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## **Publication date and software version**

Published 12 November 2006. Based on OpenOffice.org 2.0.4.



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# **Graphics in Writer documents**

When you create a text document using OpenOffice.org Writer, you may need to include some graphic illustrations.

Graphics in Writer are of three basic types:

- Graphic and image files, including photos, drawings, scanned images, and others
- Diagrams created using Writer's drawing tools
- · Charts created using OOo's Chart facility

This chapter covers the first two types of graphic illustrations. Most parts of this chapter also apply to the other components of OOo.

# How to add a graphic from a file

OpenOffice.org can import various vector (line drawing) and raster (bitmap) file formats. The most common are GIF, JPEG or JPG, PNG, and BMP. See "Graphic file types supported" on page 19 for a full list of supported graphic file types.

Graphics may be downloaded from the Internet, scanned, created with a graphics program, or they may be photos taken with a digital camera. Some questions come to mind:

- How is a graphic inserted?
- Should the graphic be included in the document, or should it be linked to the file?
- How can the size of the graphic be adjusted?
- How can the relative position between the graphic and the text be changed?

These questions will be discussed in order.

## Inserting a graphic from a file

To insert a graphic image from a file, the file must be already stored in a directory (folder) on the computer.

Proceed as follows:

- 1) Determine the destination for the image. For example, place the cursor at the appropriate location in the document.
- 2) On the main menu, select **Insert > Picture > From File**. This displays the dialog box shown in Figure 1.
- 3) Navigate to the file to be inserted.
- 4) Select the file to insert and click **Open**.

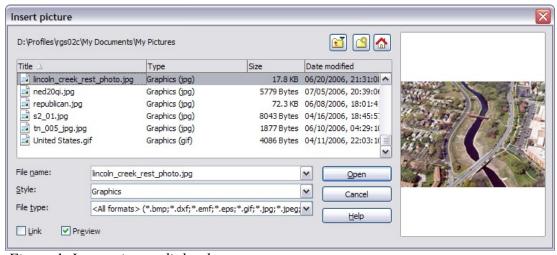


Figure 1. Insert picture dialog box

#### **Note**

At the bottom of the Insert picture dialog box (Figure 1) are two check boxes. If the **Preview** checkbox is checked, the selected graphic file is previewed in a pane, as shown in Figure 1, so you can verify that you have the correct file. The **Link** checkbox is discussed below.

## Linking a graphic file

If the **Link** checkbox in the Insert picture dialog box is checked, OOo will create a link to the file containing the graphic, instead of saving a copy of the graphic in the document. The result is that the figure will be displayed in the document, but when the document is saved, it will contain only a reference to the graphic file but not the graphic itself. The document and the image remain as two separate files, and they are merged together only when you open the document again.

Linking an image has two advantages and one disadvantage:

- Advantage Linking can reduce the size of the document when it is saved because the image file itself is not included.
- Advantage You can modify the image file separately without changing the document because the link to the file remains valid, and the modified image will appear when you next open the document.
- Disadvantage If you send the document to someone else, you must also send the image file, or the receiver will not be able to see the linked image.

## Resizing a graphic

It is possible, and quite likely, that the inserted image will not fit perfectly into the document because it is too big or too small. Therefore, you will probably need to resize the image.

The position of the image is not relevant for now. Changing the position of an image relative to the text is discussed in "Positioning graphics within the text" on page 9.

You can modify the size of a graphic in two ways:

- Unscaled resize
- Scaled resize

Figure 2 shows three examples of an image inserted into a document and resized.

