Delineato™ is a minimalistic diagramming and mind-mapping tool. It was deliberately designed to offer the minimal amount of functionality that is enough to create diagrams, mind maps, concept maps and other graph-based constructs. There are currently many different tools for diagramming and mind-mapping, but what makes Delineato truly unique is the design approach we took when building this software.

A few years ago, I walked into a conference room at the precise time when someone asked the speaker: "What is the user interface of the future?" I cannot recall who he was, but the room turned completely silent and the entire audience simply focused on the speaker’s reaction. He started by mysteriously saying: ”The user interface of the future is…” and then, in a cinematically-intense move, grabs something from his pocket, and finishes the sentence: “…a blank sheet of paper!” This vision never actually became materialized into any software product I had designed before, but the idea and its associated thoughts rested for some years in my mind, until we started discussing the possibility of creating a new product for helping people create better diagrams and simple node-based graphics.

It became clear that current tools were too complex or too limited to achieve the vision of “a blank sheet of paper” that could be simple and fully-fledged at the same time. But after a year and a half, the vision became consistent, and we shipped the first version of Delineato. Many other design ideas were also influenced by the Japanese culture, especially after the return from a journey to Kyoto. These ideas include the night mode, the zen music, the attention to details and the constant search for better designs as Delineato is updated.

Like any other software product, Delineato is constantly evolving. There is a roadmap of future releases that describes what you might expect in the next versions. They will be forever free since the day you bought your copy of Delineato at the Mac OS X AppStore. Please don’t hesitate to contact us at info@delineato.com, as so many people have already done, and please let us know your thoughts – after all, being able to communicate them was precisely the reason why we created Delineato!

All the best,

Delineato Team
Out of intense complexities, intense simplicities emerge.

Winston Churchill
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Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.
Leonardo da Vinci
Quick Tutorial

Delineato is all about shapes and links. If you are considering mind maps or concept maps, a shape is a node or a concept. If you are brainstorming, a shape can be considered an idea, or a concept. If you are creating other kinds of diagrams, then a shape is a shape. Essentially, some graphical construct (e.g. a rectangle, a cloud, an hexagon) that contains some text (which can be formatted) and is drawn with a user-defined line weight, style and color. Shapes can be linked together by creating graphical links, which can also contain formatted text (usually shorter), as well as user-defined line styles, dashes, weights and colors. The image below illustrates a diagram created using Delineato.

Delineato users compose their diagrams by using the mouse or keyboard. There are different ways to create shapes. Users pick up shapes in the palette (shown below) by double-clicking or right-clicking anywhere on the canvas and then dragging and dropping the desired shape into the canvas.

Another way to add shapes is by using the menu items and/or keyboard shortcuts. There are menu items for adding a new main node (⌘.), which adds a “ready-to-edit” shape as illustrated below:
There are menu items for creating specific shapes: “Add new shape...” (⌘ + 1 for a rectangle, ⌘ + 2 for an ellipse, etc.). Additionally, version 1.2 adds menu items and shortcuts for adding *child nodes or shapes*, either to the left, right, top or bottom relative to the currently selected shape. For example, if the above “Note” is selected, this is what happens when selecting the “Add child node right” menu item:

Users can also use the *add shape handles* ( ) to create a new shape from the currently selected one, clicking and dragging to the desired location:

The diagram below (created using Delineato!) summarizes the visual elements of the user interface:
Cool Tips

- Drag any PNG or PDF image directly from the Desktop into Delineato's canvas.
- Se
Keyboard Shortcuts

Selecting and navigating

⌘ A  Selects all shapes.
⌘⇧A  De-selects all shapes.
⌘G  Selects all the shapes that are similar to the one that is selected. For instance, if you have a rounded rectangle selected, pressing ⌘+G will select all the rounded rectangles in your document.
⌘K  Selects all the shapes that are connected to the one that is selected.
⌘↑  Selects the shape above/below the currently selected one.
⌘←  Selects the shape left/right the currently selected one.
⌘↩  Starts/stops editing the currently selected shape.

Creating

⌘.  Creates a new shape in the center of the window. If that position already holds a shape, the new shape will be positioned in the next free slot, below.
⌘\↑  Creates a child node above the currently selected one.
⌘\↓  Creates a child node above the currently selected one.
⌘←  Creates a child node left/right the currently selected one.
⌘1  Creates a new rectangle in the center of the window.
⌘2  Creates a new rounded rectangle in the center of the window.
⌘3  Creates a new rectangle in the center of the window.
⌘4  Creates a new rounded rectangle in the center of the window.

Sharing

⌘M  Share the diagram by e-mail. This will open up your e-mail program and automatically create a new message containing the diagram as an attached document.
⌘F  Share the diagram using Facebook. Same as above, but using your Facebook account.
⌘\ T  Share the diagram using Twitter. Same as above, but using your Twitter account.
⌘⌘F  Export opaque graphics as PDF.
\⌘⌘F  Export transparent graphics as PDF.
⌘ P  Print. Displays the standard print dialog.

⌘ ⇧ P  Page setup. Displays the standard dialog window for defining print attributes, e.g. paper size.

⌘ ⇧ ⇧ Enter fullscreen mode, expanding the current document’s window into fullscreen and allowing you a higher degree of focus.

**Formatting**

When shapes or links overlap, you can change the order of objects in the layers. Shapes on the foreground layers are drawn on top of shapes underneath.

⌘ ⇧ F  Bring to front. Brings the currently selected shape or link to the foreground layer.

⌥ ⇧ F  Bring forward. Brings the currently selected shape or link one level up in front of other shapes.

⌘ ⇧ B  Send to back. Brings the currently selected shape or link to the foreground layer.

⌥ ⇧ B  Send backward. Brings the currently selected shape or link one level up in front of other shapes.

⌘ T  Show Fonts. Shows the standard Mac OS X Font panel.

⌘ B  Bold. Applies bold to the selected text.

⌘ I  Italic. Applies italic to the selected text.

⌘ U  Underline. Applies underline to the selected text.