

# Change Masters

## *Adopt a different master template*

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### Placeholder Figures and Changing Masters

Normally you can't apply an idea space template to an existing idea space, since Curio wouldn't know what to do with the existing figures. However, this is indeed possible with master templates and a new figure identifier property.

Recall that a master template defines the style of the idea space and contains boilerplate figures. In many instances you may want those boilerplate figures to be placeholders (perhaps with "lorem ipsum..." text) that you'll edit and fill in with real data in the instance of the template.

For instance, you may have master templates with "title" and "body" placeholder text figures but where the figures are positioned and styled very differently. Perhaps these templates also contain other figures unique to themselves in addition to those placeholder items. If you create an instance of one of these masters, edit and replace all the placeholders, then realize you wish you had used a different master, it would be nice if you can click to switch it to the stylings of the other, without having to recreate the whole thing from scratch.

### Identifier

Using the new figure Identifier field, accessible via the figure's Info inspector, this is now possible. Curio has what it needs to map placeholders figures from one master to another.

Edit your master templates and give the figures that represent placeholder items appropriate identifier values, such as "title" and "body".

### Identifier Glow

When you edit an idea space that has figures with locally defined identifiers (that is, not inherited from a master) then those figures will glow green instead of blue and their tooltips will show their identifiers. This is helpful when you want to quickly make sure appropriate figures have set identifiers.

### Change Master

Click Done to exist editing masters, then create a new instance of one of those masters.

Edit and change the placeholder text as necessary. If you decide you want to change to the different master, notice that the normal styles area of the inspector shelf shows master templates for the idea space instead. Just click on a different master in the inspector, or right-click on the idea space in the Organizer and choose Change Master, to instantly change to that master.

Behind the scenes, Curio will style the idea space to match the new master's style, use the identifiers to map figures from the old master to the new master thus keeping their contents intact, remove any figures that were unique to the old master, add any figures that are a part of the new master, and leave any figures you added on your own to the instance in place, as is.

As a note, this list of master templates you can change to is filtered to only include other masters which support figures with identifiers that the user has changed in the current idea space. Therefore if, in your instance, you have changed the "title" figure then only other masters that contain a "title" figure will available. That way you can't switch to a master that wouldn't support your changed figure.