



FastTrack Schedule 10

Tutorials Manual

FastTrack Schedule Documentation

Version 10.0.0

by Carol S. Williamson

AEC Software, Inc.

With FastTrack Schedule 10, the new version of the award-winning project manager, it's easier than ever to plan and manage your projects.

Powerful tracking tools and dynamic status reports keep team members in sync, costs under control, and projects on schedule.



FastTrack Schedule 10 Tutorials Manual

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1 Tutorials

Tutorials

These tutorials will get you up and running quickly. They are constructed to be used with the FastTrack Schedule practice Tutorial files (Tutor1 – Tutor11).

To open the FastTrack Schedule practice Tutorial files:

1. In FastTrack Schedule, On the **Application** tab, in the **Help** group, select **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file (for example **Tutor1.fts**) that accompanies the tutorial instructions with which you are working.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor1.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

If necessary, select one of the following:

[Using the tutorials](#)

[Printing the tutorials](#)

Table of Contents:

- » Tutorial 1: Up and Running
- » Tutorial 2: Laying Out Your Schedule
- » Tutorial 3: Customizing Your Schedule
- » Tutorial 4: Scheduling Dependencies
- » Tutorial 5: Tracking Progress
- » Tutorial 6: Using the Work Calendar
- » Tutorial 7: Filtering & Sorting
- » Tutorial 8: Using Summaries & Calculations
- » Tutorial 9: Working with Resources
- » Tutorial 10: Using FastSteps
- » Tutorial 11: Consolidating Files

2 Using the Tutorials

Using the Tutorials

Tutorials consist of a set of step-by-step instructions and sample schedule files on which you perform those instructions. You open the step-by-step instructions online in the application's Help contents. Tutorial practice files were installed along with the application, as were the Example files, unless a custom install was performed and these files were not included in the installation.

To begin a tutorial:

1. Open **FastTrack Schedule**.
2. On the **Application** tab, in the **Help** group, select **Tutorial**, and choose **Tutorials** from the submenu.
3. Click the icon beside the name of the tutorial you want to view.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking the tutorial:

1. In FastTrack Schedule, On the **Application** tab, in the **Help** group, select **Tutorial**, and choose

Practice Files from the submenu.

2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file (for example **Tutor1.fts**) that accompanies the tutorial instructions with which you are working.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor1.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

To go through the tutorial:

1. Be sure you have both a **FastTrack Schedule** window (displaying the appropriate practice schedule) and your browser (displaying the appropriate step-by-step instructions) open at the same time. If your monitor allows it, position the windows so you can work on the schedule while keeping the step-by-step instructions in view.

See also:

[Printing the tutorials](#)
[Tutorial Contents](#)

3 Printing the Tutorials

Printing the Tutorials

If you prefer to follow the instructions from a hard copy print out instead of on your screen, you can print the contents of the tutorials.

To print a tutorial:

1. Open the **FTS10Tutorials.pdf** file, which was installed in the same location as the Tutorial practice files.

2. Print the **FTS10Tutorials.pdf** file.

-or-

1. Open the Tutorials.

This will launch your computer's default browser.

2. Use your browser's Print functionality to print the active page.

This may mean clicking on the right side of the page to avoid printing the Contents frame.

You will have to print each tutorial one page at a time.

Important:

If you cannot locate the tutorial PDF file on your computer, Go to Search and search for "FTS10Tutorials.pdf." If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial PDF file was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

Note:

The FTS10Tutorials.pdf document is also available in the Downloads section of the AEC Software Homepage: <http://www.aecsoftware.com>

See also:

[Using the Tutorials](#)
[Tutorial Contents](#)

4 Tutorial 1: Up and Running

4.1 Up and Running - Intro

Tutorial 1 - Up and Running

This tutorial shows you the basics of scheduling, from creating activities to printing the schedule and its calendar. When you are done, you will know enough about FastTrack Schedule to begin building your own schedules.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor1.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor1.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

4.2 The FastTrack Schedule environment

The FastTrack Schedule environment

In the Schedule View, the timeline, or timeline graph, is the actual grid of horizontal and vertical lines on which activity bars sit. In the Resource View, the timeline is the actual grid of horizontal and vertical lines on which assigned activity bars and resource graphs sit. The timeline can represent any range of time you determine, in units of hours, days, weeks, months, quarters, and years.

A timescale contains timescale rows that label the dates and times on the timeline graph. The timescale rows can be formatted to display different divisions of the base timeline units. For instance, a schedule that is divided into base timeline units of weeks might also have timescale rows that group the timescale into months and fiscal quarters.

