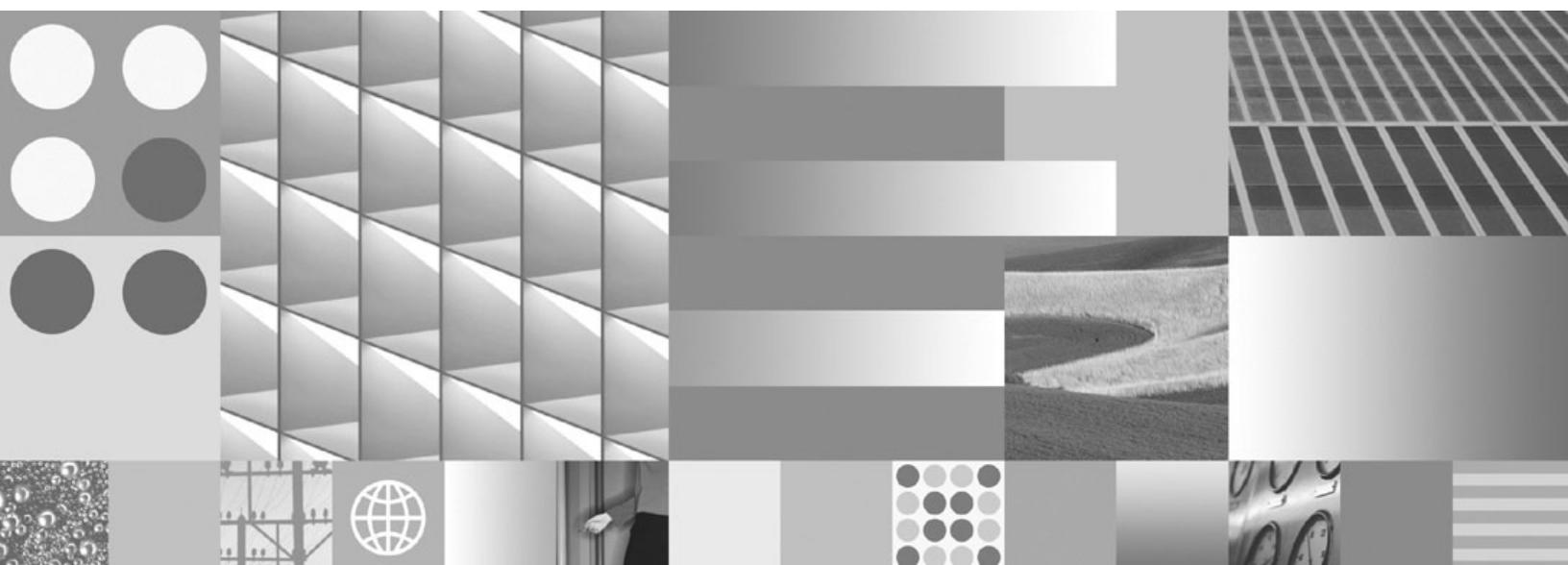
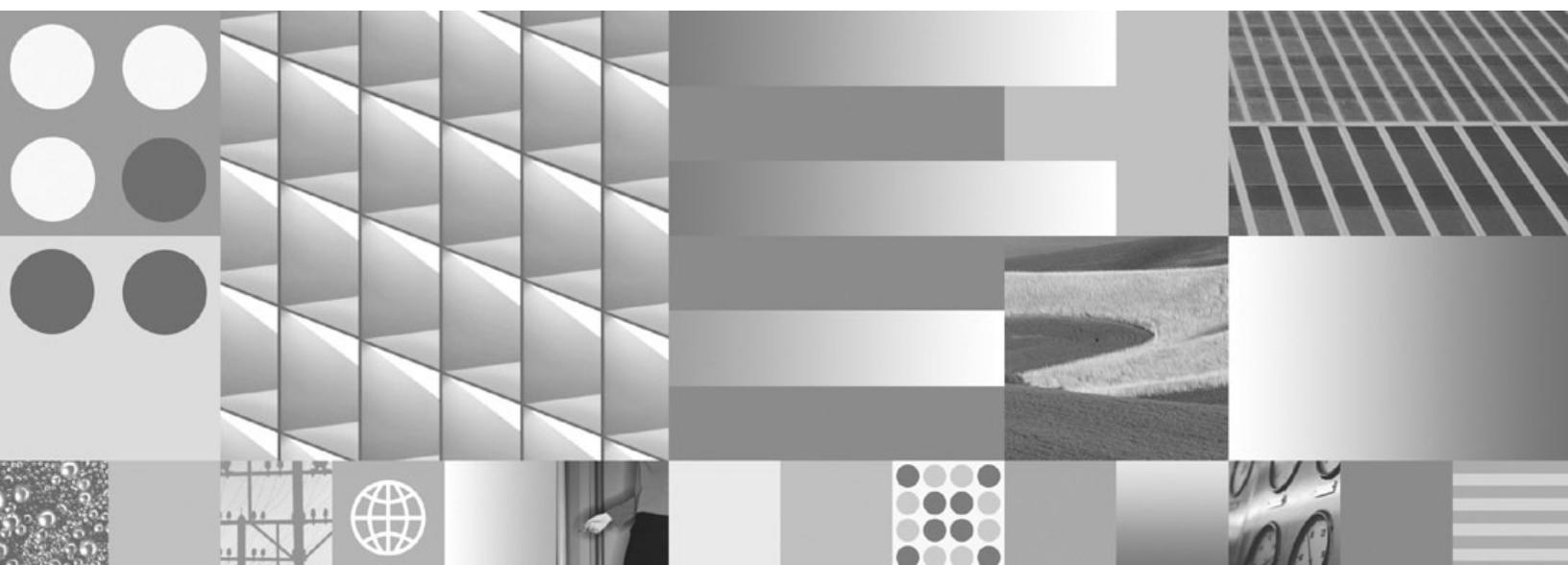


Version 5.0.2



Tutorial for P8 eForms Design

Version 5.0.2



Tutorial for P8 eForms Design

Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in “Notices” on page 100.

This edition applies to version 5.0.2 of IBM FileNet eForms Designer (product number 5724-R85) and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

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Revision Log

Date	Revisions
11/2006	Added content on using scripts and buttons.
11/2006	Updated copyright information and version number; added revision log.
08/2005	Initial posting.

About the eForms Designer Tutorial

Welcome to the FileNet® eForms Designer for Windows® application. eForms Designer is powerful, yet easy-to-use software designed for creating professional-looking forms for paper or electronic use. This tutorial is intended for form and form template policy authors looking for an introduction on how to integrate eForms with the FileNet Workplace.

This tutorial explains the basic techniques of creating forms with eForms Designer and how to create simple document and workflow policies that use eForms in Workplace. You'll learn how to draw the graphic elements of a template and to configure many of the intelligence features commonly found in electronic forms. At the end of the tutorial, you will deploy the form to Workplace, create some form template policies, and test the features of the eForm.

The eForms Designer tutorial contains several sections that guide you through the process of creating an electronic purchase order form for a fictitious company called World Corporation. Each section is organized into lessons with specific tasks to complete in order to create and deploy your form.

The picture below gives you an idea of what your form will look like (as completed by a user) at the end of this Tutorial:

The screenshot shows a completed Purchase Order form for World Corporation. The form includes a header with the company logo and address, a main body with order details, and a footer with a signature and date.

PURCHASE ORDER

Purchase Order Number			
1000			
Supplier Name and Address	Send Invoice To	Deliver Goods To	
Westworld XYZ Office Supplies 123 Cambis Street Belltown WA 98121	World Corporation Accounts Payable 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345	World Corporation Administration Office 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345	
Ship Partial Orders	Ship Via		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Call First (412) 456-7890	FedEx		
Special Instructions Priority deliveries scheduled for Managers 1-4, 7, and 9 on southeast side of building.			
Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
15	Computer workstations	450.00	6,750.00
20	X-series power surge bars	10.00	200.00
Authorizing Signature		Date Issued	Total
Salazar, Megan (12/06/2004)		Dec 6, 2004	\$6,950.00

NOTE Included on your FileNet eForms Designer CD is a Tutorial folder that contains a graphic required for a design and graphics task, and a completed copy of the purchase order form template. You can use this template at the end of the design and intelligence portion of this tutorial to compare your results with. This template has been password protected. The password for the template is given at the end of the last intelligence task for this tutorial. If you do not have access to the eForms Designer CD, please contact your system administrator.

The eForms Designer Documentation

The eForms Designer documentation provides you with a complete reference to the features and capabilities of eForms Designer. The help files combine text and graphics to thoroughly document every aspect of the software. In addition to your eForms Designer tutorial, the set also contains the following:

- The *eForms Designer Help* provides a complete reference to eForms Designer's design and graphics features. Instructions are given for every step in the form design process, including preparing the drawing area of the template, using the drawing tools, adding graphics, and printing. It also provides a detailed reference to eForms Designer's forms automation features and Workplace integration features. You'll learn about data handling capabilities, using digital signatures, linking forms to other data sources, using formulas and functions, how to deploy ITX form templates to the workplace, and how to set properties. It also provides guidelines for distributing both new templates and new revisions of templates in an organization.

NOTE Refer to the *FileNet eForms for Workplace Installation Guide* for eForms Designer system requirements and installation instructions.

Getting Started

This section explains how to get started with FileNet eForms Designer. It is assumed that you have already installed and registered eForms Designer on your computer. See your *FileNet eForms for Workplace Installation Guide* for complete installation instructions.

Overview

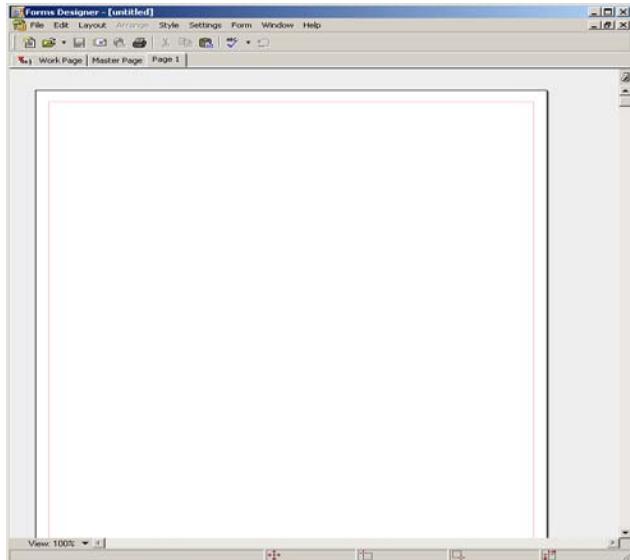
The desktop application eForms Designer is used to create a special file called a form template. A form template contains the layout, graphic elements, and intelligence features of an electronic form. Once the form design is complete, it can be deployed to the Workplace and configured within a form template policy so that users can fill out forms on-line.

Imagine that you're the form author for a fictitious company called World Corporation. You've been assigned the task of creating a purchase requisition form. Most departments in the company will use the form on-line, but a few departments will use a paper version, so you need to create an intelligent electronic form that looks good on paper. Fortunately, you've got eForms Designer, the forms design tool that gives you the best of both worlds.

Starting eForms Designer

The first step in drawing your template is to start eForms Designer.

1. Click **Start**; then select **Programs > eForms Designer**. A new, blank template appears.

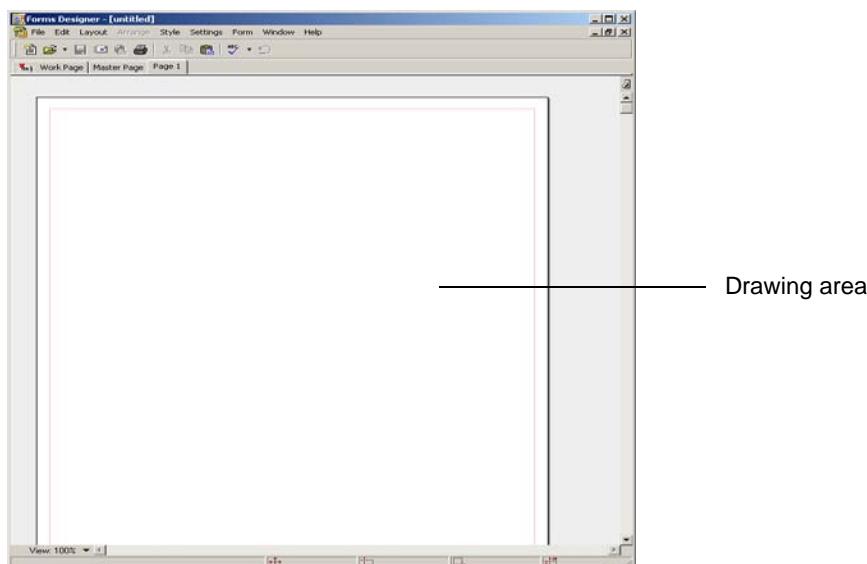


The Drawing Window

Before you start drawing, it's helpful for you to understand exactly what is displayed in the drawing window. This section introduces and explains two of the most important elements contained in the drawing window: the drawing area and the print margins.

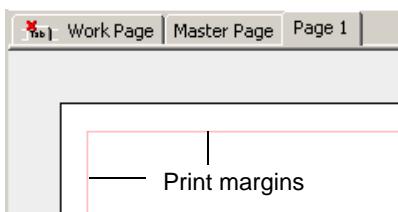
Drawing Area

The drawing area is the white rectangle that appears in the drawing window. It's where you draw and modify the design of your form.



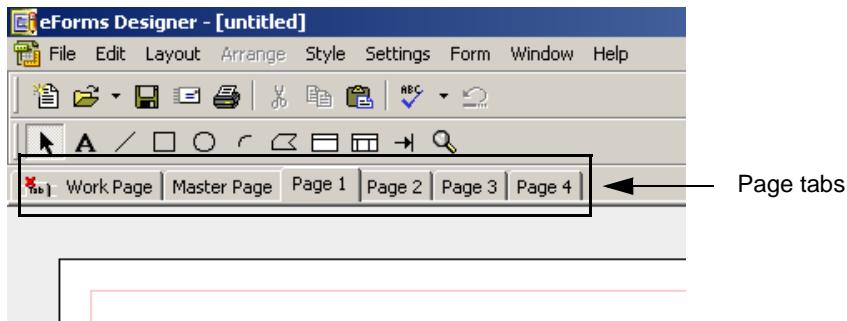
Print Margins

The red dotted lines in the drawing area are called print margins. Any object (or part of an object) drawn outside these lines will not print. These lines appear only if you have a printer configured (standalone or on a network) to your machine. If print margins do not appear on your template, choose **Start > Settings > Printers and Faxes** or **Start > Settings > Control Panel** (choose Printers and Faxes) and add a printer.



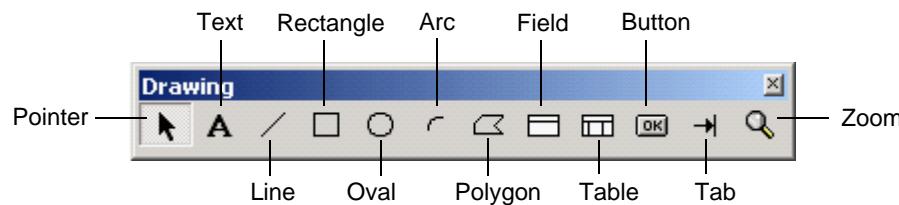
Page Tabs

The page tabs at the top of the drawing window allow you to move between the pages of your form. To move to a specific page, click the appropriate page tab.



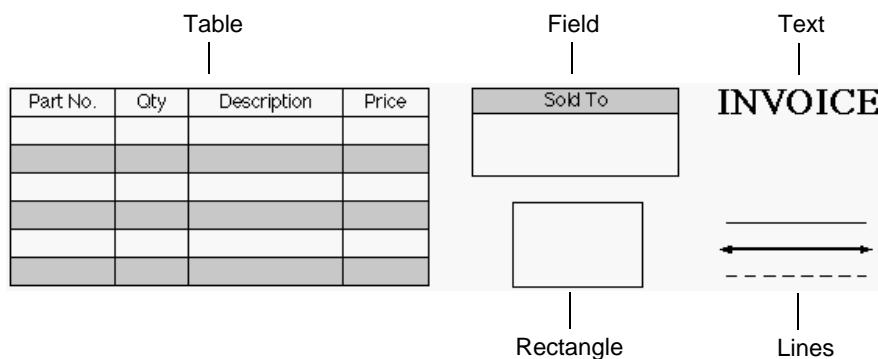
The Drawing Tools

You draw a template much as you would using other graphics applications: by typing text and drawing graphical objects such as lines, boxes, and shaded areas using a variety of drawing tools. The Drawing palette provides access to eForms Designer's drawing tools.



The Drawing palette is initially displayed as a toolbar at the top of the drawing window. To display it as a palette, click the move handle at the far left hand side of the toolbar and drag it anywhere on your screen.

Each drawing tool in eForms Designer has a specialized purpose. Using these tools, you can create the graphic elements that are commonly found on most types of forms.



You'll learn about the drawing tools in detail as you perform the tasks in this tutorial.

This is the end of the Getting Started section. The next section shows you how to prepare your template for drawing.

Setting Up a Template

This section explains the basic procedures involved in setting up a template. After completing this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. The setup process:
 - Specify a drawing size ([Task 1a on page 15](#)).
 - Choose a paper size ([Task 1b on page 16](#)).
2. Show drawing aids:
 - Rulers ([Task 2a on page 17](#)).
 - Specs palette ([Task 2b on page 18](#)).
 - Guide lines ([Task 2c on page 18](#)).
 - Grid ([Task 2d on page 19](#)).

The Setup Process

Setting up a template refers to the process of preparing a form for drawing. In this lesson, you'll specify the size of the template, choose a paper size for printing, and display and configure the various drawing aids available in eForms Designer.

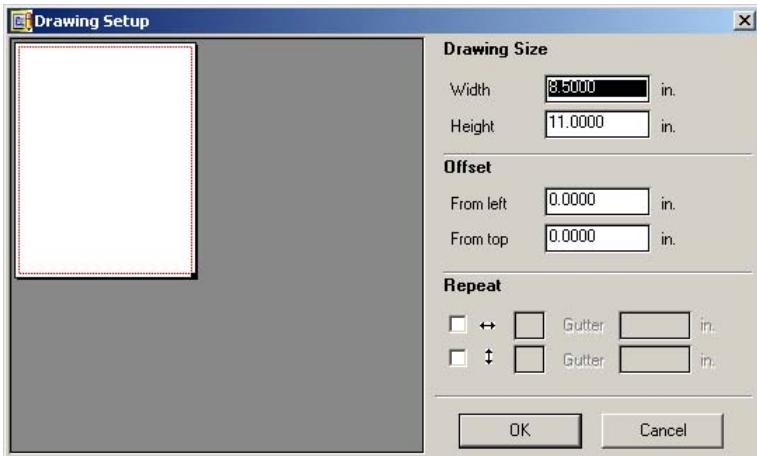
Task 1a: Set the Drawing Size

The actual size of a template is called the drawing size. Before you begin drawing, you should determine what the size of your finished template will be, and set the drawing size accordingly.

The World Corporation purchase order template is 8.5 inches wide by 9.5 inches high. For this task, you'll use the Drawing Setup command to set these dimensions.

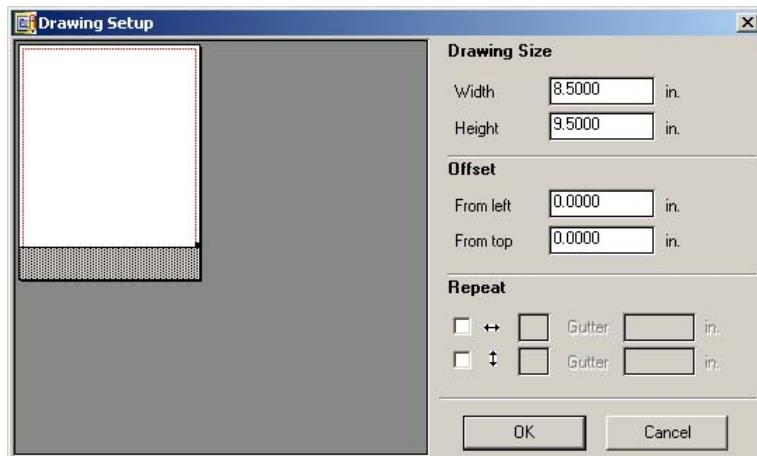
To set the drawing size of a template

1. Choose **Layout > Drawing Setup** to display the Drawing Setup dialog box.



2. Enter 8.5 in the 'Width' field and press Tab.
3. Enter 9.5 in the 'Height' field and press Tab.

Notice how the drawing setup illustration on the left of the dialog box updates to show the new drawing area size.



4. Click **OK** to return to the drawing window.

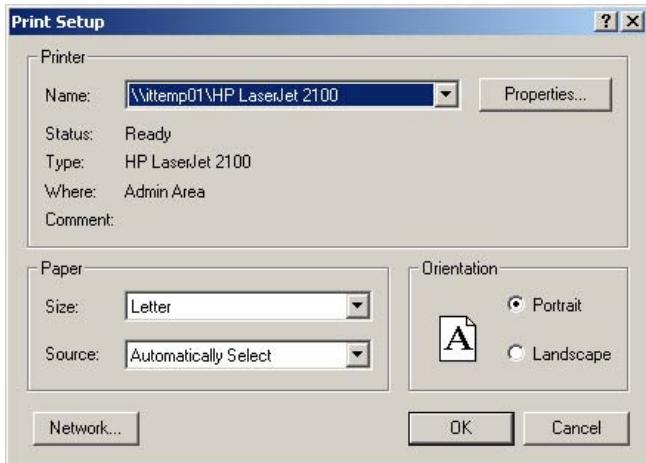
Task 1b: Choose the Paper Size

If you're going to print your template, you must specify the size of the sheet of paper that the template will be printed on. For example, a form that measures 8 inches by 10 inches would print on a standard 8.5 by 11-inch letter-sized sheet of paper, while a form that measures 8 inches by 13 inches would print onto a standard 8.5 by 14-inch legal-sized sheet of paper.