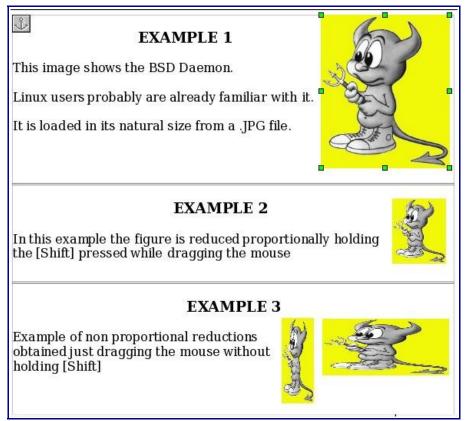


Figure 2. Three examples of resized images, plus the original image

#### **Unscaled resize**

In Example 1, the image is in its natural size. When you add a new graphic (and also when you select an existing one by clicking on it), it displays some square points along its perimeter; these are called *handles*. To resize the graphic:

- 1) Move the cursor onto a point.
- 2) Click the left mouse button.
- 3) Drag the mouse to modify the size of the figure.

This basic resizing process is useful if you need to specify the size and the height independently of each other. The problem with this method, as demonstrated in Example 3, is that when the graphic is not changed to scale, it will be distorted.

You need to either carefully measure and calculate how much the image needs to be adjusted in both the horizontal and vertical directions in order to maintain the correct proportions or use the *scaled resize* method described below.

#### Scaled resize

A scaled resize is usually the best option, because it automatically maintains the proportions of the graphic. To perform a scaled resize:

- 1) Press and hold the *Shift* key.
- 2) Click and drag a handle of the graphic. It will resize proportionally, as shown in EXAMPLE 2.
- 3) Release the mouse button to complete the resize.

## Inserting images from other sources

You can insert images from sources other than a file. The possible sources for images are:

- Graphics program
- Scanner
- OOo Gallery

#### From a graphics program

You can use many different graphics programs to edit a graphic file. In these programs, you can select, copy, and paste an image or part of a graphic into an OpenOffice.org document. Figure 3 shows an example of this procedure, which can be recreated with these steps:

- 1) In the imaging program window, select an area of the image to be copied. (The program used in the example is *Paint Shop*.)
- 2) Move the cursor over the selected area and press *Control+C* to copy.

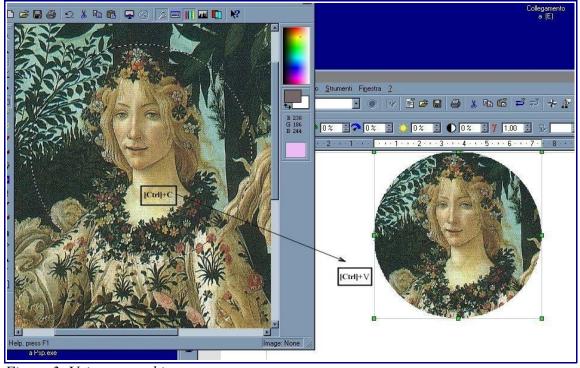


Figure 3. Using a graphics program

- 3) Switch to the OpenOffice.org Writer window.
- 4) Click to insert the cursor where the graphic is to be inserted.
- 5) Press Control+V to paste.

#### **Scanner**

If a scanner is connected to your computer, OpenOffice.org can call the scanning application. The scanned item will then be added into the OOo document page as an image. To start this procedure, on the main menu select **Insert > Picture > Scan > Select Source**.

## **OpenOffice.org Gallery**

The Gallery is available in all components of OpenOffice.org. For an introduction to the Gallery, see Chapter 14, "Working with the Gallery" in the *Getting Started* guide.

You can select a graphic from the Gallery and drag it into the document. The Gallery icon is located in the right side of the Function Bar. Proceed as follows:

- 1) Click on the Gallery icon
- 2) Select the theme containing the image you want to insert.
- 3) Click on the image with the left mouse button and, holding the button pressed, drag the image into the document.
- 4) Release the mouse button.

Figure 4 shows an example of an image dragged from the Gallery.

