPlus as an Ordinary Application

Using Serif DrawPlus 2.0 as an ordinary application is the same as using any other Windows program: you start DrawPlus from the **Program Manager**, create a drawing, and then save it as a DrawPlus file (*.DPP). If you then want to edit that drawing at a later date, you have to start DrawPlus, reload the .DPP file, edit it, and then save it again.

If you want to include the drawing into another document, simply copy it to the clipboard, and then paste it into the other application.

Alternatively, DrawPlus lets you export your drawing in a wide range of industry-standard file formats. For example, virtually all Windows applications can import Windows Metafile (WMF) graphics.

Using DrawPlus via OLE

OLE (Object Linking and Embedding) is a part of Windows that allows you to insert documents that you create in one application (OLE objects) into a document created by another application (OLE container). Documents created using Serif's flagship product, PagePlus, are OLE containers, whereas Serif's other products: TypePlus, TablePlus and DrawPlus, all create OLE objects.

DrawPlus is the ideal graphics add-on for Microsoft Office and other Windows products using OLE. Use the **Insert Object...** command and choose Serif DrawPlus. Create your graphic, when you exit DrawPlus, your drawing is automatically placed in your word-processor, spreadsheet, desktop publisher or other application

The advantage of using OLE is that the drawing created is "live". If you want to edit your drawing, you simply double-click on it. This loads DrawPlus with the drawing ready for editing. When you have finished editing the drawing, you exit DrawPlus and the updated drawing is placed onto the page automatically. This is a very convenient way of working with drawings.

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► To use DrawPlus via OLE.

1. Select **Edit/Insert Object...** from the container document application's menus.

The exact method of inserting an OLE object may vary slightly in some applications. Check the documentation for the application you are using.

To simplify things, Serif's PagePlus has a specific button to open OLE applets.

2. Select **Serif DrawPlus** from the object list.
3. Create your drawing.

Notice that **File/Save** has been renamed to **File/Update [document]**, and **File/Exit** has been renamed to **File/Exit to [document]**. (In both cases [document] will be the name of the document containing the drawing.)

4. Exit DrawPlus.

DrawPlus asks if you want to update the container document before exiting. Alternatively, you can select **File/Update [document]** which updates the container document, but does not exit DrawPlus.

What Next?

The next chapter is the **DrawPlus Tour** which is designed to introduce you to the concepts and methods of working in DrawPlus. It only takes a few minutes and we strongly recommend that you run through it.