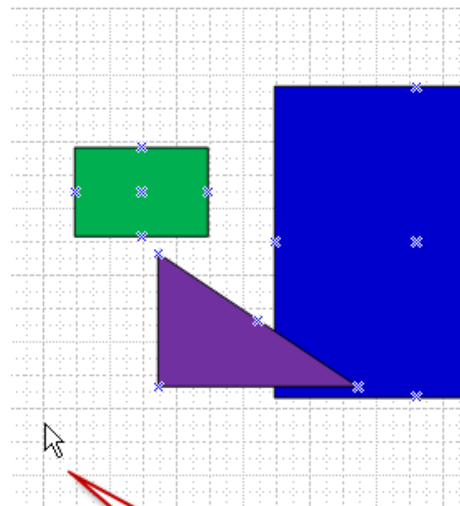


Easily Reposition Visio® Images

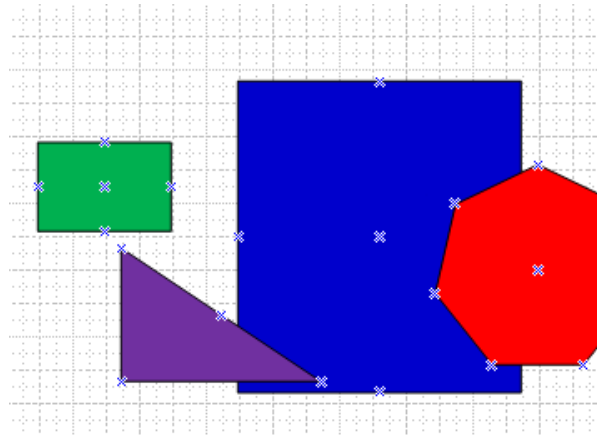
Robert L Gallick
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I've been using Visio® since long before it was a Microsoft® product. When I first used it, it struck me as one of the best interfaces. It was intuitive to use and the drag and drop drawing was way ahead of its time. Over the years the product has gradually improved but there is still one feature that would make it so much easier to use, it is almost shocking it is not implemented in the product. I have literally drawn many thousands of Visio drawings in my life. I zoom in more than I did two decades ago since my eye sight isn't as good as it use to be. But once I zoom in, I often want to move the drawing left, right, up, or down so that I can work on another part of the drawing. And in doing so, I find myself always repositioning the mouse on the scroll bars and they back to the area I would like to work. After you do this a few hundred times you realize there has to be a better human interface – and there is. If Microsoft would simply implement a feature that would allow a user to left click anywhere on the diagram there isn't an object and drag the background, the friendliness of the application would be greatly improved. Other applications allow the user to do this while editing. An example is TechSmith's Snagit® Editor which allows a user to easily reposition images while editing.



To Move the drawing left-right or up-down, the user simply left-clicks-holds-and-drags - just like they would to the title bar of any window on the desktop. No need to use scroll bars.

To reposition the drawing the user simply “left-clicks” the mouse on the drawing in any location that does not have a drawing object. Then by holding the mouse down they simply drag the window in any direction. As in this example, the user simply has moved the drawing left revealing the right most portion of the drawing.



The user simply drags the part of the image they are interested in into view with the mouse from any point on the background that does not have an object on it.

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I would hope that the product manager at Microsoft opens their eyes and adds this easy feature which would have a high impact on the effectiveness of the human interface. It is hard for me to understand how such a basic feature could go un-implemented.

This feature could be implemented in other product as well – including Microsoft Word or Excel. Hopefully we will see it implemented in future releases of the product.

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