



Using Layouts

A single plan can contain numerous layouts, each containing its own set of visual properties. Given the complexity of networks, you might need to create different layouts for different reasons. For example, you might want to simplify sections of the network for better analysis or planning purposes. Or you might want to display a geographic layout or a schematic layout.

The attributes that are set and saved on a per-layout basis are hide/show objects, interface styles, site name placement, and all plot options. You can save the plot options as user defaults, thus making it easier to apply the same plot options to different layouts.

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- [Create or Edit Layouts, on page 4](#)

Design Versus Weathermap Layouts






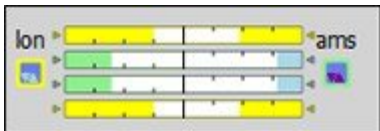
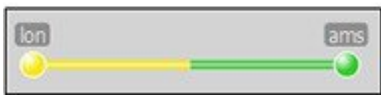


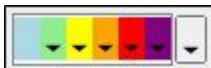




There are two layout types: Design and Weathermap.

- The Design layout is useful for interactive work where the emphasis is on detailed interactions, planning, and network editing. Plan files open using the layout named *Default*, which is a Design layout.
- The Weathermap layout is designed for use in a static, non-interactive view of a fixed network layout, with an emphasis on seeing operational issues such as high utilization.

The conventions described in this guide apply to both Weathermap and Design layout types, but there are key differences between the two. The following table describes these differences, and the following figure shows an example of each layout using the same topology and canvas.

Table 1: Differences Between Design and Weathermap Layouts

Weathermap Layout	Design Layout
The shape and size of the circuits differ.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weathermap circuits have a fixed width. They can also be curved to enhance a static network view.• Design circuits show different widths depending on capacity. These circuits cannot be curved.	
Example: In the following graphs, the top circuit has a capacity of 1000 Mbps, and the circuit on the bottom has a capacity of 10,000 Mbps.	

Weathermap Layout	Design Layout
	
In Weathermap layouts, the traffic utilization color fills the entire interface. In Design layouts, the color fills up the interface proportional to traffic utilization levels.	
	
Parallel circuits render differently. In both layouts, color fill of the grouped circuit shows this average. In the Design layout, however, the circuit is divided lengthwise into its constituent interfaces, and each interface has a colored border showing the utilization of that interface.	
	
	
The default utilization colors have different saturation.	
	
The site icon and site name appear differently.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Weathermap layout, the color of the site icon is the maximum utilization color of all intrasite interfaces within the site. The site icon does not reflect whether interfaces from it are collapsed. • In the Design layout, the color of the site border is the maximum utilization color of all intrasite interfaces within it. Up/down triangles in a site reflect interfaces from it are collapsed. 	
	
With and Without Collapsed Interfaces	Without Collapsed Interfaces
	
With Collapsed Interfaces	With Collapsed Interfaces
The node icon and node name appear differently. In the Weathermap layout, the node icon does not reflect whether interfaces from it are collapsed, whereas in the Design layout, it does.	





