

The Figure

Curio's most basic element

What's a Figure?

In Curio, anything placed on an idea space is a figure. It can represent a basic flowcharting shape such as a square or octagon. Or more complex items such as text, images, web links, movies, music, or any type of document. A figure can also represent a collection of contained figures. For example, a mind map or a list outline.

With any type of figure, not only can you specify its look through fonts and colors, you can also specify meta information such as tags, and start/due dates.

Terminology

A **figure** is the most basic entity within Curio such as a text figure, an image figure, a document figure, and a line figure.

A **collection figure** is a special type of figure that contains, manages, and positions figures within it. Examples include Curio's list, mind map, table, index card, pinboard, and album collection figures. While a collection figure can contain other figures it cannot contain another collection. For example, you can't place a table into a mind map or an index card into a list.

A **figure style** defines the look of the figure including properties such as color, border, font, and shading. You can apply a style to a new or existing figure.

On the other hand, a **figure stencil** is a re-usable figure that can include richer data such as placeholder or boilerplate text. You create a copy of a stencil.

A **simple figure stencil** is a stencil that is a single figure. Even if that figure itself is a collection figure such as a mind map or list it and therefore contains figures within it, the collection figure itself is just a single figure, thus it is a simple figure stencil.

A **complex figure stencil** is a stencil made up of multiple figures. A perfect example is a landscaping stencil where flowers, shrubs, and trees are represented by individual figures, images, or grouped figures.

If you change or update the original style or stencil Curio does not change any instances either in the current project or in projects stored on your hard disk. The change will only be reflected in new instances that you create or apply in the future. However, Curio Professional users have access to a new feature called **masters** that allow this functionality which we'll discuss later.