Your template will be printed onto a standard 8.5 by 11-inch letter-sized sheet of paper. For this task, you'll choose the appropriate paper size for printing.

To select a paper size for printing a template:

1. Choose **File > Print Setup** to display the appropriate dialog box for your printer.



Select the 'Letter' option (8.5 x 11) from the 'Size' drop-down list.

2. Click **OK** to return to the drawing window.

Showing the Drawing Aids

eForms Designer provides a number of drawing aids that make it easier for you to draw and position objects on your form. You can show or hide each of these drawing aids as required. In this lesson, you'll learn how to display rulers, the specs palette, and guide lines.

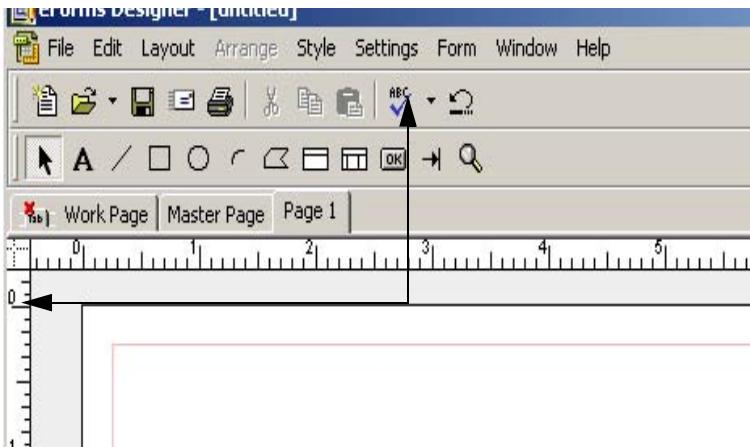
Task 2a: Display Rulers

The rulers help you measure and align objects on your form. Use the rulers to help draw, position, and resize objects accurately. When visible, the rulers appear at the top and left edges of the drawing window. You use the Show Ruler command to display the rulers in your drawing window.

To display the rulers

1. Choose **Layout > Show Ruler** or use the keystroke **Ctrl-R**.

Your drawing window should now look like the one that follows:



2. To change your ruler settings, choose **Edit > Preferences** and click "Layout" or double-click the ruler.

Task 2b: Display the Specs Palette

The Specs (specifications) palette helps you resize and reposition objects on your template. It displays coordinate information pertaining to the pointer and any currently selected object. The Specs palette can be displayed, hidden, or dragged, but not resized.



You'll see the current cursor (x,y) position located in the first set of coordinates at the footer of the eForms Designer screen.

Cursor coordinates



You use the Specs command to display the Specs palette in the drawing window.

To display the Specs palette

1. Choose **Window > Toolbars > Specs**. The Specs palette is now visible.

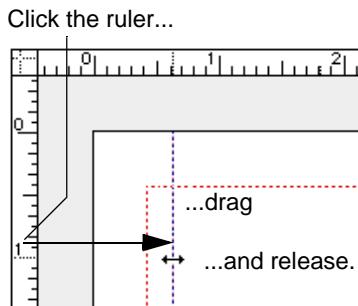
Task 2c: Display Guide Lines

Guide lines are alignment aids that run vertically and horizontally along the drawing area of your form template. You create and adjust each guide line independently and you can place a guide line at any position on the drawing area, allowing you to align objects to a specific position on your form.

For this task, you'll create a guide line so you can align objects along the left side of your template.

To display guide lines

1. Click the left-side ruler, hold the mouse button down, and drag the pointer onto the drawing area. As you move the mouse, a thin line called a guide line follows the pointer.



2. Release the mouse button when the vertical guide line's position is 0.5 inches from the left. Watch the coordinates at the bottom of the drawing window to get the proper coordinate.

You should now see a blue line along the left edge of the drawing area, inside the left print margin.

3. Click the top ruler and create a second (horizontal) guide line that lies 0.75 inches from the top. Again, watch the Specs palette to get the proper coordinate.

The Snap To Guides Feature

eForms Designer provides a feature called "Snap to Guides" to help you position objects on your form. With the Snap to Guides feature turned on, any object that you draw, drag, or resize will automatically align to the nearest guide line, provided that the object falls within 5 pixels of the guide.

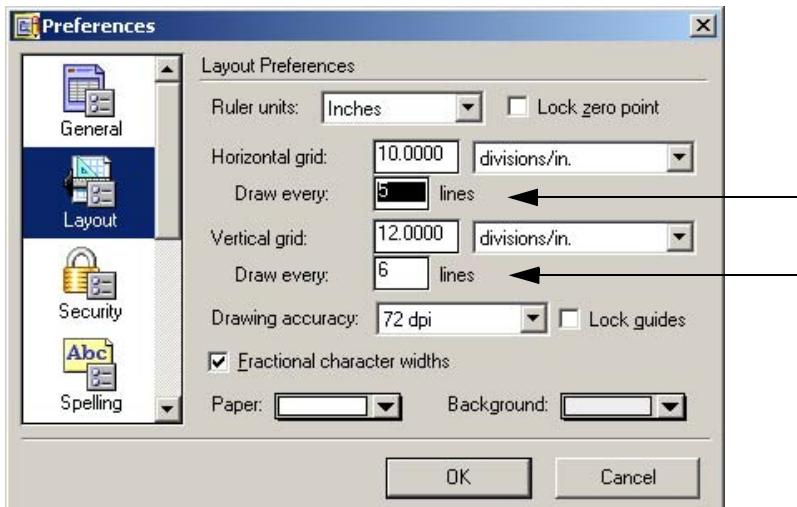
By default, the Snap to Guides feature is turned on when you start eForms Designer. You can disable this feature by choosing **Layout > Snap To Guides**.

Task 2d: Display the Grid

A grid contains lines that run vertically and horizontally across the drawing area of your form template. You can adjust the density of the grid, allowing you to align objects to a specific horizontal and vertical coordinate on the form. If you prefer to use just the guide lines, skip this task.

To display the grid

1. Choose **Layout > Show > Grid**.
2. (Optional) Double-click the ruler and decrease the "Draw every: 5 lines" to 2 lines for the horizontal grid and the "Draw every: 6 lines" to 2 lines for the vertical grid to create a more dense grid.



This is the end of the Setting Up section. The next section explains how to incorporate graphics and text objects into your template.

Graphics and Text

This section explains how to draw and modify graphics and text objects on your template. At the end of this section, you'll know how to:

1. Draw graphic objects:
 - Draw a graphic object ([Task 3a on page 21](#)).
 - Reposition the object ([Task 3b on page 22](#)).
2. Draw text objects:
 - Draw a text object ([Task 4a on page 23](#)).
 - Change the appearance of the object ([Task 4b on page 23](#)).
 - Create the form title text ([Task 4c on page 24](#)).
 - Move the text objects to their final position ([Task 4d on page 24](#)).
3. Import and resize artwork from other applications:
 - Import the graphic ([Task 5a on page 25](#)).
 - Resize the graphics object ([Task 5b on page 26](#)).
4. Lock the position of objects on your template ([Task 7 on page 27](#)).
5. Save the template ([Task 8 on page 28](#)).

Drawing Graphic Objects

The World Corporation art department is in the process of completing a new company logo for you to add to your purchase order form. Although the logo is not ready yet, you can draw a rectangle to use as a placeholder for the logo on your form. In this lesson, you'll draw a graphic object and then reposition it on your template.

Task 3a: Draw a Graphic Object

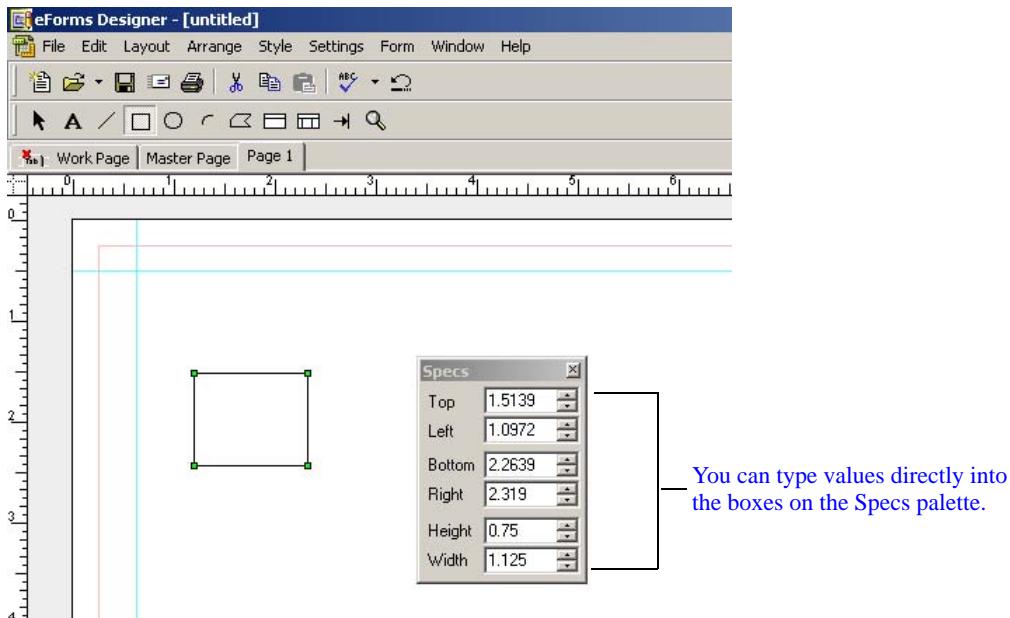
To draw a rectangle

1. Select the **Rectangle** tool  by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Click in a clear area of the form and draw a rectangle 0.75 inches high by 1.125 inches wide. Watch the 'Height' and 'Width' portions of the Specs palette to get the proper dimensions.
3. Release the mouse button when the rectangle is the right size.

TIP If you have difficulty getting the rectangle to the correct size, here's a helpful hint:

- a. Draw a rectangle *approximately* the size you want; then release the mouse button.
- b. Double-click the pointer in the 'Height' field on the Specs palette.
- c. Type the exact height dimension and press Tab to highlight the 'Width' field.
- d. Type the exact width dimension and press Enter.

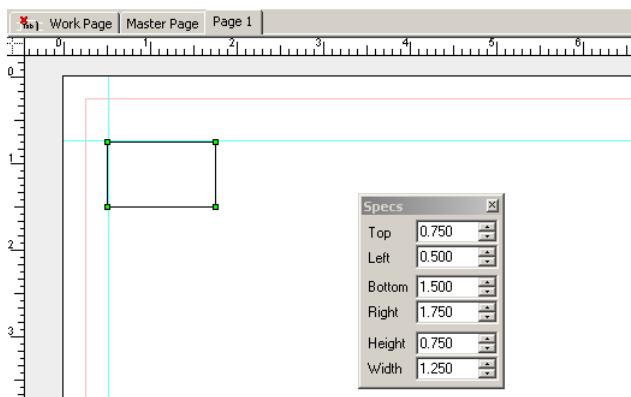
The rectangle automatically adjusts to reflect the proper dimensions.



Task 3b: Reposition the Graphic Object

Once you've drawn the rectangle to the correct size, you'll need to reposition it.

1. Select the **Pointer** tool by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Click in the middle of the rectangle and hold the mouse button down.
3. Drag the rectangle toward the point where your guide lines intersect. As you drag close to the guides, the Snap to Guides feature automatically aligns the rectangle to the guides at 0.75 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.



Drawing Text Objects

Now that you know where the company logo will be positioned, you can add the company address and the title of the form. In this lesson, you'll create the address and form title text objects, change their appearance, and move them into place on your template.

Task 4a: Draw a Text Object

1. Select the **Text** tool  by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Click the pointer to the right of the rectangle and type the following address, pressing Enter or Return at the end of each line:

World Corporation

115 N. Michigan Ave.

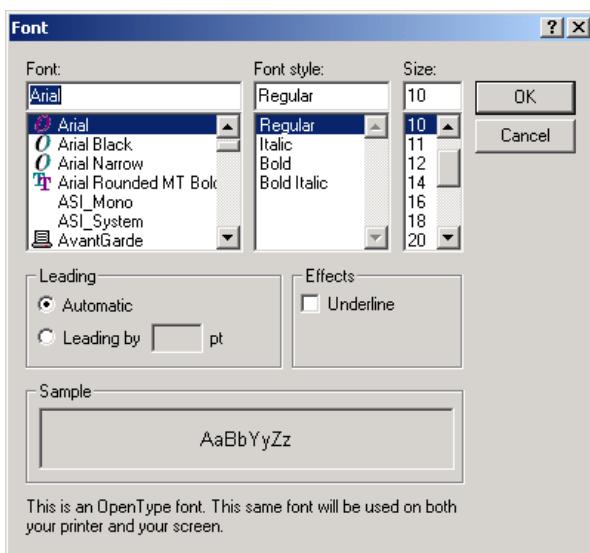
Chicago, IL 12345

3. Press Enter **on the numeric keypad** to select the new text object.

You can change the appearance of a text object by changing its font, font style, or size attributes.

Task 4b: Change the Appearance of the Text Object

1. Select the text object (if it's not already selected).
2. Choose **Style > Font**. The Font dialog box appears.



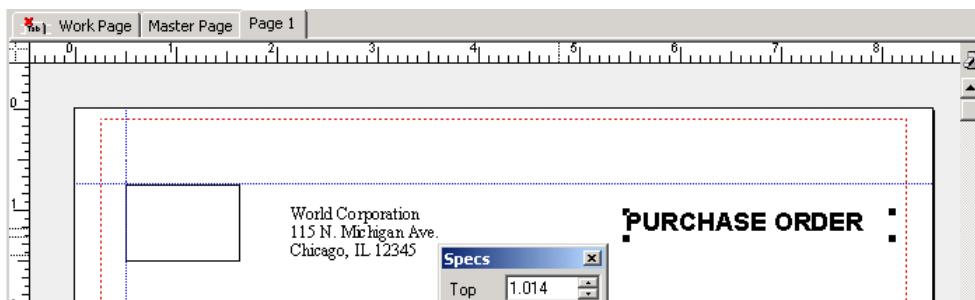
3. Choose "Times New Roman" from the 'Font' drop-down list.
4. Choose "12" point from the 'Size' drop-down list.
5. Click **OK**.

TIP You can also use the ‘Font’ and ‘Font Size’ drop-down lists on the Formatting toolbar to change the selected text object.

Task 4c: Create the Form Title Text

Next, you'll create another text object for the form's title.

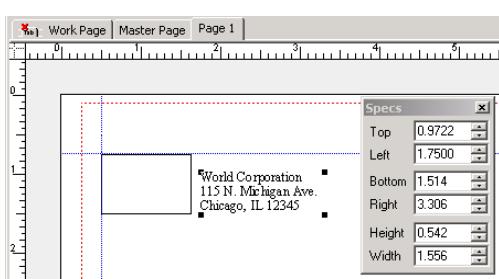
1. Select the **Text** tool by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Click to the right of the address text and type “PURCHASE ORDER” in upper case letters.
3. Press Enter on the numeric keypad to select the new text object.
4. Use the Font command or the Formatting toolbar to change the title text attributes to:
 - Font - “Arial” (Windows)
 - Size - “18”
 - Style - “Bold”



Task 4d: Move the Text Objects to Their Final Positions

1. Select the **Pointer** tool.

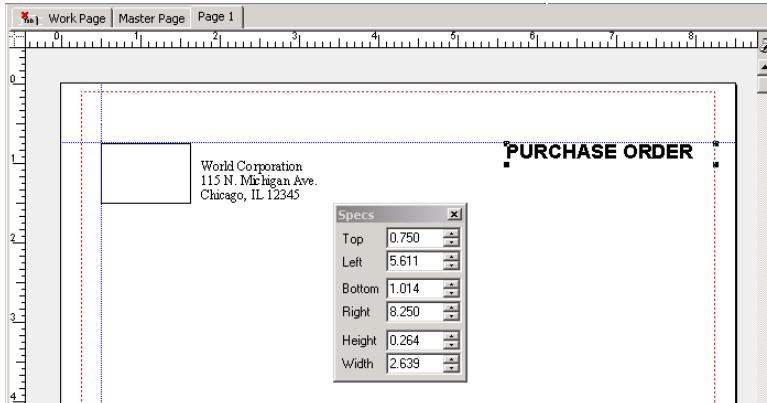
Click and drag the address text to 1.042 inches from the top and 1.875 inches from the left.



You can also use the Arrow keys (Up, Down, Left, Right) to nudge a selected object to a new position.

2. Select the PURCHASE ORDER text with the **Pointer** tool.
3. Use the Arrow keys to nudge the text so that its top edge is at 0.75 inches and its left edge is at 5.5 inches.

Your template should now look like the one shown below.



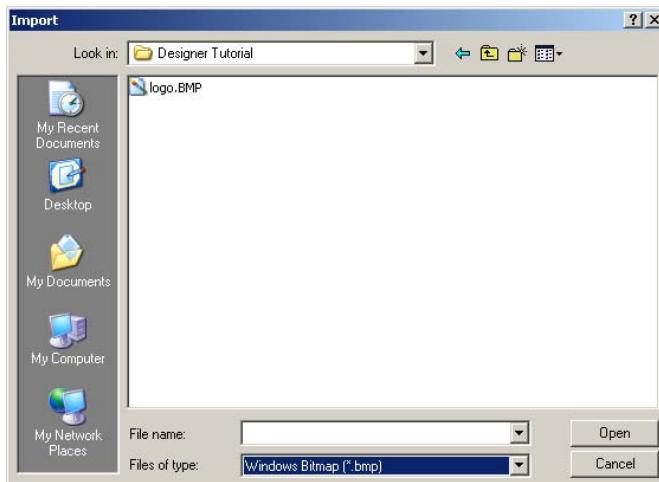
Importing and Modifying Graphics

The art department has finished the new logo and sent it to you. In this lesson, you'll import the logo into your template and resize the graphics object. If you prefer, you can also create your own logo for this task, provided that it fits within the dimensions given for the rectangle object.

Task 5a: Import the Graphic

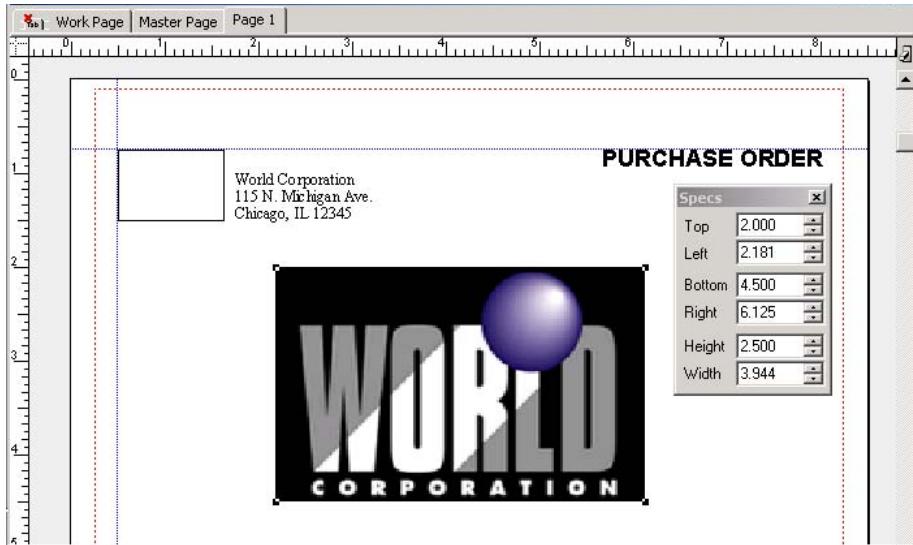
1. Choose **File > Import > Import from File**

The Import dialog box appears.



2. Select “Windows Bitmap (*.bmp)” from the ‘Files of Type’ drop-down list.
3. Select the file named “Logo” from the Logo folder in the eForms Designer Tutorial folder.
4. Click **Open**.

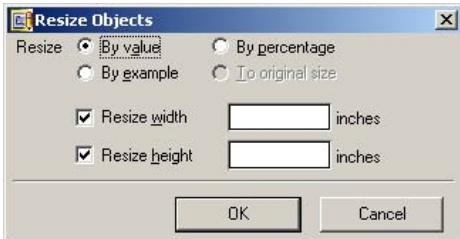
The logo is imported at full size and needs to be resized to fit the template.



Task 5b: Resize the Graphics Object

eForms Designer provides several methods of resizing objects. Since you already have a placeholder that's the same size as the logo needs to be, you can use the 'Resize by example' method.

1. If it's not already selected, use the **Pointer** tool to select the imported logo.
2. Choose **Arrange > Resize** to display the Resize Objects dialog box.



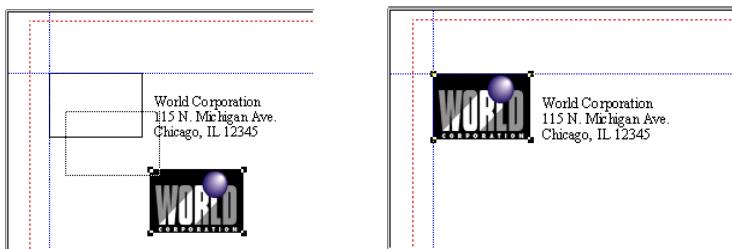
3. Select the 'By example' option; then click **OK**.

When you return to the drawing window, notice how the pointer has changed to a hand.

4. Click the rectangle placeholder with the "hand" pointer; the logo is automatically resized.



- Using the **Pointer** tool, click and drag the logo so that it sits directly on top of the rectangle placeholder at 0.75 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left. The logo will snap to the guide lines if you still have this option selected in the Layout menu.