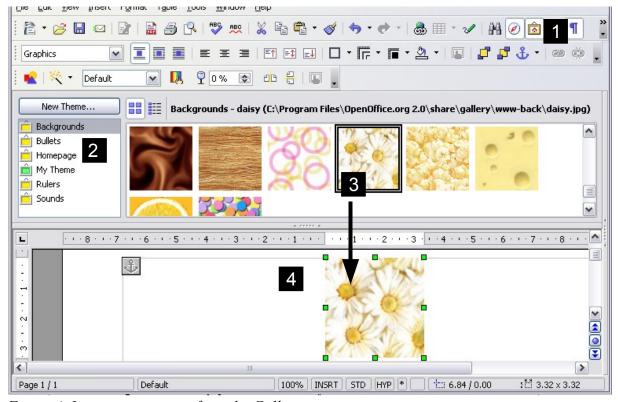


Figure 4. Inserting an image from the Gallery

# Adding an image to the Gallery

You may wish to add to the Gallery any images that you use frequently, for example, a company logo. You can then very easily insert these graphics into a document later.

To add images to the Gallery, proceed as follows:

- 1) Open the Gallery.
- 2) Select the theme where you want to add images, or you can create a new theme. To create a new theme:
  - Click the **New Theme** button above the list box of Themes. The Properties of New Theme dialog box opens, which is similar to the one shown in Figure 1.
  - Select the **General** tab and enter an appropriate name for the new theme in the text box.
  - Select the **Files** tab, skip step 3, and continue with step 4.
- 3) Right-click on the desired theme and select **Properties** in the pop-up menu. This will display a window from which to select the files to be added (see Figure 1).

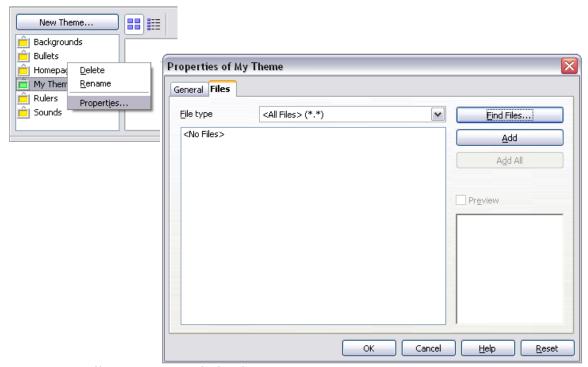


Figure 1. Gallery properties dialog box

- 4) On the *Files* page, click the **Find Files** button. The Select path dialog box opens.
- 5) You can enter the path for the file's directory in the *Path* text box, or you can navigate to locate the file's directory.
- 6) Use the *File type* drop-down list to help limit the search.

- 7) Press the **Select** button to start the search.
- 8) A list of graphic files will be displayed in the window. You can use the *File type* filter again to further limit the search.
- 9) Select the files to add. To select more than one file, hold the *Control* key down while you click on each file.
- 10) Finally, click Add.
- 11) When you have finished working with the Gallery, you can click on its icon close it.

# Note This procedure assumes that the graphic files for the themes already exist. You may need to import some graphics or to create your own onto your computer if the existing files are insufficient. Note Similar to the file search function on various operating systems, Find Files searches for graphic files in any subfolders of the directory selected in step 5.

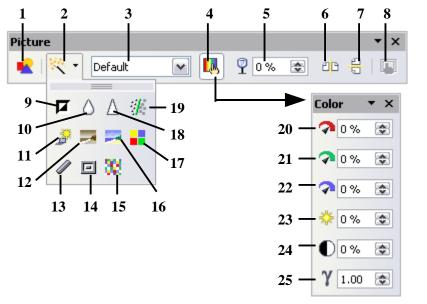
# Modifying an image

When you insert a new image or select one already present in the document, the Picture toolbar appears. This toolbar can be either floating or docked. shows what the Picture toolbar looks like when it is floating. Two other toolbars can be opened from this one: the Graphic Filter toolbar, which can be torn off and placed elsewhere on the window and the Color toolbar, which opens as a separate floating toolbar.

From these toolbars, you can apply small corrections to the graphic or obtain special effects.

Note	For more sophisticated adjustments, it is better to use an image manipulation
program, such as GIMP. GIMP is an open-source graphics program which can	
	downloaded from http://www.gimp.org/downloads/.