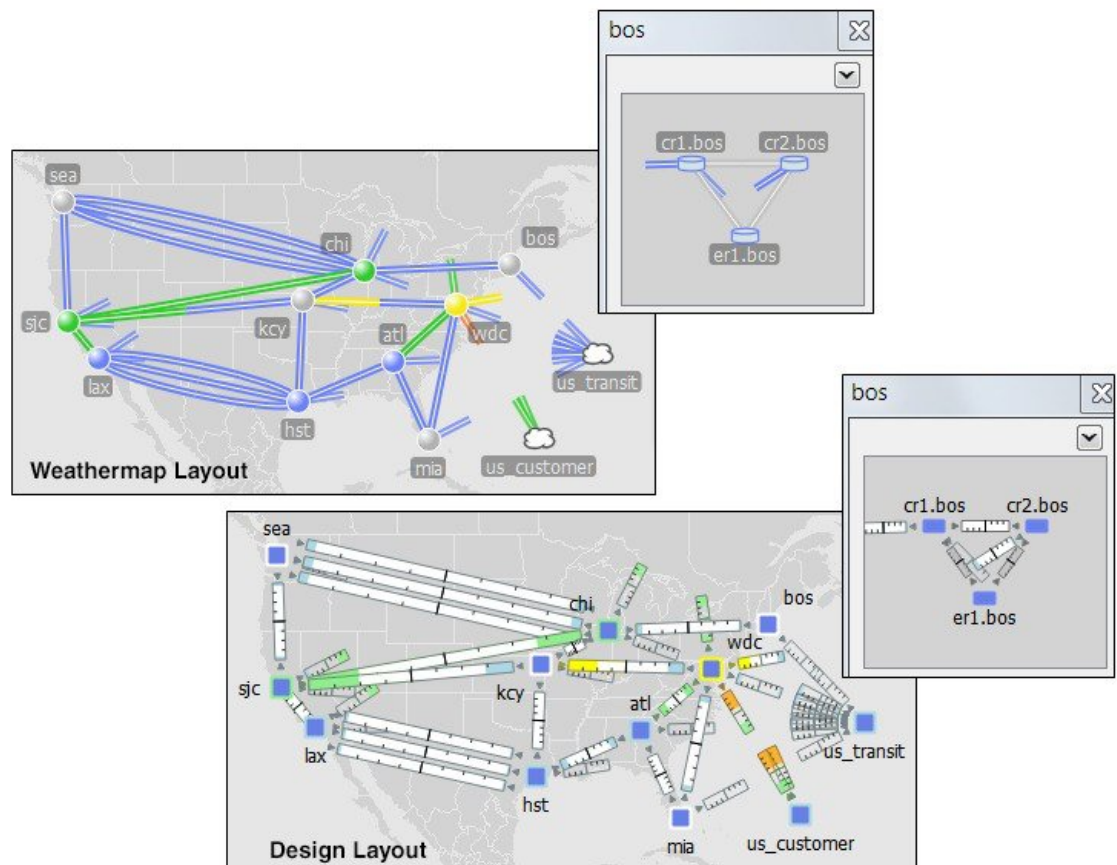
Weathermap Layout	Design Layout
	
<p>The peer site icon and peer name appear differently. In the Weathermap layout, peering sites (that is, any site containing one or more external AS nodes) appear as a cloud. In the Design layout, they have the same appearance as sites, and, like other sites, they reflect whether interfaces from them are collapsed.</p>	
	

Figure 1: Example Weathermap and Design Layouts Using the Same Topology and Canvas



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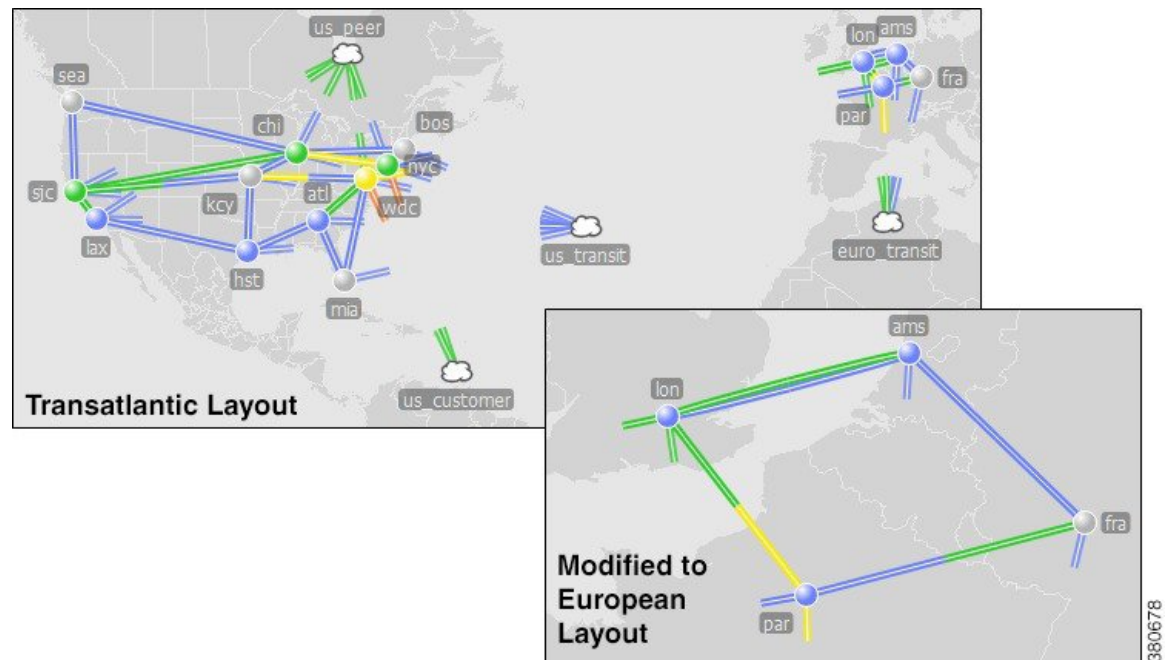
Create or Edit Layouts

You can create or edit layouts to change the appearance or to narrow or broaden what you see in the plan file. This might be useful, for example, to focus on a specific section of a network. For example, the following figure shows a transatlantic layout that was modified to show only the European sites.