Task 6: Move the Objects to the Master Page

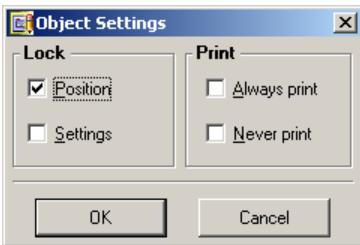
So far, all of your work has been done on the template located on the Page 1 tab. If the form you are creating is going to have more than one page, you'll want objects such as company logos and addresses to automatically appear on every page. To do this, place these objects on the Master Page.

- To select all objects, with the Pointer tool click the logo and then press **Ctrl + A**.
- Select **Edit > Cut** or press **Ctrl + X** to cut the objects.
- Select the Master Page tab.
- Press **Ctrl + Alt + V** to paste all the objects on the Master Page with their identical co-ordinates from the previous page. (If you press **Ctrl + V**, the objects will be moved to the incorrect co-ordinates.)

Task 7: Lock the Objects in Place

For this task, you'll lock the position of the objects on your template to prevent them from being moved accidentally. It's usually faster to select and modify multiple objects at once, so you'll use the **Select All** command.

- Choose **Edit > Select All** to select all the objects on your template.
- Choose **Settings > Object** to display the Object Settings dialog box.



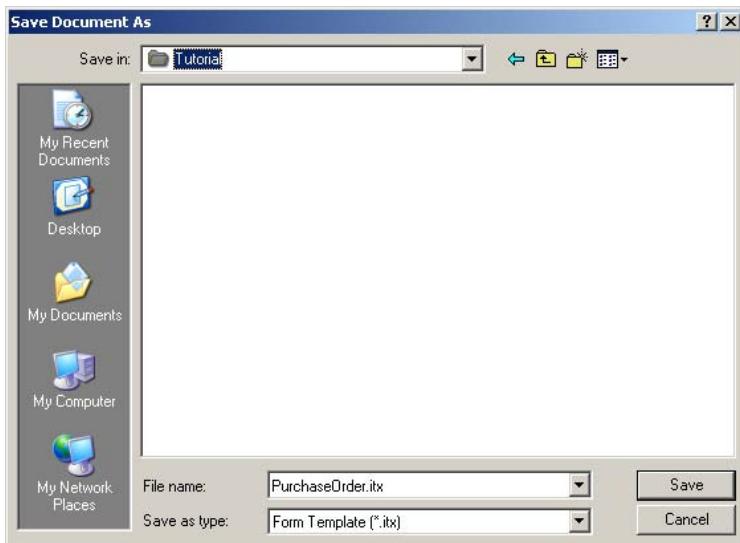
- Select the 'Position' checkbox; then click **OK**.

If you select a locked object, the handles on the corners of the object appear in green. If you attempt to drag a locked object, the pointer changes to a lock. This indicates that the object cannot be moved unless the 'Position' checkbox on the Object Settings dialog box is cleared.

Task 8: Save the Template

It's practical to save your template frequently during the creation process. You can save the changes to your template at any time by using the Save command. Because you're saving this template for the first time, you'll be asked to name it and specify where it is to be saved.

1. Choose **File > Save**.



2. Name the file "PurchaseOrder" and save the template as an ITX Form Template (*.itx).
3. Specify a location to store the new template.
4. Click **Save**.

The title bar changes to reflect the saved file name. It is recommended that you save your template after each task for the remainder of the template design sections in this Tutorial.

This is the end of the Graphics and Text section. The next section explains Field creation.

Fields

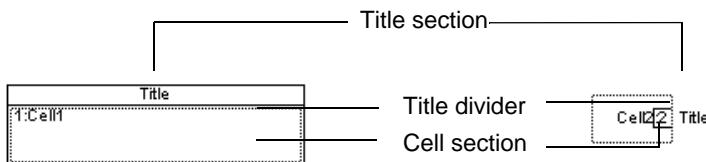
This section explains what a field is and shows you how to draw and modify field objects. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Draw fields:
 - Draw three fields ([Task 9a on page 30](#)).
 - Duplicate a field with the Duplicate command ([Task 9b on page 31](#)).
 - Duplicate a field with the Command palette ([Task 9c on page 31](#)).
 - Resize a field using the pointer tool ([Task 9d on page 32](#)).
 - Draw four more fields ([Task 9e on page 32](#)).
2. Select and modify the individual parts of a field:
 - Modify the title area of a field ([Task 10a on page 33](#)).
 - Change the title alignment ([Task 10b on page 35](#)).
 - Create titles for the fields ([Task 10c on page 35](#)).
 - Fill an object with a color ([Task 10d on page 36](#)).

Overview

Fields are graphic objects that hold information. Each field contains a cell—a holding place for data. When a form is filled out, information is entered into the cell.

Unlike other graphic objects such as lines, rectangles, and ovals, fields are composed of different elements or parts. When you draw a field with eForms Designer's **Field** tool, these various parts are created automatically. The following illustration shows the parts of a typical field.



The cell section of a field also has a variety of options that you can set. For example, you can specify what kind of information the cell will hold (text, date, number, and so on) and how that information will be displayed. See ["Cells" on page 57](#) for more information.

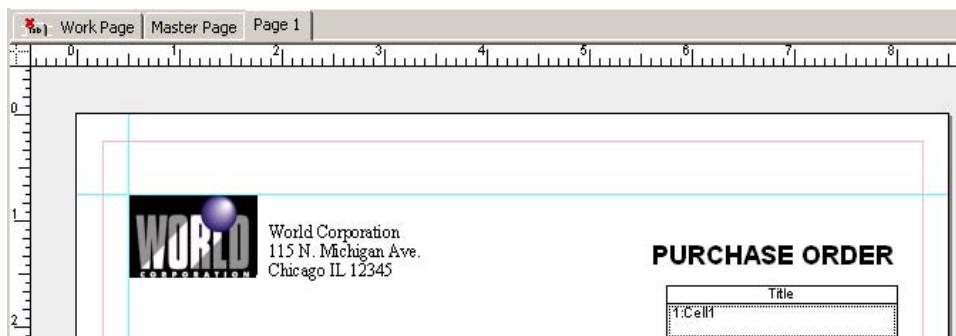
Drawing Fields

In this lesson, you'll draw, duplicate, and resize several fields on your template.

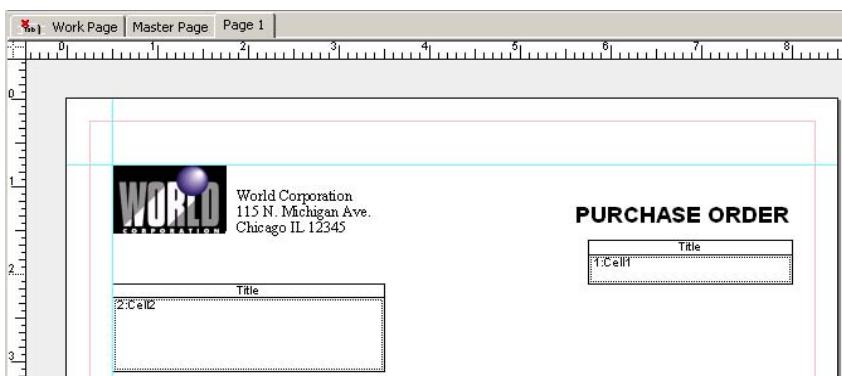
Task 9a: Draw Three Fields

For this task, you'll start drawing the fields where data will be entered on your template.

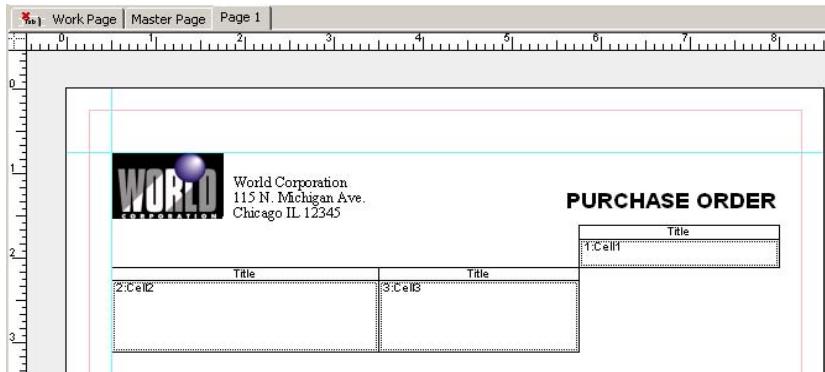
1. Select the Page 1 tab located above the top ruler.
2. Double-click the **Field**  tool from the Drawing toolbar and select the first option, or click it once to select the default style.
3. Click the mouse button in a clear area of the drawing window and drag the pointer diagonally to draw a field that's 0.5 inches high by 2.25 inches wide. You can use the arrow buttons in the Specs palette to fine-tune the size of the field after you have drawn it with the mouse.
4. Select the **Pointer** tool; then click and drag the new field object to 1.611 inches from the top and 5.75 inches from the left. Remember, you can use the arrow keys to nudge an object into position.



5. Select the **Field** tool again by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
6. Draw a new field that's 1.0 inch high and 3.0 inches wide. Click and drag the field so that it's 2.111 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.



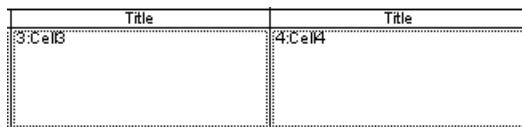
7. Draw a new field that's 1.0 inch high and 2.25 inches wide. Click and drag the field so that it's 2.111 inches from the top and 3.5 inches from the left.



Task 9b: Duplicate a Field Using the Duplicate Command

You need to draw another field that's identical to the one you just created, but rather than draw another field, it's often faster to duplicate it.

1. Select the last field; then choose **Arrange > Duplicate** or use the keystroke **Ctrl-D**.
2. A duplicate field appears to the right of the original field, and is the currently selected object.

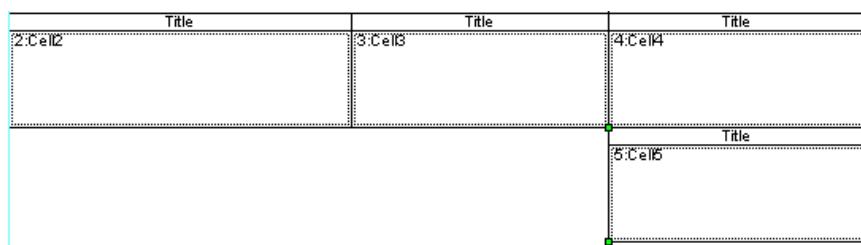


Task 9c: Duplicate a Field Using the Command Palette

The Command palette provides shortcuts to many of eForms Designer's object handling commands, including duplicating objects. It is initially displayed as a toolbar at the top of the drawing window. You can change it to palette mode by clicking and dragging its move handle onto the drawing area.



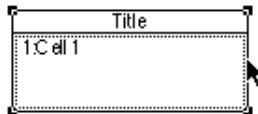
1. Choose **Window > Toolbars > Command** to display the Command palette.
2. If it's not already selected, select the last field using the **Pointer** tool.
3. Click the **Duplicate Vertical** button  to duplicate the fourth field.



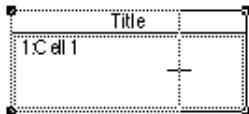
Task 9d: Resize a Field Using the Pointer Tool

In the “Graphics and Text” section, you learned how to resize an object by using the Resize command. You can also use the **Pointer** tool to quickly resize objects on your form.

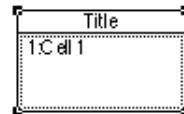
Select a field...



...drag the edge...

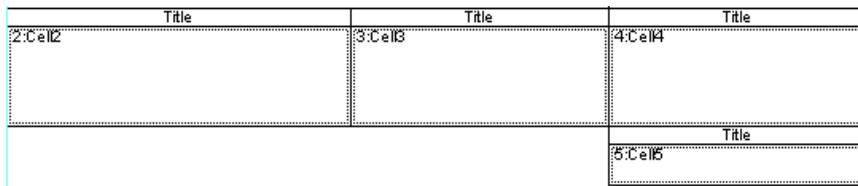


...release the mouse button.



Use the **Pointer** tool to change the height of the last field you created.

1. Select the **Pointer** tool.
2. Click the last field to select it.
3. Move the pointer to the bottom edge of the last field until the cursor changes to a pair of vertical arrows pointing towards each other.
4. Click the bottom edge and drag it up until the height of the field is 0.5 inches.

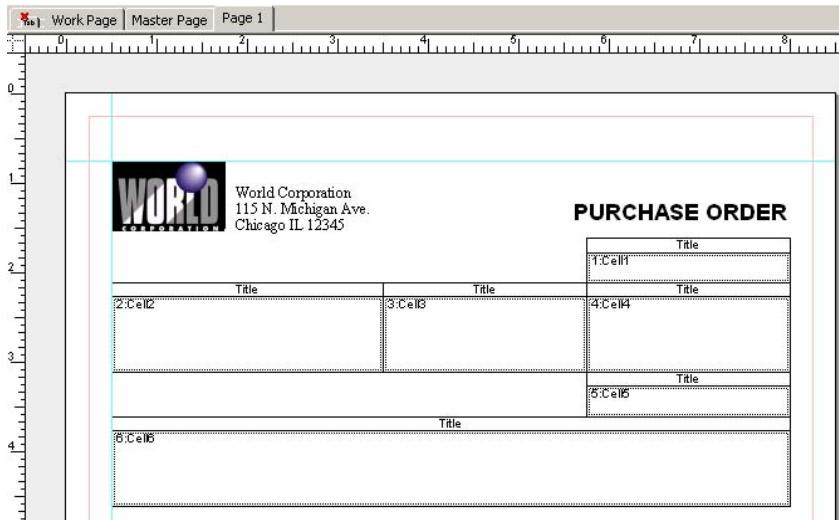


NOTE You can drag only the edges of field or table objects. To resize other types of objects with the **Pointer** tool, you must click and drag the handles at the corners of the selected object.

Task 9e: Draw Four More Fields

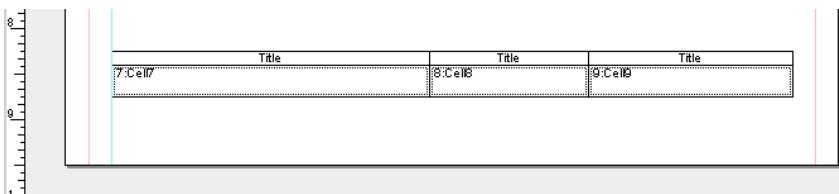
To finish off this section of the tutorial, you’ll draw four more fields and then learn how to modify individual parts of the fields.

1. Select the **Field** tool from the Drawing palette.
2. Draw a new field that’s 1.0 inch high and 7.5 inches wide. Click and drag the field so that it’s 3.611 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.



Now draw the final three fields.

1. Draw a field that's 0.5 inches high and 3.5 inches wide. Position it 8.111 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left,
2. Make sure the new field is selected; then choose **Arrange > Duplicate** or the **Duplicate Horizontal** button on the Command palette to create a second field.
3. Use the **Pointer** tool to change the width of the second field to 1.75 inches.
4. Duplicate the second field.
5. Use the **Pointer** tool to change the width of the final field to 2.25 inches. You can get this exact amount by entering it in the Width box of the Specs palette.



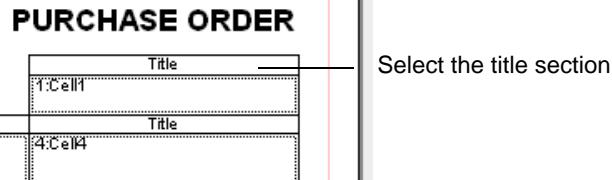
Modifying Parts of a Field

In this next lesson, you'll learn how to select and modify specific parts of the fields on your template.

Task 10a: Modify the Title Area of the Fields

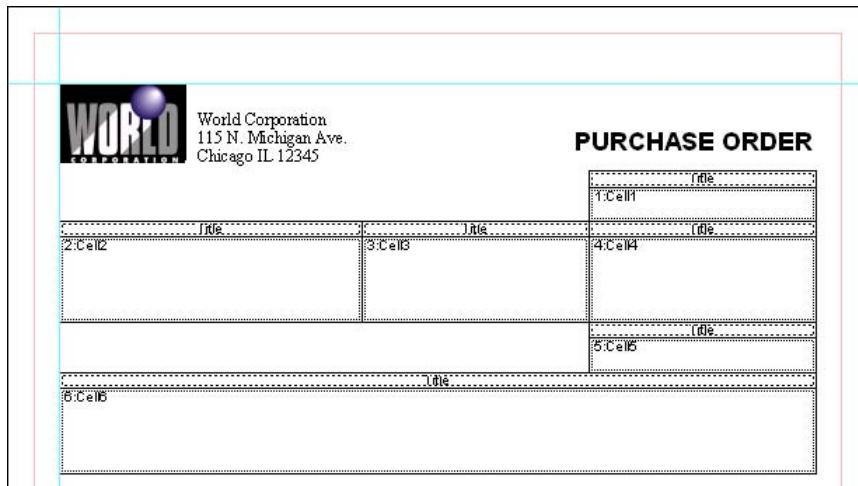
You can change the title area of an individual field, or you can do a bulk change in all of the fields present.

1. Click once with the **Pointer** tool to select the first field that you created.
2. Click again in the title area to select only that specific region. The region will become highlighted with moving dashes.

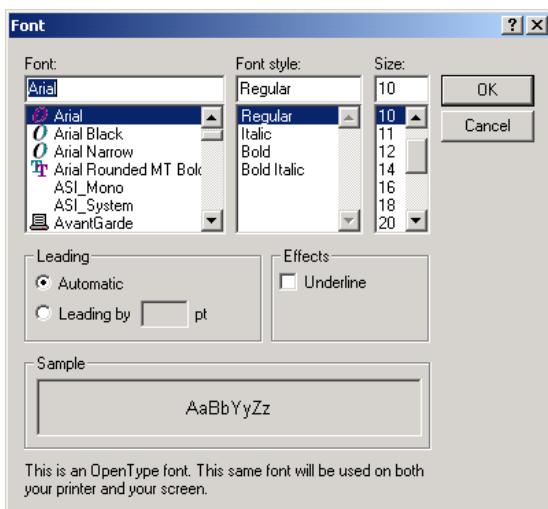


In this example, you're going to modify the title area for each field on the template. The most efficient way to do this is to select all the title areas and modify them all at once.

- With the title section of the first field selected, choose **Edit > Select Same**. The titles areas of the other fields are now selected as well.



- Choose **Style > Font** to display the Font or Type Settings dialog box.



- Change the type settings to "Arial", "9" point; then click **OK**.

You can also use the 'Font' and 'Font Size' drop down menus from the Formatting toolbar to perform this task.

Task 10b: Change the Title Alignment (Optional)

In Task 9a, step 2, if you double-clicked the field tool and chose the first option, you'll notice that in all the fields, the Title area is center aligned. You can change the alignment for the title and/or the cell data area by using the Alignment command.

1. Click any cell on the form.
2. Choose **Edit > Select Same**.
3. Choose **Style > Alignment > Center**. You can also use the keystroke Shift + Ctrl +C, or the **Center Justify Text** button on the Formatting toolbar. The title and cell data area are now centered.

Task 10c: Create Titles for the Fields

When you create a new field, the title area appears with the word "Title" in it. You can use the **Text** tool to replace this default entry with a meaningful title for each field. In this task, use the F3 key to quickly advance through the fields as you re-title them, rather than clicking each individual title area.

1. Select the **Text** tool and double-click the word "Title" in the top right field.
2. Type "Purchase Order Number." Press F3 to highlight the next title area.
3. Type "Supplier Name and Address." Press F3.
4. Type "Send Invoice To"; then press F3.
5. Type "Delver Goods To"; then press F3. ("Delver" is an intentional spelling error that you'll correct later in the tutorial).
6. Type "Ship Via"; then press F3.
7. Type "Special Instructions"; then press F3.
8. Type "Authorizing Signature"; then press F3.
9. Type "Date Issued"; then press F3.
10. Type "Total" to re-title the last field, then double-click the **Pointer** tool button to de-select the last field and complete the task.

The screenshot shows a 'PURCHASE ORDER' form template. It includes a logo for 'WORLD CORPORATION', company address ('115 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 12345'), and several data entry fields. A red dotted box highlights the title area of the 'Purchase Order Number' field (Cell 1C).

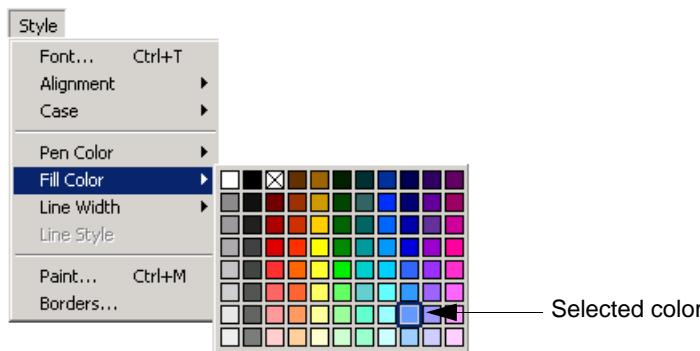
PURCHASE ORDER		
	World Corporation 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345	Purchase Order Number 1C Cell 1
Supplier Name and Address 2C Cell 2	Send Invoice To 3C Cell 3	Deliver Goods To 4C Cell 4
Ship Via 5C Cell 5		
Special Instructions 6C Cell 6		

NOTE You can also use the Cell command to enter the display name of a field.

Task 10d: Add a Colored Fill

You can add a background color to the title area of a field in order to highlight the various sections of the form. In this example, you'll add a colored fill to all of the title areas.

1. Using the **Pointer** tool, select the title area of the 'Purchase Order Number' field.
2. Choose **Edit > Select Same** to select all the field title areas.
3. Choose **Style > Fill Color** and select a color of your choice from the color palette.