You can find out more information about the graphic filter and what its elements do by selecting the **Find** tab in Help (**Help** > **OpenOffice.org Help**), pressing the *F1* key, or by clicking on an element that has a dialog box and selecting **Help**. Then, type *Graphic Filter Bar* into the *Search term* text box and press **Find**.



**Note:** Graphics mode (3) can be Default, Grayscale, Black/White, or Watermark.

Figure 1. Picture toolbar plus tear-off Graphic Filter toolbar and floating Color toolbar

- 1 From File
- **2** Filter
- **3** Graphics mode
- 4 Color
- **5** Transparency
- **6** Flip Horizontally
- 7 Flip Vertically
- **8** Graphics Properties
- 9 Invert
- 10 Smooth
- **11** Solarization
- 12 Aging
- 13 Charcoal Sketch
- 13 Charco
- 15 Mosaic
- **16** Posterize
- 17 Pop Art
- 18 Sharpen
- **19** Remove Noise
- **20** Red
- 21 Green
- 22 Blue
- **23** Brightness
- **24** Contrast
- 25 Gamma

Figure 2 provides examples of some of the changes available on the Picture toolbar.

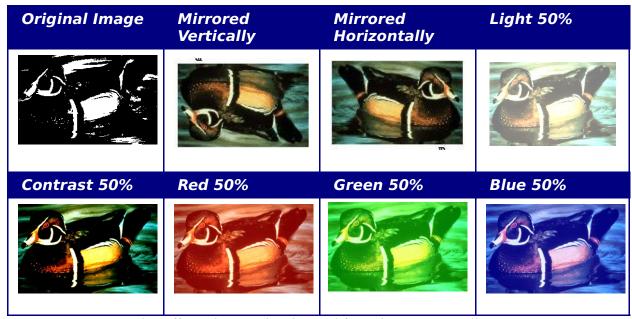


Figure 2. Some graphic effects that can be changed from the Picture toolbar

# Positioning graphics within the text

When you add a graphic to a text document, you need to choose how to position the graphic with respect to the text and other graphics.

Graphic arrangement refers to the placement of a graphic behind or in front of other graphics or text. Alignment refers to the vertical or horizontal placement of a graphic in relation to the page, frame, paragraph, or character to which it is anchored. Text wrapping refers to the relation of graphics to surrounding text, which may wrap around the graphic on one or both sides, be overprinted behind or in front of the graphic, or treat the graphic as a separate paragraph or character.

## **Arranging and aligning graphics**

You can arrange and align graphics using commands from:

- The main menu: Format > Alignment (or Arrange, Wrap, Anchor, Flip, ...)
- By right-clicking on the picture, then Format > Alignment (or Arrange, Wrap, or Anchor)
- Frame (with the *Graphics* frame style applied) toolbar
- Picture dialog box

#### Frame toolbar

When you select a graphic, the Frame toolbar (shown in Figure 1) may be displayed.

Here you can click icons to apply many arrangement, alignment, wrapping, anchoring, formatting, and other choices.

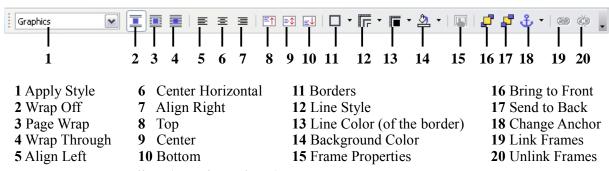


Figure 1. Frame toolbar (Graphics object)

## Picture dialog box

Click on the graphic to select it and then click **Format > Picture**, or right-click on the graphic and then click **Picture** on the pop-up menu, to display the Picture dialog box (Figure 4). Here you can specify the characteristics of the graphic and its placement in detail.

## Wrapping text around graphics

On the main menu, click **Format > Wrap**. The Wrap menu options provide several possibilities:

- Alternate paragraphs and graphics, maintaining a separation between them (Wrap Off).
- Wrap text around the graphics (Page Wrap or Optimal Page Wrap).
- Put a semi-transparent graphic over the text (*Wrap Through*).
- Add a graphic in the background (*In Background*).

