

# Inspector

*View or modify properties of a selected item*

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## Accessing the Inspector Shelf

You can access the inspector shelf by clicking on the Inspector toolbar button. Go ahead and do it now so you can look at it while we go over some things.

### Context Sensitive

The inspector shelf shows properties of the selected figure or idea space. The inspector panels that appear within the shelf are context sensitive so, based on what's selected, the available panels and tabs may change.

For instance, select a text figure and you will see certain tabs at the top of the inspector shelf. Click on a list and a tab titled "List" will appear with more options. Click on the background of the idea space so no figures are selected and the inspector content will change to show properties of the idea space, such as background color and dimensions.

## Inspector Popovers

As mentioned earlier in this document, you can access many of the same panels via buttons on the inspector bar. In many cases, those buttons will reveal popovers that appear so you can make property changes, then dismiss the popover when you're done. Sometimes popovers are more convenient than the inspector shelf, especially for small laptop screens, because they only take up room temporarily.

### Detachable Popovers

Inspector popovers can also be detached by clicking and dragging on their background to "tear" them off the inspector bar and turn them into free floating windows. You can drag these small windows anywhere on the screen, or even to a separate screen attached to your Mac.

Relaunching Curio will automatically restore those same detached popovers.