4. Choose **File > Save** to save your changes.

Your template should now look like the one that follows:

 <p>World Corporation 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345</p>								
PURCHASE ORDER								
<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">Purchase Order Number</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">1:Cell1</td></tr></table>			Purchase Order Number			1:Cell1		
Purchase Order Number								
1:Cell1								
Supplier Name and Address 2:Cell2	Send Invoice To 3:Cell3	Deliver Goods To 4:Cell4						
Ship Partial Order? 5:Cell5		Ship Via 6:Ship Via						
Special Instructions 6:Cell6								
Authorizing Signature 7:Cell7	Date Issued 8:Cell8	Total 9:Cell9						

This is the end of the Fields section. In the next section, you'll learn about creating and formatting Table objects.

Tables

This section explains how to draw and modify table objects. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

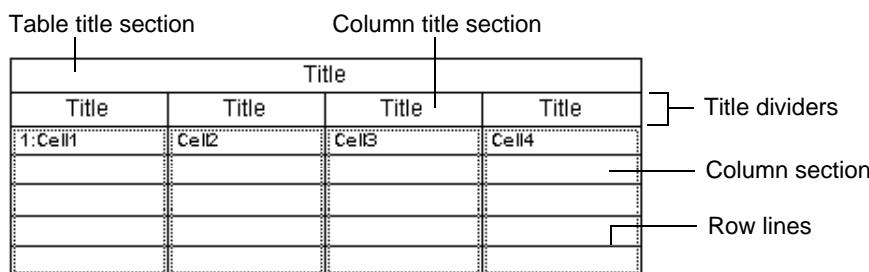
1. Draw a table ([Task 11 on page 39](#)).
2. Modify parts of a table.
 - Modify the final row height ([Task 12a on page 40](#)).
 - Change the column width of a table ([Task 12b on page 40](#)).
 - Modify the table row ([Task 12c on page 41](#)).
 - Change the table and column title ([Task 12d on page 41](#)).
 - Add a scroll bar ([Task 12e on page 42](#)).

Overview

Tables are graphic objects that hold information. Each table contains one or more columns and each column contains a cell—a holding place for data. When a form is filled out, information is entered into each cell.

It's recommended that you use tables instead of multiple cells whenever possible. Tables are quicker to draw than multiple cells, they require less memory, and are easier to maintain. For example, it's much easier to adjust the width of a single table column than it is to adjust the width of multiple cells.

Tables are composed of different elements or parts. When you draw a table with eForms Designer's **Table** tool, these various parts are created automatically.



There are several options that you can use to change the general appearance of a table. For example, you can show or hide the title sections, or you can fill the alternating rows with a color.

Drawing Tables

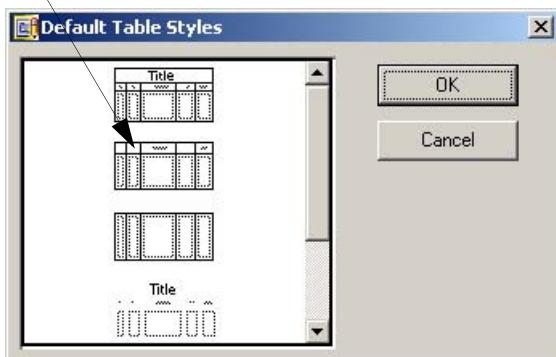
In this lesson, you'll select a table style and create a table with four columns.

Task 11: Draw a Table

To select a table style

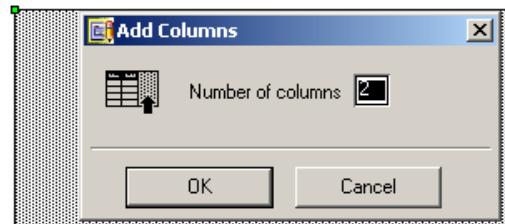
1. Double-click the **Table** tool  on the Drawings palette to display the 'Default Table Styles' dialog box.
2. Select the "No Title" style from the left column list; then click **OK**.

Select this style.



To draw a table

1. Position the pointer in the drawing window, and draw a table that's approximately 3.5 inches high and 7.5 inches wide. When you release the mouse button, the 'Add Columns' dialog box will appear.



2. Enter 4 in the 'Number of columns' box; then click **OK**. The new table appears as the currently selected object.
3. If necessary, use the Specs palette to adjust the height and width of the table so that it's exactly 3.5 inches high and 7.5 inches wide.
4. Double-click on the **Pointer** tool button, and click on the table to select it. Move the table so that it's 4.611 inches from the top, and 0.5 inches from the left. You can move it into position by clicking and dragging it, or by using the arrow keys on your keyboard to nudge it into place.

Modifying Parts of a Table

In this lesson, you'll change the appearance of a table by adding or removing columns, changing the column widths, and changing the number or color of the table rows. To select the individual parts of a table, click once with the **Pointer** tool to select the entire table; then click again to select only the part that you want to modify (table title, column title, table rows, etc.).

Task 12a: Modify the Final Row Height

If the last row in the table appears lesser in height than the previous row, you can correct this by “snapping” the row out to one full row length.

To change the final row height

1. Click the table and hover the cursor over the last line of the table until it changes its appearance to a vertical double-headed arrow.
2. Click the last line and drag it up or down by one row length.
3. With the **Pointer** tool, click and drag (lasso) around the 3 fields below the table (Authorizing Signature, Date Issued, and Total) to select them, and move them so that they are aligned directly below the table. This will remove any spaces between the fields and the table or any overlapping. Choose a higher percentage view scale if necessary to help you with the alignment.

Task 12b: Change the Column Width of the Table

To adjust the widths of the individual columns

1. Using the **Pointer** tool, click and hold the divider line between the first and second columns. eForms Designer displays the width of the columns just below the bottom edge of the table. If you drag the pointer to the left or right, the measurement reflects the new column widths.
2. Drag the line so that the first column is 0.75 inches wide.

Title			
Title	Title	Title	
10:Cell 10	Cell 11	Ce	
↔			
0.7500	2.6181		

3. Click and drag the line between the second and third columns to make the second column 4.5 inches wide.
4. Make both the third and fourth columns approximately 1.125 inches wide.

TIP To evenly distribute the width of the last two columns, click twice in the third column, and press Shift while clicking once on the last column. Both columns will be selected. Choose **Arrange > Distribute Columns** to make the columns equal in size.

Task 12c: Modify the Table Rows

You can change the pen setting of a table to alter the color of the lines in the table.

To change the pen setting for the rows in the table

1. Select the **Pointer** tool.
2. Click any one of the row divider lines. The row dividers “shimmer” to indicate that they’re selected.
3. Choose **Style > Pen Color**; then select the ‘None’ option on the color palette.
4. Double-click the **Pointer** tool on the Drawing palette to deselect the table. The row lines are now invisible. If you prefer to see row lines, change the color back to black.

Task 12d: Change the Table and Column Titles

In the same way that you changed the title sections of each field on your template, you can also change the titles of the table columns.

To change the titles of the table columns

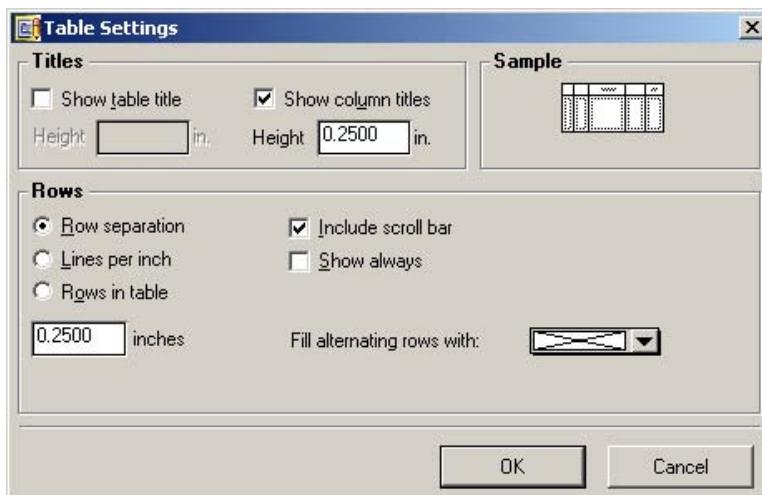
1. Using the **Pointer** tool, select the title section of the first column; then choose **Edit > Select Same**.
2. Set the column title type settings to “Arial”, “9” point.
3. Press Tab to highlight the first column title.
4. Type “Qty.” Press F3 to highlight the next table column.
5. Type “Description.” Press F3.
6. Repeat this procedure to name the subsequent columns “Unit Cost” and “Extended Cost.”
7. Fill the column title sections with the same color as the field title sections (refer back to Task 10d if you need a reminder of how to do this).

Task 12e: Add a Scroll Bar

You can add a scroll bar to a table that allows a user to scroll through a table's contents when it is viewed in an electronic version of your form.

To add a scroll bar to a table

1. Click the table and choose **Settings > Table**. The Table Settings dialog box appears.
2. Select the 'Include scroll bar' option. If you want the scroll bar to appear even when there aren't enough table entries to require one, select the 'Show always' option. Click **OK** to accept your choices.



3. Choose **File > Save** to save the changes to your template.

Your template should now look like the example that follows:

 <p>World Corporation 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345</p>		PURCHASE ORDER	
		Purchase Order Number 1:Cell1	
Supplier Name and Address 2:Cell2	Send Invoice To 3:Cell3	Deliver Goods To 4:Cell4	
		Ship Via 5:Cell5	
Special Instructions 6:Cell6			
Qty 10:Cell10	Description Cell11	Unit Cost Cell12	Extended Cost Cell13
Authorizing Signature 7:Cell7	Date Issued 8:Cell8	Total 9:Cell9	

This is the end of the Tables section. The next section explains how to add pages and change their default settings.

Adding Pages

This section explains how to add pages to a form. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

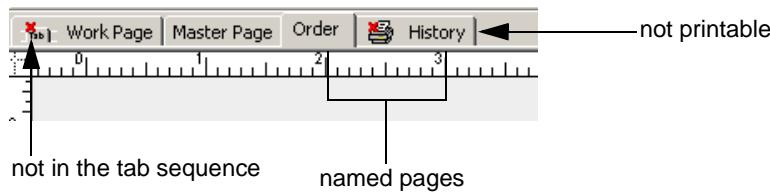
1. Add a page after Page 1 ([Task 13 on page 44](#)).
2. Page settings:
 - Name a page ([Task 14a on page 45](#)).
 - Print only option ([Task 14b on page 45](#)).

Overview

When you start eForms Designer, a blank template opens with 3 pages: Work Page, Master Page, and Page 1. You can add any number of numbered pages (as many as your PC's system memory allows) before or after Page 1. When adding pages, be sure to consider the user's potential machine limitations such as screen resolution and monitor size.

After you've added new pages, you can use the Page Settings command to rename pages from their defaults (Page 2, Page 3, etc.).

You can also restrict printing and/or tabbing for each page (except for the Master Page, which is never seen by the user).



Adding Pages

In this lesson, you'll add a second page to your form.

Task 13: Add a page

To add a page

1. Choose **Layout > Add Pages**.
2. Type 1 in the 'Number of Pages' box, and leave the default of 'Insert after page 1' selected. Click **OK**. Page 2 now appears after Page 1. Notice that the logo and text objects contained on your Master Page also appear on the new page.

Page Settings

In this lesson, you'll enter new names for Page 1 and 2, and restrict printing on Page 2.

Task 14a: Name a page

To name a page

1. Click Page 1 and choose **Layout > Page Settings**.
2. In the 'Optional page name' field, type "Order" and click **OK**.
3. Click Page 2 and choose **Layout > Page Settings**.
4. In the 'Optional page name' field, type "History" and click **OK**.

Task 14b: Print only option

To restrict printing on a page

1. Select the "History" page and choose **Layout > Page Settings**.
2. Under 'Page Options' clear the "Print this page" option, and Click **OK**.

This is the end of the Adding Pages section. The next section explains how to draw and modify different styles of Field objects.

Checkbox Fields and Presentation

This section explains how to draw, modify, and present checkbox fields, and draw a different field style. At the end of this section, you will have finished drawing your template and you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Display a guide line ([Task 15 on page 47](#)).
2. Draw checkbox fields:
 - Choose the checkbox field style ([Task 16a on page 47](#)).
 - Draw a checkbox field ([Task 16b on page 47](#)).
 - Replicate the checkbox field ([Task 16c on page 48](#)).
3. Modify parts of a checkbox field:
 - Change the size of the last checkbox ([Task 17a on page 49](#)).
 - Modify the checkbox field titles ([Task 17b on page 49](#)).
4. Complete the checkbox layout:
 - Change the view scale ([Task 18a on page 49](#)).
 - Draw and place a line object ([Task 18b on page 50](#)).
 - Add a filled rectangle ([Task 18c on page 50](#)).
 - Add a text object ([Task 18d on page 51](#)).
5. Draw fields on the “History” page:
 - Draw a text field without visible borders ([Task 19a on page 51](#)).
 - Draw a field with the title above the cell data area ([Task 19b on page 52](#))
6. Close the drawing aid ([Task 20 on page 52](#)).

Overview

Fields on a form can be as simple as a title with a line next to it...

Name Evan Jordan

...or they can be complex, depending on the type of information the form is designed to hold.

Ship To

Name

ID Number

Amount

Yes YNo

Completed By

As you've seen in the previous tasks, eForms Designer's default field style is a field with the title section on top and the cell section at the bottom. By choosing a different field style, or by modifying the parts of the default style, you can easily create a field that best suits your needs.

Task 15: Display a Guide Line

To help you correctly place the objects on your template in this section of the tutorial, you should create a new guide line.

1. Select the **Pointer** tool, drag a new guide line down from the top ruler, and position it 3.0 inches from the top.

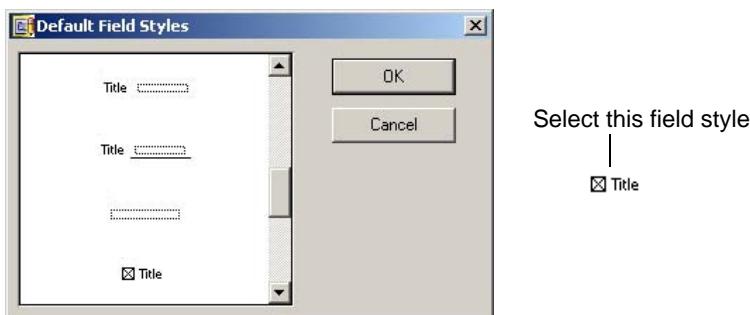
Drawing Checkbox Fields

You are going to add a number of checkbox fields to your existing form.

Task 16a: Choose the Checkbox Field Style

In order to draw checkboxes, you must first select the checkbox field style.

1. Double-click the **Field** tool on the Drawing palette to display the 'Default Field Styles' dialog box.



Select this field style

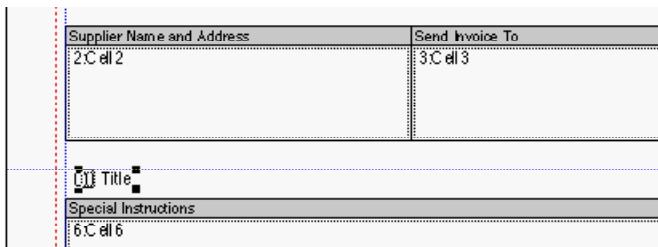
Title

2. Select the checkbox/title style from the list, as illustrated above; then click **OK**.

Task 16b: Draw a Checkbox Field

1. With the checkbox field style selected, click in a clear area of the form and draw a field 0.222 inches high by 0.639 inches wide.

2. Select the new field with the **Pointer** tool and drag it into position approximately 3.319 inches from the top and 0.611 inches from the left.



Task 16c: Replicate the Checkbox Field

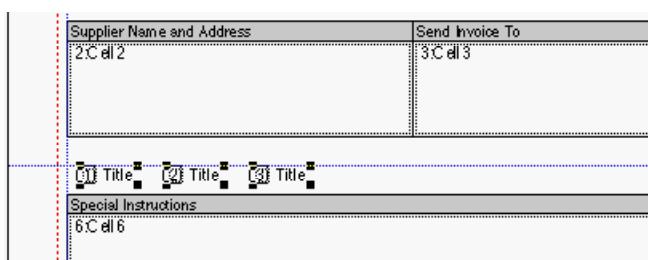
For this task, you'll create two more checkbox fields, but instead of drawing each field or duplicating multiple times, you will create multiple duplicates by using the Replicate command.

1. Make sure the first checkbox field is selected.
2. Choose **Arrange > Replicate** to display the Replicate dialog box.



3. Enter 2 in the 'Number of duplicates' field; then press Tab.
4. Enter 0.75 in the horizontal offset field and 0 in the vertical offset field.
5. Click **OK**.

Two new fields appear automatically to the right of the selected field.



Modifying Parts of a Checkbox Field

In this next lesson, you'll modify the checkbox fields by changing their size and titles.

Task 17a: Change the Size of the Last Checkbox

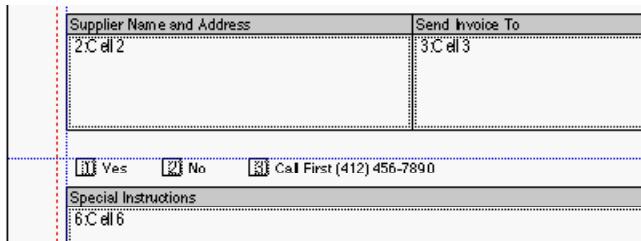
1. Double-click the **Pointer** tool on the Drawing palette to deselect all objects on the form.
2. Select the last checkbox field and drag its right edge until the width is 2.0 inches.

Task 17b: Modify the Checkbox Field Titles

1. Select the title areas of all three checkboxes.
2. Set the font and font size to “Arial”, “9” point.
3. Select the **Text** tool by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.

Starting with the first checkbox on the left, change the titles to the following:

“Yes” “No” “Call First (412) 456-7890”



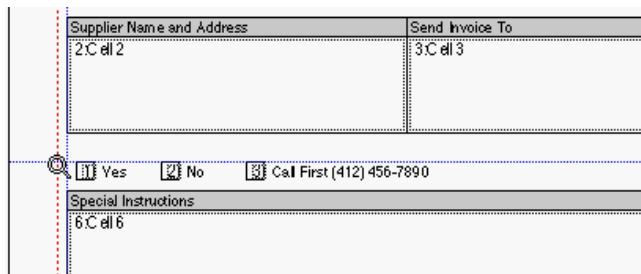
Completing the Checkbox Layout

In this lesson, you'll learn how to add graphics and text objects to complete the checkbox layout.

Task 18a: Change the View Scale

For this task, you should enlarge the view scale to make it easier to align new graphic objects with the existing objects on your template.

1. Select the **Zoom** tool  by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Position the pointer to the left of the ‘Yes’ checkbox; then click the mouse button.



The view scale enlarges to 200 percent.

3. Click beside the 'Yes' checkbox until the view scale reaches 400 percent. (The view scale is displayed in the 'View' drop-down list at the lower left corner of the drawing window.)

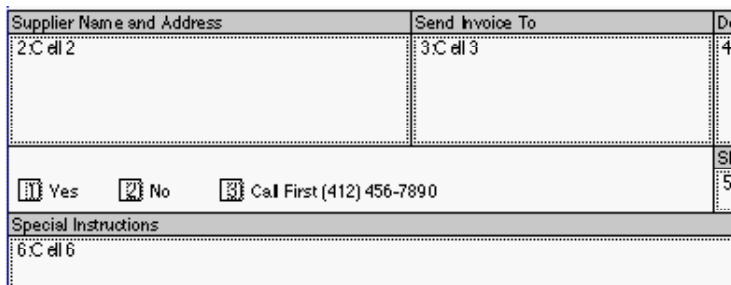
Task 18b: Draw and Place a Line Object

To have the row of checkboxes appear to be in an enclosed section of the form, you can add a line object to the template.

1. Select the **Line** tool  by clicking it once on the Drawing palette.
2. Draw a vertical line 0.5 inches high, to the left of the 'Yes' checkbox. If you hold the Shift key while drawing, the line is drawn perfectly straight.



3. Select the **Pointer** tool from the Drawing palette.
4. Click and drag the new line object so that it connects the 'Supplier Name' field and the 'Special_Instructions' field. The line's position should be 3.111 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.
5. Double-click the **Zoom** tool on the Drawing palette to return the view scale to 100 percent.

A screenshot of a form template in a software application. A filled rectangle is added to the top of the checkbox section. The rectangle covers the area from the 'Yes' checkbox to the 'Special Instructions' section.

Task 18c: Add a Filled Rectangle

Now add a filled rectangle to the top of the checkbox section.

1. Select the **Rectangle** tool.
2. Click in the clear space at the bottom of the Drawing Window, and draw a rectangle that's 0.167 inches high by 5.25 inches wide. Select the **Pointer** tool, and drag the rectangle into position at 3.111 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.
3. Fill the new rectangle with the same color you used for the field and table titles.

Supplier Name and Address 2.C cell 2	Send Invoice To 3.C cell 3	Deliver To 4.C cell 4
		Ship Via 5.C cell 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Call First (412) 456-7890
Special Instructions 6.C cell 6		

Task 18d: Add a Text Object

To complete the checkbox section, you'll add text to the filled rectangle.

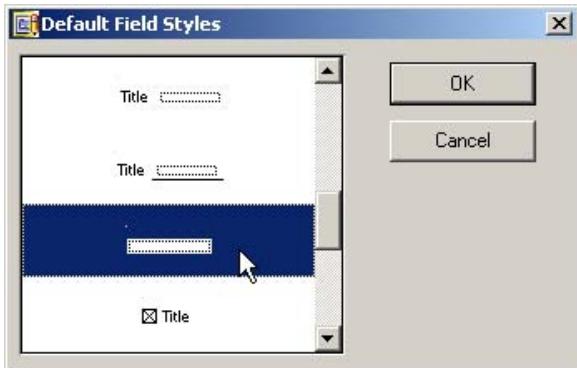
1. Select the **Text** tool.
2. Click in a clear area of the form and type: "Ship Partial Orders?"
3. Select the text object, and set the font and font size to "Arial", "9" point.
4. Choose **Layout > Snap to Guides** to turn off the 'Snap to Guides' feature.
5. Reposition the new text object to 3.139 from the top and 0.528 from the left.