Often you need to insert graphics with no text around them, as in this chapter. To set the position of an image to the Wrap Off format, follow the following steps:

- 1) Select a graphic by clicking on it.
- 2) Right-click to display the context menu and move the mouse pointer to **Wrap** to display the various wrap modes.
- 3) Select No Wrap.

Figure 2 shows an example of this operation.

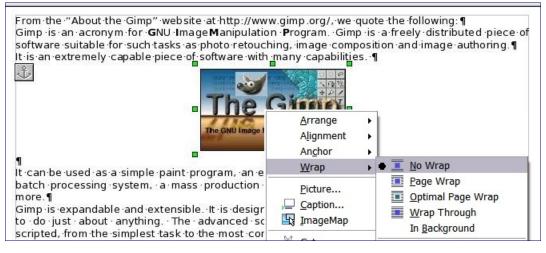


Figure 2. Changing the wrap of a graphic

When formatting some documents, such as newsletters, you may want to put photos mixed with text or just want to add some decorative images. The Page Wrap option may satisfy this need. Figure 3 shows an example of a graphic insertion with the Page Wrap option.

When an image is inserted with the Page Wrap option, you can move it anywhere on the page. The text will be automatically adjusted around the image, like water around a sailing boat.

The Optimal Page Wrap option is similar to Page Wrap, but it maintains the text positioned beside the image. The position is decided automatically in order to optimize the relative position between text and image.

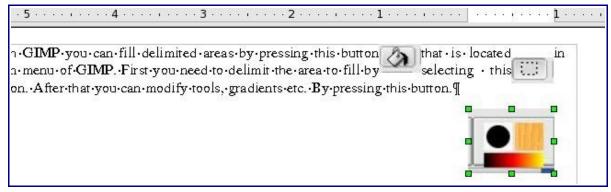


Figure 3. Inserting a graphic using the Page Wrap option

Double-clicking on an image pops up the Picture dialog box where you can set all the parameters affecting the image (see Figure 4). On the *Wrap* page, you can change the setting for the optimal page wrap.

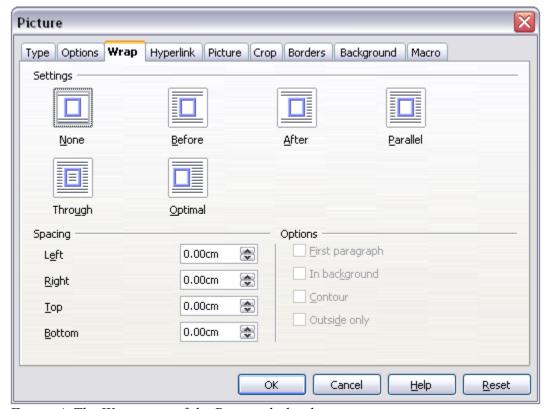


Figure 4. The Wrap page of the Picture dialog box

The Wrap Through option lets you also insert an image overlapping the text. In this case, some part of the text will be hidden, unless you change the transparency of the image.

After changing the transparency, the final result looks like a decal applied over the text, as in Figure 5, where the transparency has been set to **48%** in the *Transparency* spinbox in the Picture toolbar. The words under the image are visible but appear lighter than the rest of the text.

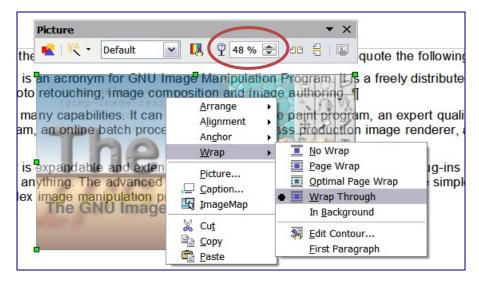


Figure 5. Transparent image added over the text

You can obtain a similar result if you set a graphic's wrap to the *In Background* format. In this case all the text will be clearly readable, with characters that have the same intensity. However, the background graphic should not be dark; otherwise, the text could be difficult to read. You can also use the *Transparency* spinbox to control the "transparency".

