

XL Designer V2 for Ranger2 XL Users

Please read!

Introduction

- * XL Designer is a totally separate product to the existing Ranger2 XL product so they can be installed alongside one another on the same machine.
- * **XL Designer version v2 will only operate under the Windows7 or later operating systems.**
- * All your existing Ranger designs can be opened in XL Designer, however once saved in XL Designer they cannot be opened in Ranger 2 XL – so please ensure you save them with a different name or retain a back up copy before opening.

Installation

- * A license is required to run XL Designer – please request the license if required.

To proceed:

Ensure Windows is running and all other applications are closed.

After downloading the software from: <http://www.xldesigner.com/downloads>, locate the downloaded file and then run it.

There may be short delays (10-20 secs) whilst the s/w is installed. The s/w installation is complete when a window indicates the process is complete and you are requested to select the “Finish” button. Install the license as prompted.

The Changes!

This sheet should be read in conjunction with the file: “XLD V2.<nn> Manual for Existing Ranger2 XL Users.pdf”

General system:

- * Added a “*Display Adjustments*” window to allow adjustment of the display – some editors on some machines may have a “fuzzy” appearance, so these settings need adjusting to suit your particular requirement.
- * Added a *Colours* folder to the navigator *Configuration* folder which allows a set of artwork layer and highlight colours to be applied to all newly created designs.

The job has a corresponding *Configuration > Colours* folder to configure those colours within the design only. Buttons allow the colour sets to be copied to/from the master set, or for the “factory” settings to be restored.

Schematic editor :

- * Connection crosses now disappear from symbol pins when the pins are connected.
- * Symbols may now be displayed with a solid infill colour. To show a symbol filled, open the associated part or design symbol definition, select *Attributes > Symbol* and check the “*Show Symbol Filled*” box. Choose the colour for the infill using the “*Infill Colour*” box. If an outline does not appear filled when this mode is activated, please edit the symbol outline shape to ensure that it forms a closed path. Please note that colour infill will not currently be shown in a schematic output task.
- * By default, the ruled grid is now displayed with finer lines - if the ruled schematic grid is too faint, or not visible, adjust the width of the grid lines from within the *Edit > Display Adjustments* window. The “*Schematic ruled grid line width control*” value can be set in the range 10-100 where larger numbers result in thicker grid lines. Changes to this setting only become visible in a view after the view is closed and reopened. Changing the colour assigned to the grid lines may also help (Edit > Preferences, Colours tab) if the grid is feint.

Artwork editor:

- * The size of text for part labels, pin numbers and the diameter of grid dots can be controlled from the *Edit > Display Adjustments* window.
The controls take a value in the range 20-100 with larger numbers increasing the size of the corresponding feature.
- * PartFix/Unfix commands simplified to reduce key-clicks. Single parts will now toggle their fix/unfixed state on each click. Likewise, each selection of the fix/unfix “All parts” action will toggle the fix state of all parts on the enabled sides.
- * Increased the colour palette available for layers.
- * Added a layer opacity control slider to the View Control toolbar (at the end of the layers “list”). Extended opacity control is available by clicking the square button at the side of the slider – individual layer opacity can be controlled from this window.
Tip! You will need to experiment with your colour choices AND layer opacity to obtain a display that suits you. Blue and green are very strong colours and tend to swamp the red palette. Changing the standard dark blue that was used for the Bottom layer, to a paler blue allows the reds to come through better.
- * Added an unroutes opacity control slider to the view control toolbar. At the left of the sliders travel, unroutes are displayed behind the copper layers, and at the right of its travel, they are display over the top of the copper layers.
Tip! Be aware that if you choose to display unroutes behind the copper layers, SMD pad powerplane unroutes (which are shown as a small blob) may not be visible.