Ship Partial Orders? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Call First (412) 456-7890
Special Instructions 6.C cell 6		

Task 19a: Draw a Text Field Without Visible Borders

Now, you'll start work on the second page of the template by adding a text field that doesn't have visible borders.

1. Select the 'History' page tab.
2. Double-click the **Field** tool and select the style as shown below.

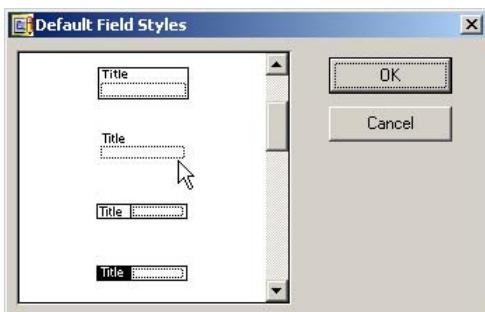


3. Draw the field anywhere on the page, 2.028 inches high and 7.5 inches wide.
4. Using the **Pointer** tool, move the field into position 1.611 inches from the top and 0.5 inches from the left.

Task 19b: Draw a Field With the Title Above the Cell Data Area

You'll add the final field to the History page of the template.

1. Double-click the **Field** tool and select the style as shown below.



2. Draw the field directly below the first cell, 0.528 inches high and 2.958 inches wide.
3. Use the **Pointer** tool to move the field 3.611 inches from the top, and 0.5 inches from the left.

Task 20: Close the Drawing Aids

Now that you've finished drawing the form, you no longer need to display the drawing aids.

1. Click the close buttons on the Specs and Command palettes.
2. Choose **Layout > Show > Guides** to clear this option and hide the guide lines.
3. Choose **Layout > Show > Grid** to clear this option and hide the grid.

NOTE If you want to remove a single guide line, click it with the **Pointer** tool and drag it back to the ruler.

The "Order" page of your template should now look like this:

 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>World Corporation 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345</div> <div>PURCHASE ORDER</div> </div>											
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Purchase Order Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">1:Cell1</td> </tr> </table>				Purchase Order Number				1:Cell1			
Purchase Order Number											
1:Cell1											
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Supplier Name and Address 2:Cell2</td> <td>Send Invoice To 3:Cell3</td> <td>Deliver Goods To 4:Cell4</td> </tr> </table>		Supplier Name and Address 2:Cell2	Send Invoice To 3:Cell3	Deliver Goods To 4:Cell4							
Supplier Name and Address 2:Cell2	Send Invoice To 3:Cell3	Deliver Goods To 4:Cell4									
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Ship Partial Order?</td> <td>Ship Via 5:Cell5</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> No</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Call First (412) 456-7890</td> </tr> </table>		Ship Partial Order?		Ship Via 5:Cell5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Call First (412) 456-7890				
Ship Partial Order?		Ship Via 5:Cell5									
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Call First (412) 456-7890									
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Special Instructions 6:Cell6</td> </tr> </table>				Special Instructions 6:Cell6							
Special Instructions 6:Cell6											
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Qty</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Unit Cost</th> <th>Extended Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10:Cell10</td> <td>Cell11</td> <td>Cell12</td> <td>Cell13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost	10:Cell10	Cell11	Cell12	Cell13
Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost								
10:Cell10	Cell11	Cell12	Cell13								
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Authorizing Signature 7:Cell7</td> <td>Date Issued 8:Cell8</td> <td>Total 9:Cell9</td> </tr> </table>		Authorizing Signature 7:Cell7	Date Issued 8:Cell8	Total 9:Cell9							
Authorizing Signature 7:Cell7	Date Issued 8:Cell8	Total 9:Cell9									

This is the end of the More Field Styles section. The next section shows you how to spell check your template.

Spell Checking

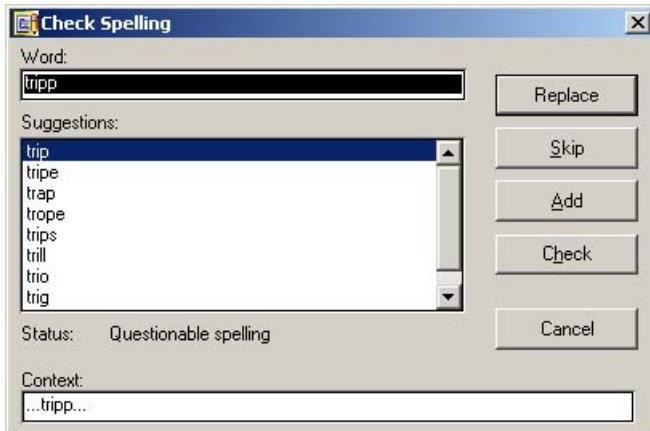
This section explains how to spell check a template. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Set spell checking preferences:
 - Choose a spell checking language dictionary ([Task 21a on page 55](#)).
 - Specify the language options ([Task 21b on page 55](#)).
2. Spell check your template ([Task 22 on page 56](#)).

Overview

eForms Designer comes with a built in spell checker and the spell checking plug-in needed to use it. These items are installed automatically when you install eForms Designer.

You can check the spelling of text objects and the title sections of fields and tables on your template. Any questionable words on your template are flagged and displayed in the 'Check Spelling' dialog box. The 'Context' field at the bottom of the dialog box displays the questionable word in context.



The language dictionaries that are built into eForms Designer allow you to check spelling in several different languages. You can also set various options for each of the dictionaries.

NOTE For spell checking to be available in languages other than English, you must have the spelling dictionaries installed. For dictionaries other than English, eForms Designer requires the custom setup installation option. Please see your Getting Started guide for instructions.

Setting Spell Checking Preferences

Before you spell check your template, you must specify your spell checking preferences by selecting a dictionary and language options.

Task 21a: Choose a Spell Checking Language Dictionary

1. Choose **Edit > Preferences** to display the Preferences dialog box.
2. Click the 'Spelling' icon in the list to display the Spelling Preferences panel.



3. Choose "English" from the 'Language' drop-down list.

If you leave the 'Always Provide Alternative spellings' checkbox selected, the spell checker will provide a list of possible replacements when it identifies a misspelled word.

Task 21b: Specify the Language Options

1. Click the **Language Options** button in Spelling Preferences to display the 'English Language Options' dialog box.



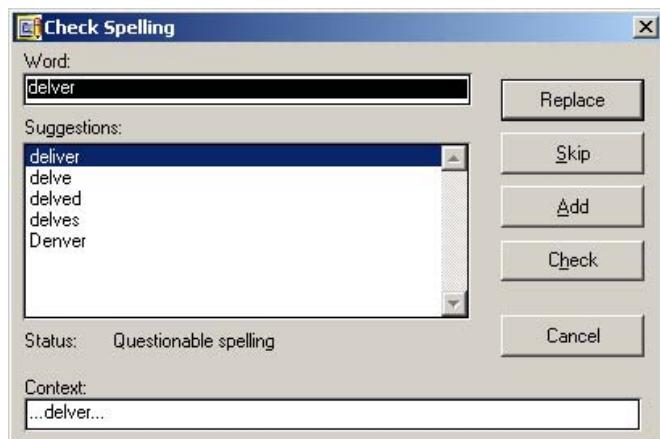
2. Select the 'Business' checkbox; then click **OK**.
3. Click **OK** on the 'Spell Checking Preferences' panel to return to the drawing window.

Task 22: Check Spelling

For this task, you'll use eForms Designer's spell checking feature to check your template for any spelling errors.

1. Choose **Edit > Spelling > Check Template** to display the 'Check Spelling' dialog box.

As eForms Designer begins checking the template, the word "Delver" will appear in the 'Check Spelling' dialog box.



2. Click **Replace** to replace "Delver" with the word "Deliver" from the 'Suggestions' list.

If no other spelling errors are found, the fields and the list in the Check Spelling dialog box are blank, and only the **Done** button is available.

3. Click **Done** to return to the drawing window.

This is the end of the Spell Checking section. The next section explains how to configure template cells to accept electronic data entry.

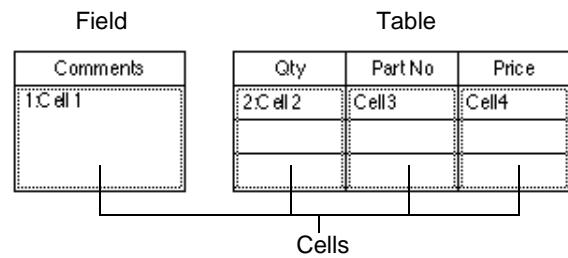
Cells

This section explains how to configure the cells on your template for electronic data entry. You'll also learn about the Cell palette—a convenient feature that provides quick access to cell settings. By the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Name cells:
 - Name a cell using the Command palette ([Task 23a on page 58](#)).
 - Name a cell using the Cell palette ([Task 23b on page 58](#)).
2. Set cell attributes:
 - Set the cell type and format for a single cell ([Task 24a on page 61](#)).
 - Set the cell type and format for multiple cells ([Task 24b on page 61](#)).
 - Set the type attributes ([Task 24c on page 62](#)).
 - Set the data entry status ([Task 24d on page 63](#)).
3. Create a help message ([Task 25 on page 64](#)).

Overview

When you draw a template with eForms Designer, you use the Field and Table tools to create the blanks where information is typed. These blanks are called cells.



When a template is used, the user fills out the form by entering information such as a name, number, date, or time into each cell. As the form author, you have a great deal of control over the type of information each cell will hold and how that information will be displayed.

Each cell has its own individual attributes including a cell name, a cell type, and various formatting options. You configure these attributes using eForms Designer's Cell and Format commands.

Naming Cells

eForms Designer automatically names cells according to the sequence in which the cells are drawn. For example, the first cell you draw is named "Cell1." The next cell you draw is named "Cell2" and so on.

You can give a cell a descriptive name to make it easier to find when adding intelligence to the form. For example, a cell named "Total" is much easier to recognize than a cell named "Cell25."

NOTE Naming a cell is *not* the same as changing the display name (text in the title area of the field). The field title is intended to be a visual clue to show the user what to enter in a particular field. The cell name is used to identify the cell in calculation formulas.

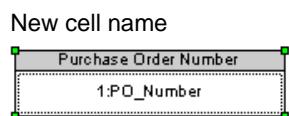
In this lesson, you'll learn how to name a cell using the Cell command and the Cell palette.

Task 23a: Name a Cell with the Cell Command

1. Select 'Cell 1' by clicking it once with the **Pointer** tool.
2. Choose **Settings > Cell** to display the Cell Settings dialog box.



3. Type "PO_Number" in the 'Cell Name' field.
4. Select the 'Publish cell' checkbox, then click **OK**. The cell section of the 'Purchase Order Number' field now shows the new cell name.



NOTE Cell names cannot contain spaces. Use the underscore character if you need to separate characters.

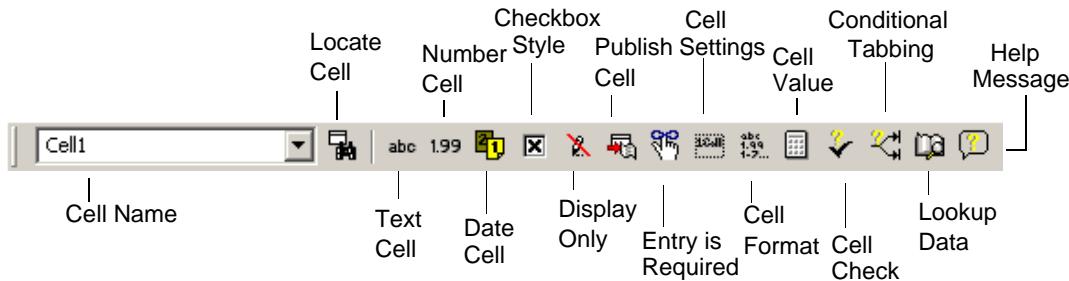
Task 23b: Name Cells with the Cell Palette

If you have to rename a number of cells, the Cell palette provides a quick alternative to using the Cell command.

1. Choose **Window > Toolbars > Cell**.

The Cell palette appears, showing the name of the currently selected cell.

The Cell palette is initially displayed as a toolbar at the top of the drawing window. To display it as a palette, click the move handle at the far left hand side of the toolbar; then drag it onto the drawing area.



2. Select the 'Cell 2' field by clicking it with the **Pointer** tool.
3. Press F2 to activate the Cell palette's 'Name' area.
4. Type "Supplier" in the 'Name' field; then press F2.

Pressing F2 performs three actions:

- Updates the cell name on the template.
- Selects the next cell in the tab order* (Cell3).
- Automatically activates the 'Name' field again.

*The tab order is the order that the user tabs from one cell to the next when a form is filled out. See [Task 26a on page 66](#) for more information.

5. Type "Bill_To" in the 'Cell Name' field; then press F2 to select Cell4.
6. Repeat this procedure to rename the cells as shown in the following table. **Do not** press F2 after changing the name of Cell9. You must use the Cell command or Text tool to change the display name.

Original Name	New Cell Name	Actual Display Name
Cell4	Ship_To	Ship To
Cell5	Ship_Via	Ship Via
Cell6	Instructions	Instructions
Cell7	Signature	Signature
Cell8	Date	Date
Cell9	Total	Total

Because of the current tab order of your form, pressing F2 after renaming Cell9 would take you to the Purchase Details table. The F2 feature is not available for table cells, so you'll skip the table cells for the moment and rename all other cells first.

7. Select the 'Yes' checkbox field with the **Pointer** tool; then press F2 to activate the 'Name' field on the Cell palette.
8. Type "Yes." Then press F2 to select Cell15.

9. Rename the cells as shown in the following table. Do *not* press F2 after changing the name of Cell16. Cells 17 and 18 are on the “History” page, or page 2.

Original Name	New Cell Name	Actual Display Name
Cell15	No	No
Cell16	Phone	Phone
Cell17	F_StepDescription	(no display name required)
Cell18	Delivery_Schedule	Requested Delivery Period

NOTES

- F_StepDescription is a special system data field that's available for mapping to published form cells in a workflow policy. It displays the description or instructions for the current step within a workflow process. Later in this tutorial, you will see how this field works in FileNet eForms for Workplace.
- If you prefer to have special form cells appear in a router region above or below the form instead of on the form itself, you can configure a special feature called “Regional Layout” in [Task 39b on page 89](#).

Use the **Pointer** tool and the Cell command to rename the table cells on your template.

1. Click the table once to select the entire object.
2. Click again in the ‘Qty’ column to select its cell section (Cell10). Choose **Settings > Cell** or click **Cell Settings** on the Cell palette to display the Cell Settings dialog box.
3. Type “Qty” in the ‘Cell Name’ field; then click **OK**.
4. Repeat this procedure to rename the remaining table cells and display names as shown in the following table:

Original Name	New Cell Name	Actual Display Name
Cell11	Description	Description
Cell12	Unit_Cost	Unit Cost
Cell13	Extended	Extended

Setting Cell Attributes

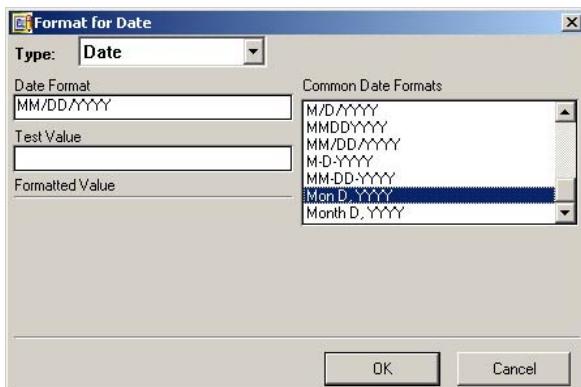
In this lesson, you'll learn how to set a cell's attributes such as type, format, text attributes, and data entry status. A cell's type can be changed so that it matches the kind of information that the cell is intended to hold. For example, if a cell is intended to hold a number value, then its type should be Number. Setting a cell's type ensures that only entries of the correct type are allowed.

In addition to setting a cell's type, you can also control the way that the information in the cell is displayed by specifying a particular format. For example, you can set the format of a Number cell so that entries are always displayed with a currency symbol and two decimal places.

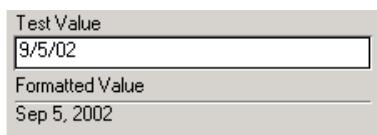
Task 24a: Set the Cell Type and Format for a Single Cell

For this task, you'll use the Format command to set the cell type and format for the 'Date' cell.

1. Click the 'Date' cell with the **Pointer** tool.
2. Choose **Settings > Format** or click **Format**  on the Cell palette.
3. Select "Date" from the 'Type' drop-down list; then double-click the "Mon D, YYYY" format in the 'Common Date Formats' list.



Test the date format by typing "9/5/02" in the 'Test Value' field. The 'Formatted Value' shows how the date will look when displayed on your form.



4. Click **OK** to return to the drawing window.

Task 24b: Set the Cell Type, Data Option and Format for Multiple Cells

When several cells have the same type, data option, and format, you can format them all together. To do this, hold the Shift key and select the desired cells with the **Pointer** tool; then choose the Format command. The changes you make on the Format dialog box will affect all the selected cells.

TIP To select multiple cells of the same type and format, click one cell. Then choose **Edit > Select Same**.

Set the type and format (**Settings > Format**) and publish cell option (**Settings > Cell**) for each cell as shown in the table below. Where possible, select and format multiple cells.

Cell Name	Cell Type	Format/Display Options	Publish Cell?
PO_Number	Number	General	Yes
Instructions	Text	accept defaults	Yes
Qty	Number	General	No
Signature*	Signature	Sign all cells except Date and Total	No
Phone	Boolean	On/Off	No
Yes	Boolean	On/Off	No
No	Boolean	On/Off	No
Unit_Cost	Number	#,##0.00	No
Extended	Number	#,##0.00	No
Total	Number	#,##0.00; select the 'Show Currency' option.	Yes
F_StepDescription	Text	accept defaults	Yes
Delivery_Schedule	Text	accept defaults	No

NOTE Whenever you create a new field, the cell type is automatically set to “Text” with no formatting. Any cells not listed in the above table use this default type and format. You do not need to change their settings.

* The Signature cell can be configured for digital signing choosing the I-Sign or Microsoft® CSP signature service.

Task 24c: Set the Type Attributes

In addition to the formatting options available in the Format dialog box, you can also use a cell’s type settings to control the way data is displayed. Like field title sections, cells have font, font size, type style, and alignment attributes that can be set individually.

NOTE When changing the type settings for a cell, make sure that you select only the cell section and not the entire field, otherwise, your changes will also affect the field title section.

1. Select the ‘PO_Number’ cell by clicking it twice with the **Pointer** tool. A shimmering border in the cell section indicates that it’s selected.
2. Choose **Style > Font** to set the cell’s type attributes to “Times New Roman,” “18” point, “Bold.” Then choose **Style > Alignment** and select “Center” (vertical and horizontal).

Using the same technique, set the type attributes for each cell shown in the following table.

Cell Name	Font	Font Size	Alignment
Supplier	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Bill_To	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Ship_To	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Ship_Via	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Instructions	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Qty	Times New Roman	12 point	Center (horizontal and vertical)
Description	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Center (vertical)
Unit_Cost	Times New Roman	12 point	Right (horizontal), Center (vertical)
Extended	Times New Roman	12 point	Right (horizontal), Center (vertical)
Signature	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Date	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Total	Times New Roman	12 point	Right (horizontal), Center (vertical)
F_StepDescription	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)
Delivery_Schedule	Times New Roman	12 point	Left (horizontal), Top (vertical)

Task 24d: Set the Data Entry Status

On a paper form, problems sometimes occur when the person filling out the form forgets to fill in crucial parts of the form. eForms Designer provides data entry controls to avoid these problems on your electronic template.

You can specify a cell's entry status to be optional, recommended, or required. For this task, you'll set the data entry status for the 'Ship_Via' cell.

1. Click the 'Ship_Via' cell by clicking it twice with the **Pointer** tool.
2. Choose **Settings > Cell** to display the Cell Settings dialog box.
3. Select "Required" from the 'Data is' drop-down list.



4. Click **OK**.

NOTE When designing forms for your organization, exercise caution before using the "Required" entry setting for any cells on your template. Depending on how error handling has been configured for invalid data, this setting may prohibit further processing of the form until the "Required" cells are filled out. To review information on Error Handling, see your *eForms Designer Help*.

Task 25: Create a Help Message

Help messages can be very beneficial for users who are using a form for the first time. For example, users might not be familiar with certain terminology on the form and might require some clarification.

In [Task 24d](#), you set the data entry status of the 'Ship_Via' cell to "Required." Leaving that cell blank will cause a warning message to display. It's possible that a new user might not understand what type of value they should enter in the 'Ship_Via' cell, so for this task, you'll create a help message for that cell.

1. If it's not already selected, select the 'Ship_Via' cell with the **Pointer** tool.
2. Choose **Settings > Help Message** or click the **Help Message** button  on the Cell palette to display the Help Message dialog box.



3. Type the following help message in the field in the Help Message dialog box (without quotation marks):
"This field contains a choice list. Click the Arrow indicator in the field title section and select an entry from the available choices."
4. Click **OK** to return to the drawing window.

This is the end of the Cells section. The next section explains Tab Order features.

Tab Order

This section explains how to set the tab order for each cell on your template. You'll also learn about the **Tab** tool—a convenient feature that allows you to change the tab order of the cells on your template by clicking and dragging the pointer from one cell to another. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Set the tab order and options:
 - Change the tab order of cells using the Cell command ([Task 26a on page 66](#)).
 - Change the tab order of cells using the Tab tool ([Task 26b on page 66](#)).
2. Create conditional tab formulas:
 - Write a conditional tab formula for the 'Yes' checkbox ([Task 27a on page 67](#)).
 - Write a conditional tab formula for the 'No' checkbox ([Task 27b on page 68](#)).
3. Cluster a group of checkboxes ([Task 28 on page 68](#)).