# **Anchoring graphics and drawing objects**

You can anchor graphics as a character or to a page, paragraph, or character. You can also place graphics in a frame and anchor the frame to a page, paragraph, or character. Which method you choose depends on what you are trying to achieve.

Here are the ways you can anchor graphics or drawing objects:

#### To Page

The graphic keeps the same position in relation to the page margins. It does not move as you add or delete text or other graphics. This method is useful when the graphic does not need to be visually associated with a particular piece of text. It is often used when producing newsletters or other documents that are very layout intensive.

#### To Paragraph

The graphic is associated with a paragraph and moves with the paragraph. It may be placed in the margin or another location. This method is useful as an alternative to a table for placing icons beside paragraphs.

#### To Character

The graphic is associated with a character but is not in the text sequence. It moves with the paragraph but may be placed in the margin or another location. This method is similar to anchoring to a paragraph but cannot be used with drawing objects.

#### As Character

The graphic is placed in the document like any other character and, therefore, affects the height of the text line and the line break. The graphic moves with the paragraph as you add or delete text before the paragraph. This method is useful for keeping screenshots in sequence in a procedure or for adding a small icon in sequence in a sentence.

#### To Frame

If the graphic has been placed in a frame, you can anchor the graphic in a fixed position inside the frame. The frame can then be anchored to the page, a paragraph, or a character, as required.

# **Adding captions to graphics**

You can add captions to graphics in three ways: automatically, by using the Caption dialog box, or manually.

## **Adding captions automatically**

You can set up OOo to add captions automatically whenever you insert a graphic, a table, or other objects into a document. You can choose which objects are captioned automatically, what the sequence name is for each caption (for example, "Table" or "Illustration"), and the position of the caption.

To set up automatic captions:

- 1) Click **Tools > Options > OpenOffice.org Writer**. Click on the + sign to open the different options. The Options OpenOffice.org Writer AutoCaption dialog box opens.
- 2) Select **AutoCaption**. Now you can see several choices at the right of the dialog box for adding captions automatically.
- 3) On the AutoCaption dialog box, choose which objects will be automatically captioned and specify the characteristics of the captions.

For more information, see "General options for text documents" in Chapter 2, "Setting up Writer."

When you insert a graphic if automatic captioning is enabled, the graphic will be placed in a frame along with a caption containing the default sequence name for graphics—Illustration. Position the cursor in the caption area and type the text for the caption.

#### Note

You can specify where to place an automatic caption for any object except a picture; picture captions can only be automatically placed below the picture. If you need a caption above the picture (for example, for data plots in scientific publications), you must add the captions manually, as described in "Adding captions manually" on page 15.

TIP A common sequence name—Figure—is not one of those names provided: <None>, **Drawing**, **Illustration**, **Table**, and **Text**. If you want a custom name for your graphics, do the following:

- Open the Options OpenOffice.org Writer—AutoCaption dialog box, described above.
- Under the *Add captions automatically when inserting* section, check **OpenOffice.org Writer Picture**.
- With the mouse, highlight the text **Add captions automatically when inserting**, if it is not already highlighted. This actives the *Caption* area in the dialog box for pictures (graphics).
- Under the *Category* drop-down list, enter the name that you want added, say, *Figure*, in the place by overwriting any sequence name in the list. (Overwriting the term will not delete it from the drop-down list.) You can also set some options for the number style and for a separator between the name and the number, if desired. Press **OK** to save the changes.

## **Using the Caption dialog box**

To add captions using the Caption dialog box:

- 1) Insert the graphic, then select it and click **Insert > Caption**. The Caption dialog box opens.
- 2) Under *Properties* on the Caption dialog box (Figure 1), make your selections for the *Category*, *Numbering*, and *Separator* fields (**Illustration**, **Arabic** (**1 2 3**), and a colon (:), respectively, for the example in Figure 1) and type your caption text in the *Caption* text box at the top. Whatever text you enter for the caption appears in the box at the bottom, after the sequence name, number, and separator.
- 3) Click **OK**. The graphic and its caption are placed in a frame, as shown in Figure 2.

