

Freeform sketching

Using Brushes, Pens, and the Eraser

For Curio Standard and Professional customers, the tools palette includes a brush and eraser tool so you can sketch out an idea or drawing.

Inevitably, while brainstorming or thinking through an idea, you may need to sketch something out when the keyboard just won't do. Fortunately, Curio has a scribble mode with sketching tools built right in, so you don't have to stop and launch another application when inspiration strikes.

Curio comes with several pens and brushes to use when drawing, including a pencil, ballpoint, felt tip, paint brush, and highlighter. Each stylus has different settings for color, line thickness, and opacity that have been configured to mimic the real world object that it represents. Using the inspector you can change the color, brush thickness, and opacity of any stylus.

Many of the styluses are also fully pressure-sensitive when used with a graphics tablet, such as a Wacom or an iPad with Apple Pencil connected via the macOS Sidecar feature, whereby the brush size and color saturation may change while you are drawing based on the pressure applied to the pen.

You can press the B key on your keyboard to quickly choose the brush tool. Press E to choose the eraser.

The Scribble “Onionskin”

While sketching, your scribbles will appear on top of all other figures and items on the idea space. The scribble layer acts as an onionskin appearing on top of your idea space.

Draw with a Pen or Brush

1. Click on the Brush tool in the toolbar and choose the brush or pen you want to use. Note for super-responsive mouse handling the idea space will temporarily go into Quick Render mode where shadows are hidden and text rendering is optimized.
2. You can quickly choose a color from the narrow color palette in the inspector bar or the much larger color palette in the inspector shelf. On the far left of the inspector bar's color palette, or at the top of the inspector shelf's palette, you can see the current, active color. If you click that color control then you can bring up Apple's standard color picker to choose any color.
3. Begin drawing in the idea space. While in scribble mode, you can continue to change the brush attributes or choose a different brush or pen from the inspector bar.

Erase a Portion of Your Drawing

1. Click on the Eraser tool in the toolbar or inspector bar and “draw” where you want to erase. You can even change the size of the eraser using the inspector.
2. Alternatively, you can use the Select tool in the toolbar to drag-select a region then press the Delete key to delete it. You can hold down the `⌘` (Option) and `⌘` (Command) keys while dragging to select only your scribble and not any figures or other items on the idea space.
3. Lastly, if you are using a graphics tablet that has a pen with an eraser tip, you can simply turn the pen over to erase a portion of your drawing.

Convert a Scribble to an Image Figure

1. Using the Select tool in the toolbar drag-select a region. You can hold down the `⌘` (Option) and `⌘` (Command) keys while dragging to select only your scribble and not any figures or other items on the idea space.
2. Choose Edit > Convert Selection to Image Figure.
3. You now have an image figure that you can treat as a normal figure on the idea space: give it a border, move it above or below other figures, or even add it to a list or mind map.

Convert a Figure to a Scribble

1. Using the select tool in the toolbar (looks like a mouse arrow pointer) select one or more figures.
2. Choose Edit > Convert Selection to Scribble.
3. You can now use the scribble layer's pens, brushes, and eraser to modify the figure.