Overview

Each time you create a new cell, eForms Designer assigns the next available tab position to that cell. The tab position of all the cells together determines the form's tab order; that is, the order that the user tabs from one cell to the next when a form is filled out. The cell with tab position 1 is entered first, then the cell with tab position 2, and so on.

ABC Company 12233-44 Ave. New York, NY 98765	Sold To		Ship To	
	Date	Terms	PO Number	Ship Via
INVOICE	Qty	No	Description	Price
	7	8	9	10
Signature _____				Shipping
				Total
				11
				12

The circled numbers indicate the tab order for the form.

Setting Tab Order and Options

In this lesson, you'll change your form's tab order with the Cell command and the **Tab** tool. Changing the tab position of one cell automatically changes the tab position of other cells as well. It's like removing the cell from the tab order list, then inserting it in a new position. You'll also set tab options for your table.

Task 26a: Change the Tab Order Using the Cell Command

Because of the order the fields were drawn in, the tab order on your template doesn't follow a logical sequence. For this task, you'll change the tab order of your template.

1. Select the 'Yes' checkbox; then choose **Settings > Cell** to display the Cell Settings dialog box.
2. Press Tab to move to the 'Tab position' field.
3. Type 5 in the field; then click **OK**.



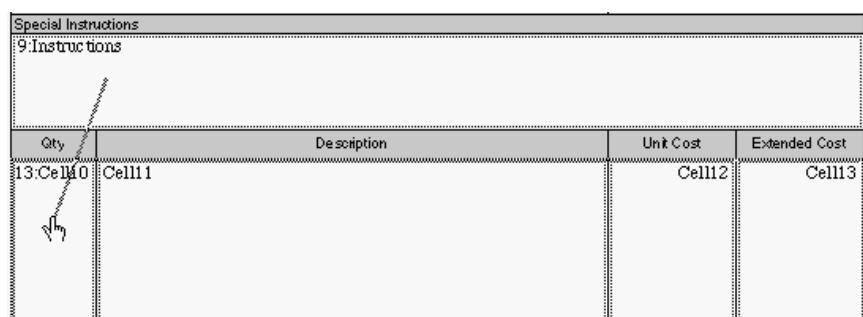
The cell section of the 'Yes' field updates to show the new tab position.

4. Repeat the above steps to put the 'No' checkbox in tab position 6, and the 'Phone' checkbox in tab position 7.

Task 26b: Change the Tab Order Using the Tab Tool

You can also use the Tab tool to change the tab order of the cells on your template.

1. Select the **Tab** tool 
2. Position the hand pointer over the cell section of the 'Instructions' field.
3. Click the mouse button and drag the pointer to the 'Qty' table column.



4. Release the mouse button when a highlighted border appears inside the table.

TIP Because all columns in the table share the same tab position, you don't have to drag the hand pointer to the first column in the table. Dragging the pointer to any column in the table changes the tab position for the entire table.

The tab positions of the remaining fields update automatically, and the tab order of your template now follows a logical sequence—top to bottom, left to right.

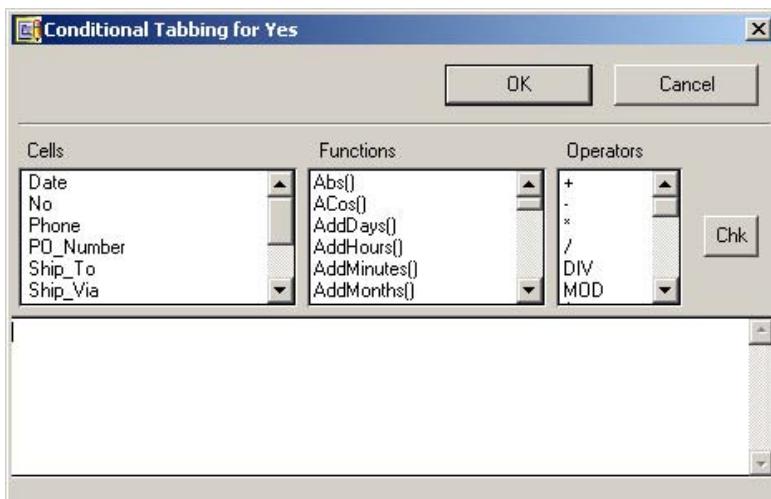
Creating Conditional Tab Formulas

The conditional tab formula feature allows the user to tab past sections of the form that are not relevant to the information being entered. For example, you could specify conditional tab formulas for 'Local' and 'Out of Town' checkboxes on a travel expense form. If the user selects the 'Local' checkbox and then tabs from that cell, they would tab past sections for claiming expenses such as 'Hotel Accommodation' and 'Airline Travel,' and go directly to sections for claiming expenses such as 'Parking' and 'Fuel.'

In this next lesson, you'll write conditional tab formulas for the checkbox cells.

Task 27a: Write a Conditional Tab Formula for the 'Yes' Checkbox

1. Select the **Pointer** tool from the Drawing palette; then select the 'Yes' checkbox.
2. Choose **Settings > Conditional Tabbing** or click **Conditional Tab**  on the Cell palette to display the Conditional Tabbing dialog box.



3. Type the following conditional tab formula in the 'Conditional Tabbing' field.
`If Yes then CellRef(Ship_Via) Else CellRef(No) End`
4. Click **Chk**  on the Conditional Tabbing dialog box. eForms Designer checks your formula for errors and formats it properly.
5. Click **OK**.

The formula above tells the application to skip the 'No' and 'Phone' cells and go directly to the 'Ship_Via' cell if 'Yes' is checked. If 'Yes' is not checked, go to 'No.'

NOTE In a conditional tabbing formula, the name of the cell to move to must be entered within the brackets of the CellRef () function. For more information on the CellRef function, see your *eForms Designer Help*.

Task 27b: Write a Conditional Tab Formula for the 'No' Checkbox

1. Select the 'No' checkbox.
2. Choose **Settings > Conditional Tabbing**.
3. Type the following conditional tab formula in the 'Conditional Tabbing' field.

```
If No then CellRef(Ship_Via) Else CellRef(Phone) End
```

4. Click **Chk** to make sure the formula is valid; then click **OK**.

This formula tells the application to go directly to the 'Ship_Via' cell if 'No' is checked.

Task 28: Cluster the Checkboxes

Clustering a group of checkboxes ensures that only one box can be checked. You might want to use this feature for situations such as choosing a payment method. For example, a form might show Visa, Mastercard, and Cash checkboxes. If these cells are clustered, turning one checkbox on automatically turns the other two off.

For this task, you'll cluster the 'Yes,' 'No,' and 'Phone' checkboxes to ensure that only one can be selected at a time.

1. Select the three checkbox fields by holding the Shift key and clicking each one.
2. Choose **Arrange > Cluster**.

NOTE In FileNet eForms for Workplace, clustered checkboxes always appear as radio buttons.

This is the end of the Tab Order section. The next section explains Choice List creation.

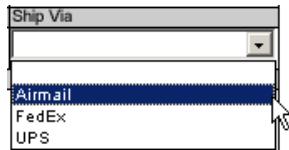
Choice Lists and Scripts

This section explains how to create a choice list and assign that list to a specific cell, and how to add a script to a form template. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Create choice lists:
 - Create a simple choice list ([Task 29a on page 69](#)).
 - Create a dynamic choice list ([Task 29b on page 71](#)).
2. Use a script with a form:
 - Add a script to a form template ([Task 30a on page 71](#)).
 - Edit or remove a script ([Task 30b on page 72](#)).

Overview

Often a cell will take on a variety of common values. For example, the shipping method on an order form might be Mail, UPS, or Federal Express. Instead of typing the shipping method each time, the user can select an entry from a list of common choices.



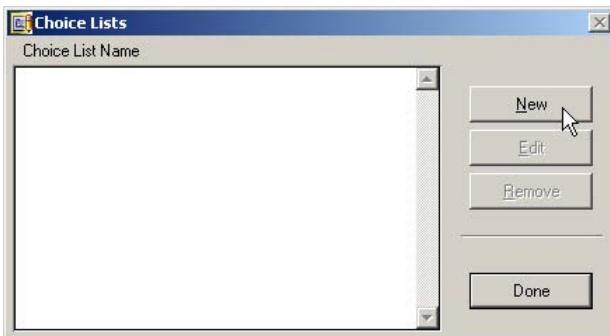
Creating and Using Choice Lists

With eForms Designer, creating and using a choice list is a two-step process. First, you name the choice list and specify each of the choices. Second, you specify which cells the choice list is to be used with. By creating a choice list as a separate step, a single choice list can be used among several different cells. That way, when you need to change the items in a choice list, you can do so once and have the change take effect for multiple cells.

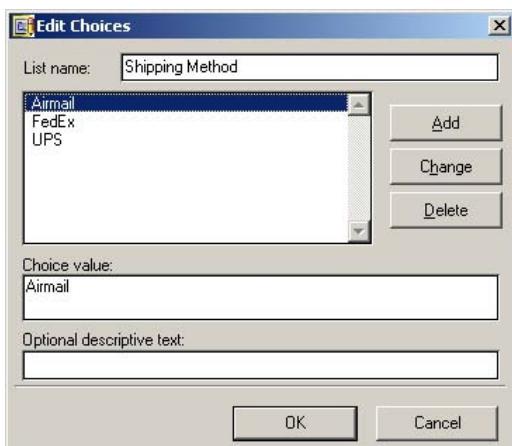
Task 29a: Create a Simple Choice List

For this task, you'll create a new choice list to be used with the Ship_Via cell.

1. Choose **Settings > Cell** or right-click the Ship_Via cell, choose **Cell**, and click the **Choice Lists** button to display the Choice Lists dialog box.



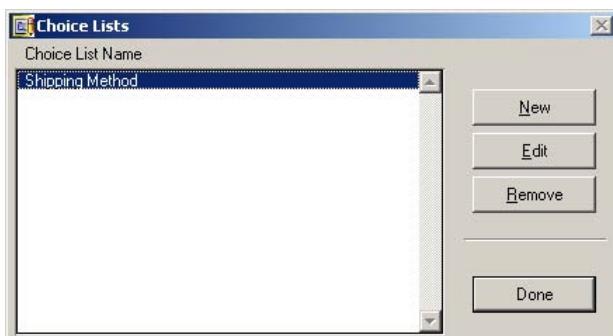
2. Click the **New** button on the Choice Lists dialog box to display the Edit Choices dialog box.
3. Type “Shipping Method” in the ‘List name’ field; then press Tab *twice* to move to the ‘Choice value’ field at the bottom of the dialog box.
4. Type the following entries, clicking the **Add** button after each entry: “Airmail,” “FedEx,” “UPS.”



5. Click **OK** to return to the Choice Lists dialog box; then click **Done**.

NOTE If required, you can set your choice lists in alphanumeric order. Use Shift + Alt + Add when adding a new list item or select an existing item and use Shift + Alt + Change.

Notice that when you return to the Choice Lists dialog box, the name of your new choice list is displayed in the list.



Now the user will be able to enter a value in the 'Ship_Via' cell by making a selection from the choices available.

Task 29b: Create a Dynamic Choice List

By using formulas, you can create dynamic choice lists that change based on other information that's entered in the form. For this task, you'll configure the Delivery_Schedule cell to display a specific choice list based on what's entered in the Ship_Via cell.

1. Right-click the Instructions cell and choose **Cell**.
2. Click **Choice Lists**.
3. Click **New** on the Choice Lists dialog box to display the Edit Choices dialog box.
4. Type "Schedules" in the 'List name' field; then press Tab *twice* to move to the 'Choice value' field at the bottom of the dialog box.
5. Type the following formula into the 'Choice value' field and then click **Add**. To properly enter the formula, you should type in each line exactly as it appears below. Also, you should enter each line separately; type in the first line, click the **Add** button, then the second line, and so on until you have entered the entire formula:

```
<<If Ship_Via = "Airmail" Then
  Tokenize("Overnight_24 hrs_Express overseas","_")
Elseif Ship_Via = "FedEx" Then
  Tokenize("Expedited ship_4 day delivery_7 day delivery","_")
Elseif Ship_Via = "UPS" Then
  Tokenize("24 hrs_2 day ship","_")
End>>
```

If you get a message that the calculation is invalid, check your formula for spelling errors and typos.

6. Click **OK** to return to the Choice Lists dialog box, click **Done**, and click **OK**.

Using Scripts with Form Templates

With JavaScript™, you can create scripts to customize solutions for your forms and improve interactions between the forms and their users. With a script, you can manipulate cells on the form, execute built-in commands (e.g., Launch, Complete), navigate forms, populate cell values from a company directory presented in a pop-up window, and reload pages.

You won't add a script to your form in this tutorial, but you will add and delete some placeholder text in order to see how the process works.

Task 30a: Add a Script to a Form

1. Choose **Form > Template Settings > Scripts** to open the Edit HTML eForms JavaScript dialog box.
2. Type a placeholder in the text window, like the following example:

<script> </script>

The text window is where you enter the full content of your script. You can type in a script, copy and paste the script text into the text window, or click the **Import** button to select a JavaScript file located on your workstation.

3. Click **OK**.

You can have only one script embedded in a form template. Once you have added a script to a form, you can edit it or remove it.

Task 30b: Edit or Remove a Script

1. Choose **Form > Template Settings > Scripts** to open the Edit HTML eForms JavaScript dialog box. The placeholder text that you entered in Task 30a will still be present in the text box.
2. Select the placeholder text and press the **Delete** key.
3. Click **OK**.

This is the end of the Choice Lists and Scripts section. The next section explains how to develop simple Calculations.

Calculations

This section explains how to create simple calculations for cells on your template, and how to add functioning buttons to a form. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Create simple calculations ([Task 31 on page 73](#)).
2. Create default values:
 - Assign a default value to the 'Bill_To' cell ([Task 32a on page 75](#)).
 - Assign a default value to the display-only 'Date' cell ([Task 32b on page 75](#)).
3. Create a check formula ([Task 33 on page 75](#)).

Overview

Often a cell gets its value by manipulating other information on a form. For example, the discount amount on a sales slip is calculated as the discount rate times the total purchase amount. You can use a calculation so that the value is filled in automatically for the user.

	Sub Total	754.90
Discount Rate	<input type="text" value=".07"/>	Discount
		52.84
		Total
		702.06

Calculate the discount amount as
Sub Total * Discount Rate

eForms Designer provides a comprehensive set of operators and functions that make it easy to create sophisticated calculations. You can even use *if-then-else* logic to calculate different results under certain conditions. For detailed information on formulas and functions, see your *eForms Designer Help*.

Creating Calculations

In this lesson, you'll create calculations for the 'Extended' and 'Total' cells.

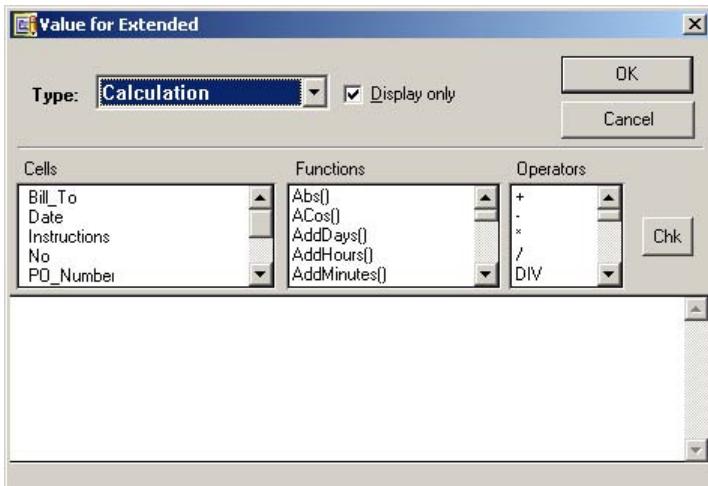
Task 31: Create Calculations for Two Cells

1. Select the 'Extended' table cell.
2. Choose **Settings > Value** or click **Value**  on the Cell palette. The Value dialog box appears.



3. Select “Calculation” from the ‘Type’ drop-down list.

The dialog box changes to show a large field and three lists containing cell names, functions, and operators.



4. Type the following calculation formula (or select from the list of Cells and Operators) in the large field exactly as shown below:

Qty * Unit_Cost

5. Click **Chk** to check your formula; then click **OK**.

The formula above multiplies the number of items ('Qty') by the price ('Unit_Cost') and places the result in the corresponding row of the 'Extended' table cell.

6. Using the same method, enter the following formula for the 'Total' cell.

Sum (Extended)

The formula above gives the sum of all values in the 'Extended' table column cell.

Creating Default Values

A default value is a value that automatically fills in each time the user fills out a new form. However, unlike calculations, a default value doesn't change unless the user types a different value. Use a default value whenever a cell often has the same value. For example, the default value for the date cell on an invoice could be today's date.

There are three different types of default values:

- Creation date
- Creation time
- Constant value

'Creation date' and 'Creation time' default value types are used for automatic entry of the current date or time when the user fills out a new form. The 'Constant value' default type requires that you specify the default value itself.

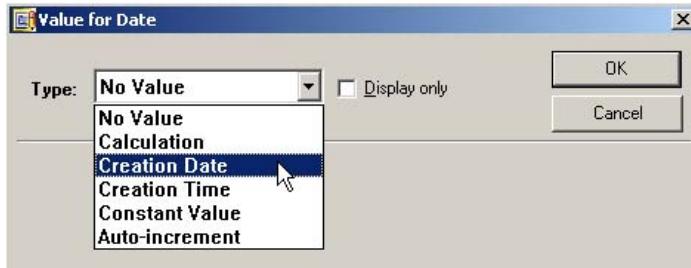
In this lesson, you'll assign a default value to the 'Bill_To' and 'Date' cells so that the billing address and current date are entered automatically when the user fills out a new record.

Task 32a: Assign a Default Value to the 'Bill_To' Cell

1. Select the 'Bill_To' cell.
2. Choose **Settings > Value** or click **Value**  on the Cell palette.
3. Select "Constant Value" from the 'Type' drop-down list in the Value dialog box.
4. Enter the following address in the large field that appears:
World Corporation
Accounts Payable
115 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 12345
5. Select the 'Display only' checkbox option; then click **OK**.

Task 32b: Assign a Default Value to the 'Date' Cell.

1. Select the 'Date' cell and choose **Settings > Value**.
2. Select "Creation date" from the 'Type' drop-down list in the Value dialog box.



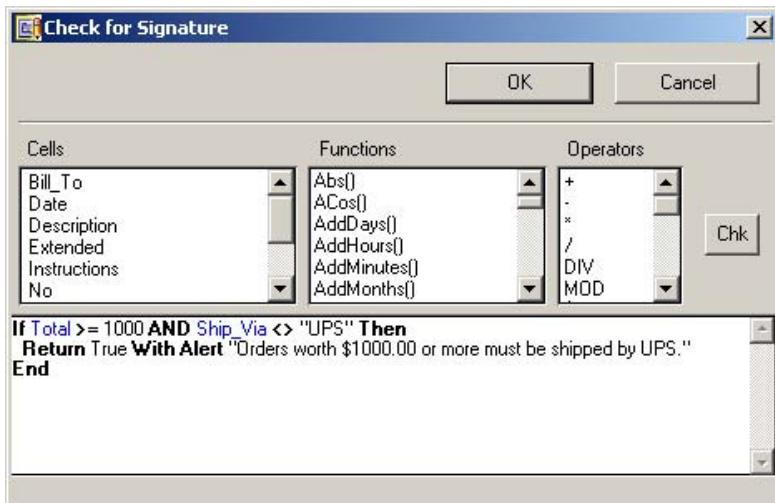
3. Select the 'Display only' checkbox; then click **OK**.

Task 33: Create a Check Formula

A check formula tests for error or warning conditions. For this task, you'll create a check formula to ensure that purchases worth over one thousand dollars are shipped via UPS.

1. Select the 'Signature' cell.
2. Choose **Settings > Check** or click **Check**  on the Cell palette to display the Check dialog box.
3. Type the following formula in the large field in the Check dialog box.

```
If Total >= 1000 And Ship_Via <> "UPS" then Return True with Alert "Orders worth $1000.00 or more must be shipped by UPS." End
```
4. Click **Chk** to make sure the formula is valid; then click **OK**.



When the user enters a value and tabs out of the 'Signature' cell, the check formula will be triggered. If the amount in the 'Total' cell is one thousand dollars or more, a warning message displays.

NOTE In the previous check formula, you specified that the formula would return "True." This displays the alert message and allows the form user to finish processing the form. If you configure a check formula to return "False" instead, the form user might not be able to print, save, or submit the form until the value in question is corrected. The actions the user can take depend on how the form's error handling is set up. See your *eForms Designer Help* for more information about error checking and error handling.

Using Buttons

You can place buttons on your form to make it easier to use. A button can be configured with one of the following functions:

- Built-in Command - assigns a command from a pre-configured list of options
- Hyperlink - opens a URL in a web browser window
- Go to Cell - moves the form's entry point to a pre-specified cell
- Go to Cell via Calculation - moves the entry point to a cell based on the results of a calculation

Use the **Button** tool on the Drawing palette to draw a button on a form; then select **Settings > Button** to open the Button Settings dialog box. Select the function you want to assign to the button from the drop-down list, and click **OK**.

For more information on using buttons, consult your *eForms Designer Help*.

This is the end of the Calculations section. The next section explains how to generate auto-incrementing numbers for your form.

Auto-incrementing Numbers

This section explains how to configure a cell to hold an auto-incrementing number. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Setup JDBC connectivity for an auto-incrementing number and
2. Configure a cell to hold an auto-incrementing number ([Task 34 on page 77](#)).