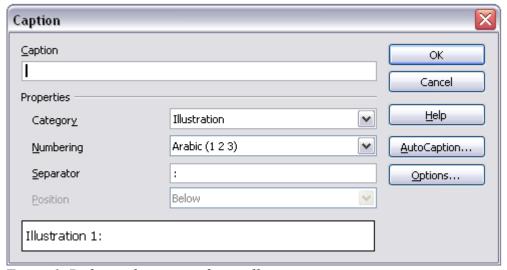


Figure 1. Defining the caption for an illustration

TIP

In the *Category* box, you can type any name you want, for example, *Figure*. OOo will create a numbering sequence using that name.

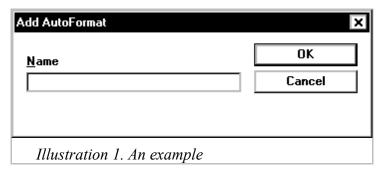


Figure 2. An example of a graphic and its caption contained in a frame. The outer box shows the edge of the frame; this border is normally set to be invisible.

## **Adding captions manually**

You can add a caption to a graphic manually in two ways.

### Method 1: Override the category and positioning defaults for captions

- 1) Select the picture, right-click on it, and select Caption.
- 2) On the Caption dialog box (Figure 1), select **None** in the *Category* list and click **OK**.
- 3) Right-click on the picture and select **Caption**. Now you can select a caption type (or type your own sequence category) in the *Category* drop-down list and, optionally, select **Above** in the *Position* list. (If you want the caption to appear at the top, you must add the caption manually.) You can type the actual caption in the box under *Caption* or you can fill it in later—after the (incomplete) caption is inserted.
- 4) Click **OK**.

Note

If you want the caption to appear at the bottom, you can skip skip 2 and the first part of step 3.

### Method 2: Place the graphic and its caption in separate paragraphs

- 1) Insert the graphic and anchor it to its paragraph as a character. Press **Enter** to create a new paragraph for the caption.
- 2) In the caption paragraph, enter, for example, *Figure* and add a space.
- 3) To insert the figure number, click **Insert > Fields > Other** and select the **Variables** tab.
- 4) Select **Number range** in the *Type* list. Select **Figure** in the *Selection* list and choose, for example, **Arabic** (1 2 3) in the *Format* drop-down list. Click the **Insert** button.

5) A number will appear after the word "Figure" in the caption. Now, type the text of the caption.

#### **TIPS**

If you are manually adding captions to a lot of figures using Method 2, you might want to make an AutoText entry containing, for example, *Figure* and a space, the figure-number field, and an optional separator and a space after it.

You can also place the caption paragraph before (above) the picture paragraph. Using AutoText can be a convenient way to deal with the lack of automatic captioning above pictures.

# **Using Writer's drawing tools**

You can use Writer's drawing tools to create graphics, such as simple diagrams using rectangles, circles, lines, text, and other objects. Group the drawing objects to make sure they stay together the way you intended.

You can use the drawing tools to place drawing objects directly on a page in your document, or you can insert the drawing objects into a frame.

You can also use the drawing tools to annotate photographs, screen captures, or other illustrations produced by other programs, but this is not recommended because:

- You cannot include graphics in a group with drawing objects, so they may get out of alignment in your document.
- If you convert a Writer document to another format, such as HTML, the drawing objects and the graphics will not remain associated; they will be saved separately.

Instead, use OOo Draw or another graphics program to annotate illustrations.

## **Creating drawing objects**

To begin using the drawing tools, display the Drawing toolbar (Figure 1), by clicking **View** > **Toolbars** > **Drawing**.

If you are planning to use the drawing tools repeatedly, you can tear off this toolbar and move it to a convenient place on the window.