You can use these methods to create or edit layouts:

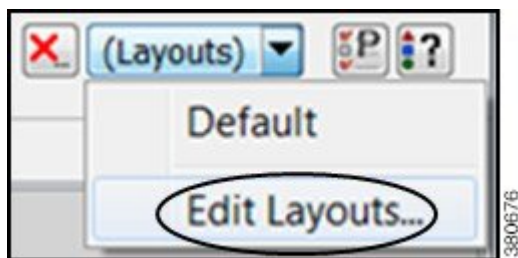
- Modify interface style. For example, you might want to shorten the interfaces to external sites.
- Show or hide sites.
- Arrange objects.
- Change the background map.
- Make other visual changes to the plot, such as identifying how circuits and interfaces appear.

Figure 2: Example Modified Weathermap Layout



Create Layouts

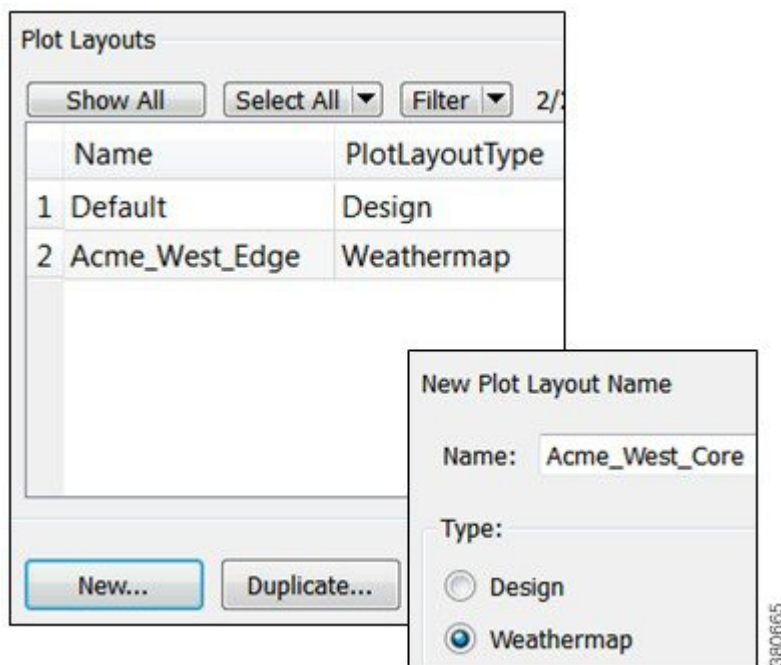
Step 1 From the **Layouts** drop-down list, choose **Edit Layouts**.



Step 2 Click either **New** or **Duplicate** to create a new layout, or click **Edit** to edit existing layouts.

- a) To create a new layout based on the layout that is currently open, click **New**.
- b) In the **New Plot Layout** dialog box, enter the layout name.
- c) Choose whether this is a Design or Weathermap layout.
- d) Click **OK**.

If the sites have longitude and latitude coordinates defined, those are preserved. Otherwise, the sites are arranged in a square formation. Other plot settings are set to their defaults.



- e) To duplicate the layout exactly, choose an existing layout and click **Duplicate**. Enter the name and click **OK**. This copies the layout type (Design or Weathermap). If you need to change the layout type, you must then edit it.

Step 3 Click **OK** in the **Edit Plot Layouts** dialog box.

Edit Layouts

Step 1 From the **Layouts** drop-down list, choose **Edit Layouts**.

- Step 2** Click the name of an existing layout and click **Edit**.
- Step 3** Modify the name, the type, or both, and then click **OK**.
- Step 4** Click **OK** in the **Edit Plot Layouts** dialog box.
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View Layouts

To view a layout, click the desired layout from the **Layouts** drop-down list.