Overview

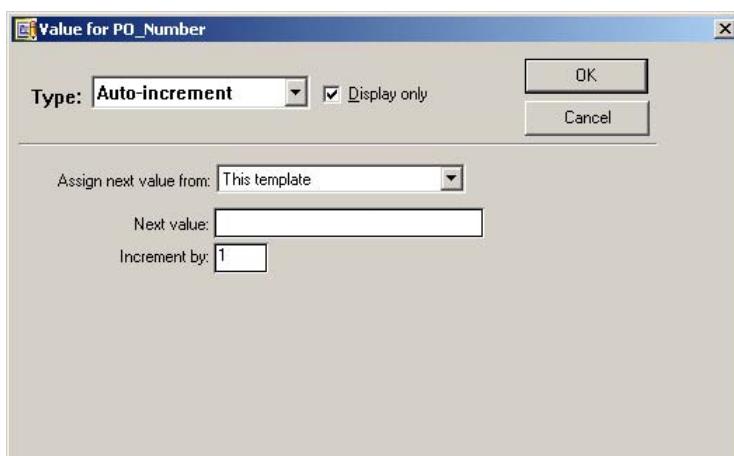
Forms such as invoices, expense claims, and purchase orders are often numbered uniquely for identification purposes. In organizations that use paper forms, these unique form numbers usually have to be pre-printed on the paper documents. With electronic forms, unique form numbers can be assigned automatically, each time a new form is filled out. A form number that's generated automatically is called an auto-increment.

The next available number can be generated via JDBC connectivity.

Task 34: Configure an Auto-increment

For this task, you'll configure an auto-increment for the 'PO_Number' cell on your template. You'll need to create a single table database in SQL (preferably) or Microsoft Access called "tblOrders" with a field called "PONumber." Save the database with the name "Tutorial." The first auto-increment value should begin at 1000.

1. If you created the database with MS Access, then copy the Tutorial.mdb file to a system that is running Microsoft SQL Server 2000. This file must be converted to SQL. Please see the **eForms Designer Sample > Templates** folder for conversion instructions. Contact your system administrator if you need help with this task. Also, you must record the host name or IP address of the web server at this step.
2. Select the 'PO_Number' cell with the **Pointer** tool.
3. Choose **Settings > Value**; then select "Auto-increment" from the 'Type' drop-down list to display the Auto-increment panel of the Value dialog box.



4. Select “JDBC” from the ‘Assign next value from’ drop-down list. You can also select ODBC or HTTP when designing your form, but use JDBC for this tutorial.

5. Click **Configure**.

6. Click **Define Connection**. The Define Connection dialog box appears.

7. In the ‘Connection string’ field, enter the following connection string:

```
jdbc:microsoft:sqlserver://servername;DatabaseName=Tutorial
```

Change “servername” to the correct host name or IP address of the web server that contains the Tutorial database.

8. Enter the following SQL statement in the auto-increment text box:

```
Select PONumber from tblOrders;  
Update tblOrders Set PONumber = "PONumber" + 1;  
Select PONumber from tblOrders;  
<<1@PO_Number>>
```

9. Click **OK** until all dialog boxes have closed.

You have now successfully completed some basic design and intelligence automation features for your first ITX form template. The next section explains how to deploy the template to an object store in P8 Workplace.

NOTE If you want to compare the design and intelligence features you've just created with a completed copy of this purchase order template, go to your FileNet eForms Designer CD, browse to the **Documentation > Tutorial** folder and open “PurchaseOrder.itx” in eForms Designer. The Open Document dialog box appears and prompts you for a password. Enter “mytutorial”.

Deploying an ITX Form Template to an Object Store

This section explains how to deploy an ITX form template to a Workplace object store and then create two simple form template policies.

NOTE You must have the appropriate Designer permissions for Workplace. If required, contact your system administrator for these access rights.

At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Create folders in a Workplace Object Store that will contain your form templates, form data entry templates, form data, and workflow and document policies ([Task 35 on page 79](#)).
2. Deploy an ITX form template directly from eForms Designer to Workplace ([Task 36 on page 80](#)).
3. Create a simple workflow definition.
 - Draw a workflow definition using Process Designer ([Task 37a on page 81](#)).
 - Define conditional routing responses ([Task 37b on page 83](#)).
 - Assign step participants and choose an appropriate step processor ([Task 37c on page 84](#)).
 - Set General and Data Field Workflow Properties ([Task 37d on page 84](#)).
 - Add Step Description Instructions ([Task 37e on page 85](#)).
 - Validate the workflow and save it to Workplace ([Task 37f on page 85](#)).
 - Transfer the workflow definition ([Task 37g on page 86](#)).
4. Create a form data entry template ([Task 38 on page 86](#)).
5. Create a workflow policy.
 - Create a workflow policy ([Task 39a on page 87](#)).
 - Set toolbar and router settings ([Task 39b on page 89](#)).
6. Create a document policy ([Task 40 on page 90](#)).

Overview

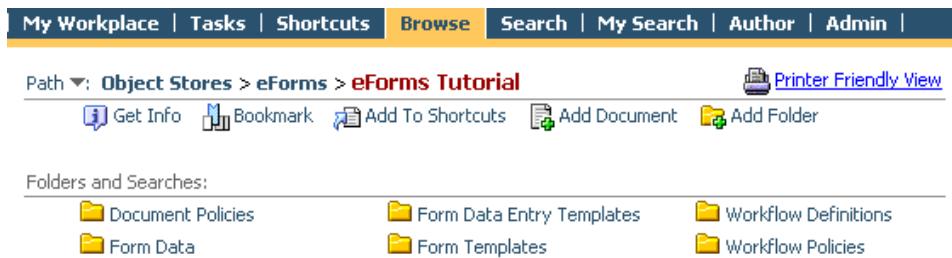
After you create templates in eForms Designer, you can deploy them to Workplace. When an ITX is deployed and attached to a form template policy, the user can open forms online in a browser window and save them to an object store.

Task 35: Setup Folders in an Object Store

The form policy author or form author can set up folders in Workplace to store form templates and form template policies.

1. Login to Workplace.
2. In **Browse > Object Stores**, click an Object Store that you can add folders to.
3. Click **Add Folder**.

4. (Optional) Choose a Folder Class.
5. Click **Next** or **Set Properties**.
6. In the Folder Name field, enter “eForms Tutorial.”
7. Click **Next** or **Set Security**.
8. Click **Finish** and then click **OK**.
9. Browse to the eForms Tutorial folder and create the following 6 sub-folders: Form Templates, Form Data Entry Templates, Form Data, Workflow Definitions, Workflow Policies, and Document Policies.



Task 36: Deploy an ITX Form Template to P8 Workplace

Completed form templates can be deployed directly from eForms Designer to Workplace.

1. In eForms Designer, choose **File > FileNet P8 > Add**. You may be prompted to login to the Workplace at this step.
2. In the Add dialog box, browse to the Object Store that contains the eForms Tutorial > Form Templates folder and then click **Save**.
3. Click **Next** on the FileNet P8 Add dialog box.
4. Click **Next** or **Set Properties**.
5. In the Document Title field, enter “Purchase Order.”
6. In the From Description field, enter “eForms Tutorial Form Template” and then click **Next**.
7. (Optional) Select the major version option. You can also leave this option and promote the form template version from minor to major at a later time.
8. Click **Finish** and then click **OK** to complete the form deployment.

In Workplace, if you have not promoted the form to a major version it will appear in display-only mode as shown next. The cells containing constant and creation date values will always display data:

PURCHASE ORDER

Purchase Order Number			

Supplier Name and Address	Send Invoice To	Deliver Goods To
	World Corporation Accounts Payable 115 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 12345	

Ship Partial Orders		Ship Via
<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Call First (412) 456-7890

Special Instructions	

Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost

Authorizing Signature	Date Issued	Total
	Mar 9, 2004	

Task 37a: Draw a Workflow Definition

Before you create a workflow policy, you must design a workflow definition that includes the form as part of or as the whole presentation for the entire business process. If you are creating only document policies, skip these instructions and move on to Task 36.

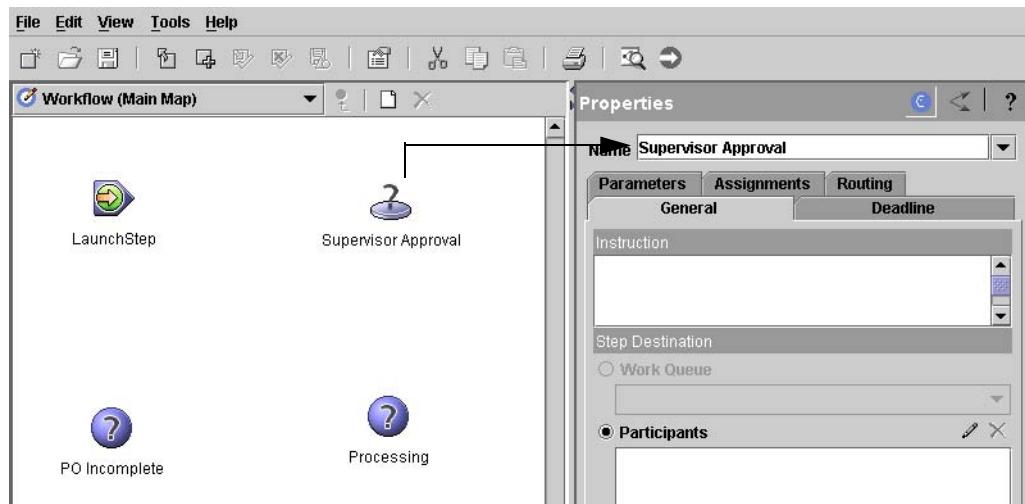
1. Click **Author > Advanced Tools**.
2. Click **Process Designer**. An applet window opens and starts the Process Designer tool.

NOTE You must have the appropriate access rights to use Process Designer. Please see your system administrator if you cannot view the Process Designer link.

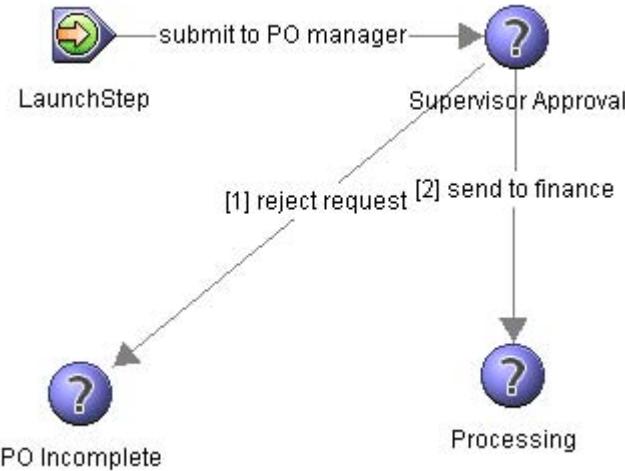
3. Click and drag the **General Step** to the window containing the “LaunchStep.” Repeat this step 2 more times and you will then have a total of 3 new steps.



4. Click the first general step as shown below. In the “Name” field of the Properties pane, rename the step “Supervisor Approval.” As you click each step, the icon changes to indicate that it has been selected.



5. Rename the second general step (left side) to “PO Incomplete” and the last step to “Processing.”
6. Use a click and drag motion to draw routes between the steps as shown in the following image.

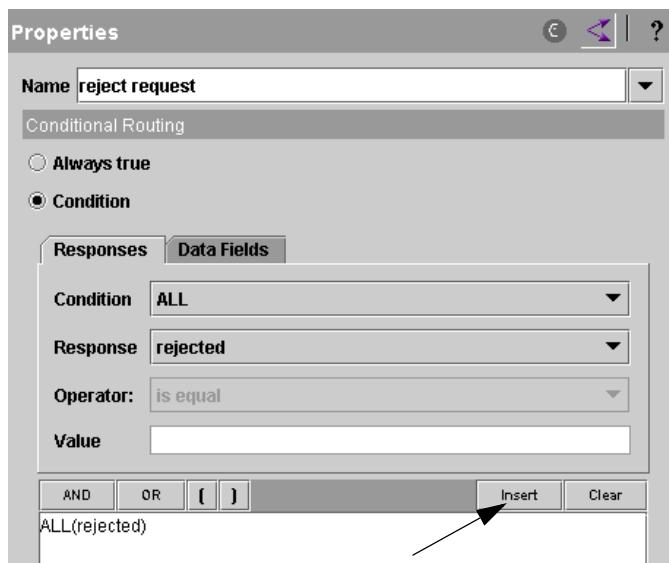


7. To rename the routes, click the route and enter a name in the “Name” field of the Properties pane. You can use the name shown in the previous image or create your own.

Task 37b: Define Responses

You can define responses for a workflow where a decision must be made at a particular step that has two or more routes emerging from it.

1. Click the Supervisor Approval step and click the Routing tab in the Properties pane.
2. In the Responses section, double-click the empty field in the Name column, type “approved”, and then press Enter. Add another response called “rejected.”
3. Click the “reject request” route. In the properties pane under “Conditional Routing,” choose “Condition.”
4. From the “response” field, choose “rejected” and then click **Insert**.



5. Click the “send to finance” route. Under “Conditional Routing” in the properties pane, choose “Condition.”
6. From the “response” field, choose “accepted” and then click **Insert**.

Task 37c: Assign Step Participants and choose Step Processor

For each step, you can assign one or more intended recipients or an entire work queue. You must also determine the appropriate step processor to use for each step, including the LaunchStep.

1. Click the Supervisor Approval step and click the General tab.
2. In the Step Destination section, beside the Participants option click the **Modify** button (displays as pencil icon) and add “F_Originator” to the Selected Participants list.
3. In the Step Processor section, choose “Form HTML (FileNet)” from the drop-down list.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 for all other steps except the Launch Step.
5. Click “LaunchStep” and in the Step Processor section, choose “Form Launch HTML (FileNet).”

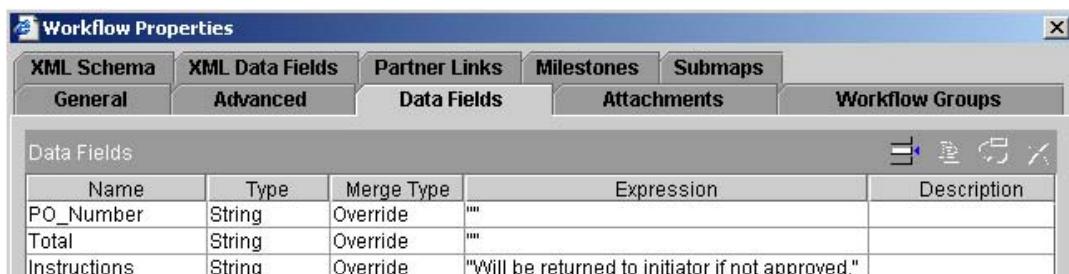
Task 37d: Set Workflow Properties

In the General tab of the Workflow Properties, you must enter a name for the workflow.

1. From the toolbar, click **Workflow Properties** or choose **View > Workflow Properties**. In the 'Workflow Name' field of the General tab, enter "Tutorial Purchase Order."



2. In the 'Subject' field enter "Purchase Order Process."
3. Click the Data Fields tab and enter the following data field Name, Type, and Expression as shown next.



4. Click “PO_Number” and then select the **Field Usage** tool from the toolbar above the Description column. The Field Usage dialog box appears.



5. Click "LaunchStep" from the list of Available Steps and then click  to add it to the list of Selected Steps. Repeat for "Total" and "Special_Instructions" (except add the Supervisor Approval Step instead of the LaunchStep for this data field). Click **Close** until all dialog boxes have closed.

Task 37e: Add Instructions

You can add instructions that can be mapped to the "F_StepDescription" field on your form.

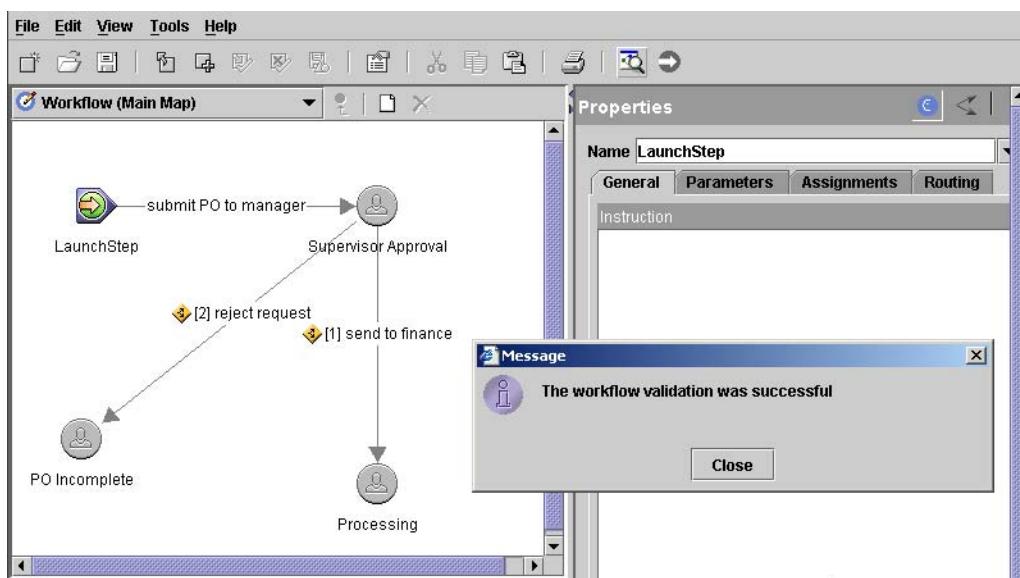
NOTE If you prefer to have special fields like "Responses" and "Instructions" appear in a router region above or below the form instead of on the form itself, you can configure a special feature called "Regional Layout" in [Task 39b on page 89](#).

1. Click **LaunchStep**.
2. In the Instruction field of the General tab, enter the following:

This Purchase Order form is used to request items such as office supplies and computer equipment.
Please fill out the form and submit it to your supervisor or manager.

Task 37f: Validate Workflow and Check in to Workplace

1. Click **Validate Workflow** to ensure that your workflow definition does not contain errors.



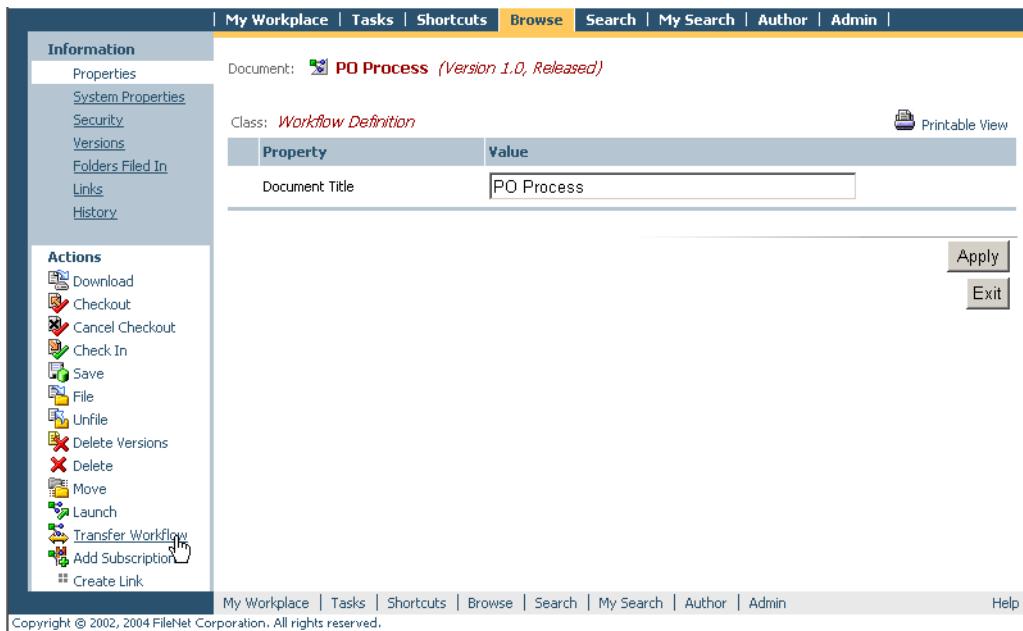
2. Click the **FileNet Add New** button on the toolbar to save your workflow definition to the Workplace. If necessary, browse to your Workflow Definitions folder; save the workflow with the name "PO Process."

Task 37g: Transfer the Workflow

Before the user can launch a workflow definition from a workflow policy, the workflow definition must be transferred to the Process Engine. You can transfer the definition from the Process Designer or from the Information page for the workflow definition in Workplace.

1. Browse to the Object Store folder containing your workflow definition.
2. Click the Information button  beside the title. Click **Transfer Workflow** as shown on the image below.

NOTE If you right-click the title of the workflow and select **Transfer Workflow** from the context menu, the next steps described in this guide are slightly different.



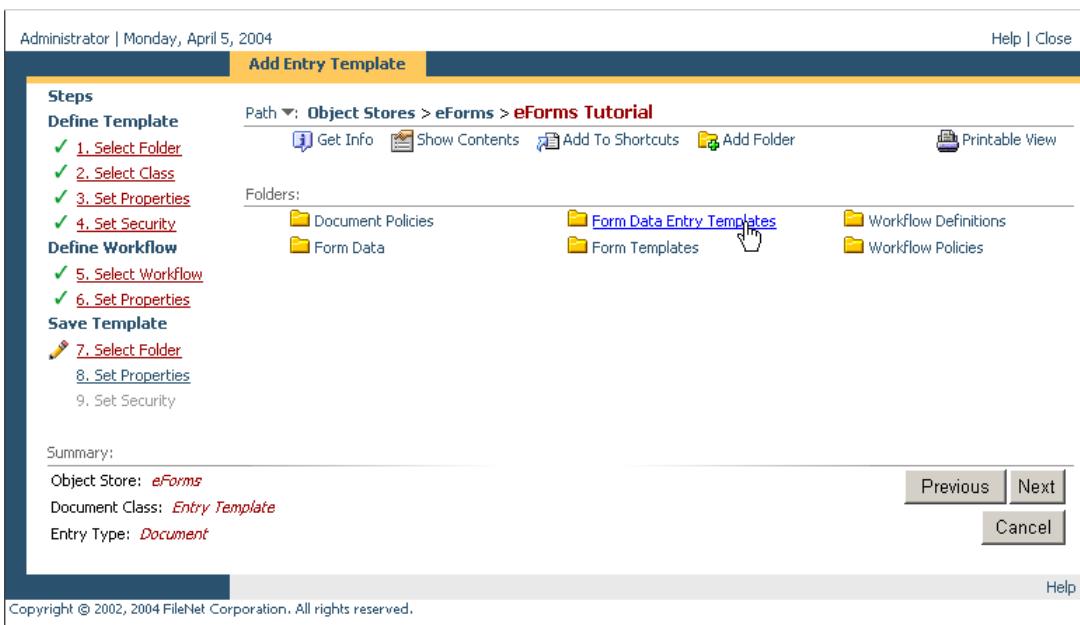
3. Click **Apply** and then **Exit**.