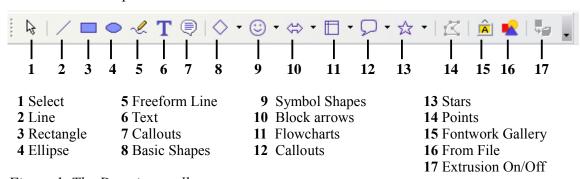


Figure 1. The Drawing toolbar

To use a drawing tool:

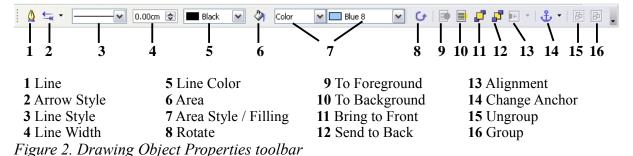
- 1) Click in the document where you want the drawing to be anchored. You can change the anchor later, if necessary.
- 2) Select the tool from the Drawing toolbar (Figure 1). The mouse pointer changes to a drawing-function's pointer -|-
- 3) Move the cross-hair pointer to the place in the document where you want the graphic to appear and then click-and-drag to create the drawing object. Release the mouse button. The selected drawing function remains active, so you can draw another object of the same type.
- 4) To cancel the selected drawing function, press the *Esc* key or click on the **Selection** icon (the arrow) on the Drawing toolbar.
- 5) You can now change the properties (fill color, line type and weight, anchoring, and others) of the drawing object using either the Drawing Object Properties toolbar (Figure 2) or the choices and dialog boxes reached by right-clicking on the drawing object.

## Setting or changing properties for drawing objects

To set the properties for a drawing object before you draw it:

- 1) On the Drawing toolbar (Figure 1), click the **Selection** tool.
- 2) On the Drawing Object Properties toolbar (Figure 2), click on the icon for each property and select the value you want for that property.
- 3) For more control, or to define new attributes, you can click on the **Area** or **Line** icons on the toolbar to display detailed dialog boxes.

The default you set applies to the current document and session. It is not retained when you close the document or close Writer, and it does not apply to any other document you open. The defaults apply to all the drawing objects except text objects.



To change the properties for an existing drawing object:

- 1) Select the object.
- 2) Continue as described above.

You can also specify the position and size, rotation, and slant and corner radius properties of the drawing object:

- 1) Right-click on the drawing object and then click **Position and Size** from the pop-up menu. The Position and Size dialog box is displayed.
- 2) Choose any properties, as required.

## **Grouping drawing objects**

- 1) Select one object, then hold down the *Shift* key and select the others you want to include in the group. The bounding box expands to include all the selected objects.
- 2) With the objects selected, hover the mouse pointer over one of the objects and click either Format > Group > Group or right-click and then click Group > Group on the popup menu.

Note

You cannot include an embedded or linked graphic in a group with drawing objects.

# **Graphic file types supported**

OpenOffice.org Writer can open the file types listed in Table 1. Many of these file types are hyperlinked to Wikipedia for their definitions and other information.

Table 1. Graphic file types supported by OpenOffice.org Writer

File extension	File type
BMP	Windows Bitmap
DXF	AutoCAD Drawing Interchange (Exchange) Format
EMF	Enhanced Metafile
EPS	Encapsulated PostScript
GIF	Graphics Interchange Format
JPG, JPEG, JFIF, JIF	Joint Photographic Experts Group
MET	OS/2 Metafile
PBM	Portable Bitmap
PCD	Kodak Photo CD
PCT	Macintosh QuickDraw PICT
PCX	Zsoft PC Paintbrush
PGM	Portable Graymap
PNG	Portable Network Graphics
PPM	Portable Pixelmap
PSD	Adobe Photoshop Document
RAS	Sun Raster Image
SGF	StarWriter Graphics Format
SGV	StarDraw 2.0
SVM	StarView Metafile
TGA	Truevision Targa
TIF, TIFF	Tagged Image File Format
WMF	Windows Metafile
XBM	X Bitmap
XPM	X PixMap