Task 38: Create a Form Data Entry Template

Before you create a document policy or a workflow policy that requires a saved copy of form data, you can set up a form data entry template that specifies properties such as the form data document name, the folder that will store the form data, and security settings. When the user completes work on the form, these steps take place automatically when the document is saved or checked into Workplace.

1. Click **Author > Advanced Tools**.
2. Click **Add Entry Template**.

3. Under Form Data Entry Template, click **Select**.
4. Browse to the Form Data folder in the Object Store.
5. Click **Next** or **Select Class**.
6. Click **Next** or **Set Properties**.
7. In the Document Title field, enter “Purchase Orders 2005.”
8. Click **Next** or **Set Security**.
9. Accept the defaults and click **Next**.
10. (Optional). If you wish to assign a workflow to this policy, you can choose from a list of existing workflow definitions; however, it is not required for this task.
11. Click **Select Folder**.
12. Browse to the Form Data Entry Template folder in the Object Store.



13. Click **Next** or **Set Properties**.
14. In the Document Title field, enter “Purchase Order Entry Template.”
15. Click **Next** or **Set Security**.
16. Click **Finish** and **OK** to save your new Form Data Entry Template.

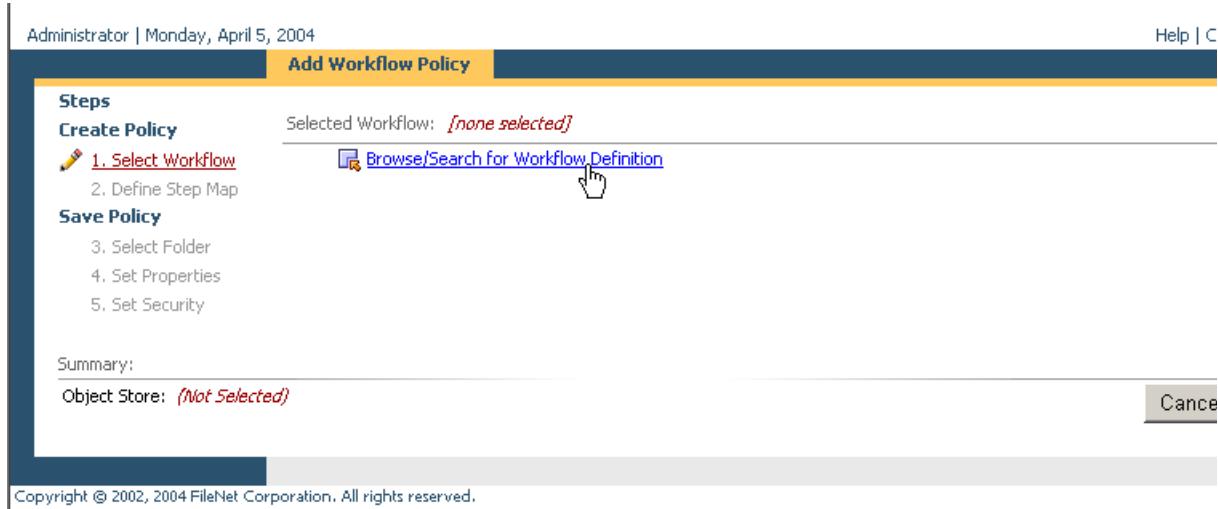
Task 39a: Create a Workflow Policy

The final step in setting up a form template for use in P8 Workplace is to associate it with a form template policy. You will create a simple workflow policy using the Workflow Manager wizard. If you are creating only document policies, skip these instructions and move on to Task 40.

1. Click **Author > Advanced Tools**.

2. Click **Add Form Template Policy**.
3. Under Workflow Policy, click **Select**.
4. Click **Browse/Search for Workflow Definition** and browse to the Object Store folder that contains the PO Process workflow. From the Versions link, select the most recent version.

NOTE You can have only one workflow definition mapped to a given form template policy.



5. Click **Next** (the link located in the lower right corner of the Add Workflow Policy dialog box) or **Define Step Map** (the link located in the left side navigation menu called "Steps").
6. Under Workflow Steps, click the checkboxes beside all the steps and then click **Define Step Maps** from the multi-select actions list.



The Step Manager Wizard opens in a new window.

7. Click **Browse/Search for Form Template**, browse to the Object Store folder that contains the Purchase Order form template and select the most recent version.
8. Click **Next** and then click **Finish**.
9. Click **Next** or **Select Folder**.
10. Browse to your Workflow Policies folder and then click **Next** or **Set Properties**.
11. Under Options, choose "Yes" from the Add as a major version drop-down list.
12. In the Document Title field, enter "PO Workflow Policy."
13. Click **Next** or **Set Security**.
14. Accept the defaults and click **Finish**.

Task 39b: Change the Toolbar and Router Settings

You can also configure various customizable features that control the display of the form in the step processor window. For the launch step and post launch steps, you can show or hide optional toolbar commands, change the alias name, and provide a user-friendly tool tip to describe the command. For all steps, you can display a router region that contains workflow step information such as instructions, deadline, responses, subject, and comments.

Because you've just saved and completed the workflow policy, you'll have to re-open it to make the changes.

1. Browse to the object store folder where you saved the workflow policy in step 9 of the previous task.
2. Right-click the policy and choose **Modify Workflow Policy** from the pop-up list. The Workflow Manager Wizard window displays.
3. Click **Define Step Map**.
4. Click the first checkbox beside Workflow Steps to select all steps.
5. Click **Display Settings**.
6. Under the Show column beside the Toolbar Commands list, ensure that the checkboxes beside "Attachments" and "Workflow Groups" are selected.
7. In the Alias column beside the Save toolbar command, type "Save this order."
8. In the tool tip column beside the Save toolbar command, type "A copy of your order will be saved to your forms folder." The Save button will appear at the post-launch steps.
9. Click **Settings** beside Regional Layout.
10. Click **Configure Default Regions**.
11. Click the "Show Router Region" checkbox.
12. Click the "Show Subject" and "Show Responses" checkboxes. You can also click the "Show Instructions" checkbox if you did not create the F_StepDescription field at [Task 37e on page 85](#).

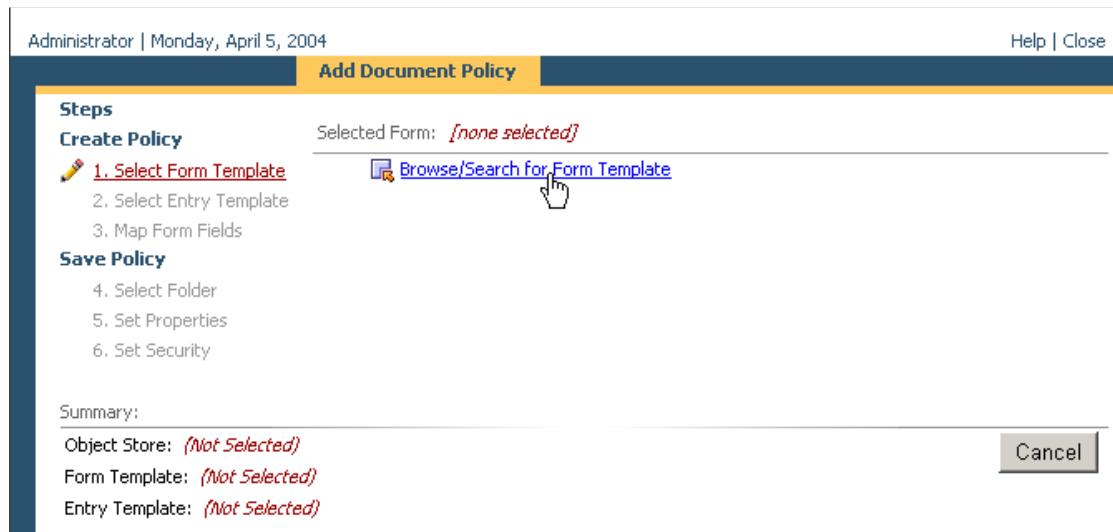
NOTE If you have designed a form template with an F_Responses cell, do not choose "Show Responses" when configuring the router region. If both response fields are present, a conflict can occur where one user chooses a response on the form while another user chooses a response from the router region. If responses are entered in both fields, the last response chosen by the user is the one that takes precedence.

13. Click "Show Comments" to clear the checkbox.
14. Change the location to "Top" from the drop-down list.
15. Click **Continue**.
16. In the Define Step Map window, click **Continue**.
17. Click **Finish** in the Modify Workflow Policy window.
18. Click **OK**.

Task 40: Create a Document Policy

The final step in setting up a form template for use in Workplace is to associate it with a form template policy. You will create a simple document policy using the Document Manager wizard.

1. Click **Author > Advanced Tools**.
2. Click **Add Form Template Policy**.
3. Under Document Policy, click **Select**.
4. Click **Browse/Search for Form Template**, browse to the Object Store folder that contains the Purchase Order form template and select the most recent version.



5. Click **Next** (the link located in the lower right corner of the policy view) or **Select Entry Template** (the link located in the left side navigation menu called “Steps”).
6. Click **Browse/Search for Entry Template** browse to the Object Store folder that contains Purchase Order entry template and select the most recent version.
7. (Optional) You can map published template fields to document class properties; however, it is not required for the purposes of this tutorial.
8. Click **Select Folder** and browse to the Document Policy folder in the Object Store.
9. Under Options, choose “Yes” from the Add as a major version drop-down list.
10. Click **Next or Set Properties**.
11. In the Document Title field, enter “Purchase Orders Policy”.
12. Click **Next or Set Security**.
13. Click **Finish** and **OK** to save your new Document Policy.

Now that you have completed the design and deployment of the ITX form template, you can test all the form features in the final section of this tutorial.

Testing Your ITX Form Template

This section explains how to test the intelligence features of your ITX form template. At the end of this section, you'll know how to perform the following tasks:

1. Test various intelligence features of the eForm within a document policy:
 - Test default values ([Task 41a on page 92](#)).
 - Test the auto-increment ([Task 41b on page 92](#)).
 - Test conditional tabbing ([Task 41c on page 92](#)).
 - Test the 'Entry is Required' setting ([Task 41d on page 92](#)).
 - Test the help message ([Task 41e on page 92](#)).
 - Test the choice list ([Task 41f on page 92](#)).
 - Test the dynamic choice list ([Task 41g on page 93](#)).
 - Test the calculations ([Task 41h on page 93](#)).
 - Test the digital signature ([Task 41i on page 93](#)).
 - Test the check formula ([Task 41j on page 94](#)).
2. Test various intelligence features of the eForm (in addition to the items above) within a workflow policy:
 - Launch the workflow ([Task 42a on page 94](#)).
 - Open a new work item ([Task 42b on page 94](#)).

Overview

When you draw the graphic elements of a template, it's easy to visually inspect the form and check for possible errors. Checking the form's intelligence features can be just as easy with eForms Designer's test mode. Test mode simulates the fill out environment and gives you an idea of what the user fill experience would be like. However, for best simulation of the user experience, always deploy your ITX form templates to Workplace and then test it.

You can fill out a form by typing or pasting information into each cell. You can move from one cell to another by pressing the Tab key or by clicking a different cell with the pointer. When you press Tab, the cursor moves to the next cell in tab position order. If you hold the Shift key while pressing Tab, the previous cell is selected instead. If you've configured any conditional tabs, you'll see their effect while testing your form.

Testing Your ITX Form Template within a Document Policy

In the following tasks, you'll test the intelligence features of your form to ensure that everything works smoothly for the user.

Task 41a: Test Default Values

To test your form template, return to Workplace and browse to the Purchase Order form template, or the Purchase Orders Policy in your Document Policies folder. A blank instance of the form will open in a browser window. The 'Send Invoice To' and 'Date Issued' fields already contain data.

NOTE Ensure that your form template has been promoted to a major version before testing (see Task 35 for details).

Task 41b: Test the Auto-increment

The auto-increment number appears as soon as a blank instance of the form opens.

Task 41c: Test Conditional Tabbing

As you tab into the 'Yes' field, the border of the checkbox is outlined to indicate that it's selected. Now you can test several intelligence features at once. You can test the 'cluster' setting for the 'Yes,' 'No,' and 'Call first' checkboxes to make sure that only one can be turned on at a time. You can also check the results of the conditional tab formula that you configured for the 'Yes' and 'No' checkboxes.

1. Select the 'Yes' field by clicking it with the pointer, or press any key on the keyboard.
2. Select the 'No' or 'Call first' checkbox. The 'Yes' checkbox should turn off automatically.
3. Select the 'Yes' checkbox; then press Tab. With 'Yes' selected, your conditional tab formula should skip the 'No' and 'Phone' checkboxes and move you directly to the 'Ship_Via' field.

Task 41d: Test the Entry is Required Setting

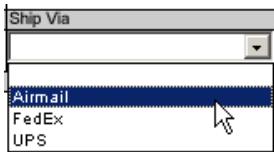
1. Tab out of the 'Ship_Via' field without making an entry to test the 'Entry is Required' setting.
The application checks to see if a value was entered in the field. Because no entry was made, a message is displayed.
2. Click **OK** to dismiss the message. If the form was being filled out, the user could continue filling out the form but might be unable to accept and save the record until the required cell value was entered, depending upon how the Error Handling was configured.

Task 41e: Test the Help Message

1. When you click the 'Ship Via' cell, the help message appears in the Footer area of the screen.

Task 41f: Test the Simple Choice List

1. Click the Arrow indicator in the 'Ship_Via' field title section. The choice list appears.



2. Select "Airmail" from the choice list and press Tab.

Task 41g: Test the Dynamic Choice List

1. Click the History page.
2. Click the arrow indicator in the 'Requested Delivery Period' drop-down list. "Overnight, 24 hrs, and Express overseas" should be your list of choices.

Task 41h: Test the Calculations

1. Click the Order Page.
2. Type 100 in the 'Qty' column; then press Tab.
3. Enter an item description in the 'Description' column; then press Tab.
4. Enter 15 in the 'Unit Cost' column; then press Tab.

Now two calculations are triggered at once and the resulting values are displayed in the 'Extended Cost' and 'Total' fields.

Qty	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
100	Supersonic Staplers	15.00	1,500.00
Authorizing Signature		Date Issued	Total
		Mar 9, 2004	\$1,500.00

Task 41i: Test the Digital Signature

1. Click the **Click Here To Sign** link in the Authorizing Signature field.



2. Enter your user name and password in the signing service dialog box. Click **Sign**. Your signature is displayed in the cell.
3. Try to change the information in the Ship Via field. Because you signed in the Authorizing Signature field, you cannot modify this data.
4. Click the **Status** button to the left of the signature. The Signature Verification window appears.
5. Click **Delete**. The Delete Signature dialog box appears.
6. Click **Delete**. The signature is removed and the field reverts to the link “Click Here To Sign.”
7. Try to change the information in the Ship Via field. Because you deleted the signature from the Authorizing Signature field, you can now modify this data.

Task 41j: Test the Check Formula

1. Enter your name and password in the ‘Signature’ field. Click **Sign** and then press the Tab key. As you tab out of the ‘Authorizing Signature’ field, the check formula you created is triggered. Because the value of the purchase is more than 1000 dollars, an alert message is displayed.
2. Click **OK** to dismiss the message.
3. Delete the signature as before.
4. Select “UPS” from the ‘Ship_Via’ choice list.
5. Print your form while in test mode to see how a paper copy looks with all the data fields filled out.
6. Close the form.

Testing Your ITX Form Template within a Workflow Policy

Repeat the same tasks that you used to test the document policy. In addition, you can test the following:

Task 42a: Launch the Workflow

1. Re-sign the form and then click the Launch button on the toolbar above the form. This will move the form to the next step in the workflow.
NOTE If a form data entry template has been configured for the workflow policy, you can save your data using the Add Document dialog box.



Task 42b: Open the New Work Item

1. Click **Tasks** from the left side navigation menu.
2. Click **My Inbox**.

3. Click the item named Purchase Order Process. The form will open with the data you saved at the LaunchStep.
4. Close the form.

This is the end of the Testing Your Form section.

If you've completed all the tasks in this tutorial, you should have a working knowledge of eForms Designer's basic design and intelligence capabilities, and how to create simple form template policies. For information about eForms Designer's more advanced features, please consult your *eForms Designer Help*.

Appendix A - Planning Your Form

A well-known expression is “People don’t plan to fail; they fail to plan.” This is especially true for the form author. The usability and success of your form is directly related to how well you research and plan the form before drawing. This section contains a list of ten steps designed to help you plan and implement a successful electronic form.

The following information was generously provided by Mr. Robert Barnett of Robert Barnett and Associates Pty. Ltd.

Step 1 - Establish the primary purpose of the form

You’ll design a better form if you have a clear idea of the form’s purpose and understand what you are trying to achieve.

Step 2 - Find out who will use the form

Find out who will *fill out* the form, who will *process* the form when it’s received, and who will need to *reference* the form at a later date.

It’s also worthwhile to consider the following questions:

- Will the form be filled out internally, or will people outside your organization use it too?
- Will the users fill out the form regularly, or will they be “once only” form fillers?
- Have the intended users ever filled out an electronic form before?
- What equipment do the users have? What fonts do they use? This can be a significant problem if the forms are used across various platforms. You may need to conduct careful tests.

Step 3 - Analyze the data needs

The data entered on the form can come from the person filling out the form, or it might be “looked up” in an existing database file. Make sure you understand:

- What data does each user need?
- Where does that data come from? Will all the users have access to the data they have to put on the form? For public-use forms and those filled out by people outside your organization, this can be a very important question.

If the data from the completed form will be submitted to a database, here are some typical questions you should ask:

- Is it always numeric or could there be alpha characters? Is there a fixed or maximum size?
- Do some fields need special or consistent formatting?
- How will you handle very long text fields such as descriptions? Will they need scroll bars or a maximum size?

Step 4 - Decide which intelligence features are needed

Electronic forms can eliminate many of the problems caused by user error. For example, one of the biggest problems form fillers have is their inability to carry out basic arithmetic functions such as addition and subtraction. By building automatic calculations into your form, you'll greatly reduce errors of this type.

Make sure you understand the intelligence features that are available and use them to your advantage. Consider how you can implement features such as help messages, choice lists, conditional tabbing, and check formulas.

Step 5 - Determine the form filling process

If possible, try to determine how the users will process the form. This information can have an impact on the design and features of your form. For example, do users fill out the entire form at one sitting? If not, and your form contains mandatory fields, they won't be able to save and close their work overnight.

Step 6 - Determine the form handling process

Filling out a form is just the beginning of a process. Think about what happens *after* the form is filled out.

- Do users need to print out a copy of the form? This can seriously affect the design style. If your organization has many users and different computer printers, you may have to design around the limitations of the poorest printer.
- Will the form fillers use email? Are there standard addresses that can be built in to the form?
- If email is used, do all the users have the email application installed on their computers?
- Will all users have access to the template?

Step 7 - Find out how the form interacts with other forms and systems

Electronic forms can be designed to stand alone or to link to other data sources for retrieval and submission of data.

- Does data come from other forms or databases?
- Do you need to update external databases automatically from within the form?

Step 8 - Find out about legal and other usage matters

- Will an electronic form satisfy legal requirements, or are paper copies needed?
- Are electronic signatures acceptable?
- How long do you need to store copies of the form (both template and data)? Does every user have to retain copies of the template and form data? If long term, what processes will you have to put in place to ensure that the forms can be read many years down the line?

Step 9 - Design the form

Once you've done your homework, you should draw the layout and add the intelligence features. In some cases this will be in two sequential steps while in others you will add the intelligence (and even work out the formulas) as you go.

Step 10 - Test the form

This is one of the most important steps and is much more important for electronic forms than it is for paper forms. You are not only dealing with issues of language and comprehension but with people's work methods.

Testing of electronic forms typically involves the following:

- User comprehension: do people understand the form, its questions, instructions and purpose?
- User needs: does the form suit the way people work?
- Field intelligence: does it apply in all situations? Does it actually work? Does it have side effects? Be sure to check the following:
 - Field formatting.
 - Field calculations.
 - Macros.
 - Edit checks / field validations.
 - Tabbing (including conditional tabbing).
 - Database lookups.
- Help messages: are they correct and do people understand them? Do they provide the help that people need and want?
- Choice lists: are they comprehensive and appropriate for all users?
- Database updating: does it work as it is supposed to and does it work for all users?
- Buttons: are they appropriate and do they work for all users?
- Email and routing: is predetermined routing correct and does it cover all situations?
- Custom menus: do they cover all user needs and is the language clear?
- Form tracking: does it work and does it provide the information users need?

This is a summary of the more important issues.

Conclusion

In spite of all the preliminary planning and testing, there is nothing like the real world to find out how a form *really* behaves. Even modern testing methods such as observational usability studies provide information only about the form's *potential* success. Once it's running live, you'll need to carefully review the design and its usage.

Robert Barnett is an internationally known expert on forms design and information management. Information about his books and courses on forms management and design can be found on his company's website at <http://www.rbainformationdesign.com.au>. The site also has free papers available on various aspects of forms management and design.

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