Columns – Columns can be placed to the left and right of the timeline graph. There are columns pre-defined by FastTrack Schedule or ones that you create yourself.

Rows – Rows contain activities, data, and activity bars. You can move them up and down, hide and show them, sort them into different arrangements, and use them to outline activities.

Timescale area – Sections of the screen that display the timescale rows. The Schedule and Resource View can each contain two different timescale areas: one above the timeline and one below it. You can use options in the Define Layout dialog to have the bottom timescale mirror the top timescale.

Base Timescale Row – The timescale row that displays the base timeline units (the smallest units set). You cannot change the units of the base timescale row; they always reflect the base timeline units.

Width – The width of the divisions in the base timescale row define the width of columns in the timeline. Therefore, if the Schedule View timeline is in base units of weeks, changing the width of a column in the row that displays weeks changes the width of the timeline graph.

Action Columns

FastTrack Schedule's Action Columns simplify working with activities and resources. The Action Columns can be displayed to the left of the columns in the Schedule and Resource Views. They simplify operations performed on rows, subrows, and outline levels.

Row Number/Select Row.

Clicking here selects the row for moving, deleting, copying, cutting, formatting, and hiding.

**Page Break.**

Clicking here makes the corresponding row the last row on a printed page.

**Information Form.**

Clicking here opens the Information form in the Schedule View and the Resource Information form in the Resource View.

**Expand/Collapse.**

Clicking here collapses and expands outline levels in the Schedule View and subrows in the Resource View.

4.3 Key Tools

Key Tools

To prepare for the steps in these tutorials, review this summary of the key tools within FastTrack Schedule. If you are already familiar with FastTrack Schedule's tools, skip ahead to the [Viewing the schedule](#) section.

The Tools

FastTrack Schedule's Tools group contains six tools:

**Arrow tool**

The general-purpose tool that selects, moves, and resizes items in all Views. When you want to drag an activity bar, row, column or graphic item this is the tool you need to have selected.

**Bar Tool**

Draws activity bars in the timeline graph.

**Bar Link Tool**

Links bars to create dependencies.

**Revise Tool**

Changes the activity's Revised start and/or finish dates, times, and durations.

**Percent Tool**

Defines the percent complete and Actual start, finish, and duration of an activity.

**Text Box Tool**

Draws and edits text boxes for use as labels and titles.

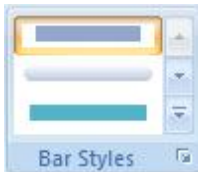
Important:

Unless a tool is locked, the default setting for each tool in the tool is to revert back to the Arrow tool after use.

The Bar Styles group

The cells of the Bar Styles list contain the bar styles defined for the schedule.

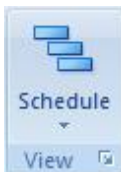
You can use the Bar Styles group to design a new bar style, edit an existing bar style, or change the bar style applied to an activity.

**Note:**

When you select a different bar style all new bars will be drawn in that style and, if an activity bar is selected in the timeline graph, it changes that bar to the selected bar style.

The Views group

There are three Views in FastTrack Schedule: the Schedule View, Calendar View, and Resource View. The Views group lets you switch from one View to another, instantly.

**The Timeline Range group**

The Schedule, Resource, and Calendar Views can each show a different span, or range, of dates. The Timeline Range group gives you immediate access to the Start and Finish dates of the timeline in the Schedule and Resource Views, and the calendar in the Calendar View.

The dates you set in the Timeline Range group affect only the View you are looking at and always correspond to the Start and Finish dates displayed in the respective Format Schedule, Resource, or Calendar View dialogs.

You can also use: the Go To Bar button to take you to the first bar in a selected row, the All Bars Range button to display the timeline in a range that encompasses every bar, or the Timeline Units button to quickly change the units in which the timeline displays.

Start:	03/12/2012	
Finish:	06/17/2012	
Duration:	98	
Timeline Range		

4.4 Viewing the schedule

Viewing the schedule

As you view the Tutorial 1 practice schedule, note that activities are listed in the Activity Name column and their scheduled dates are shown in the Start Date and Finish Date columns. The number of duration units between the start date and end date is shown in the Duration column. In the timeline, these dates are represented graphically as activity bars positioned according to the timeline. This timeline is labeled by the timescale rows at the top of the schedule.

					March 2012																		
		Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T
						12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12																		
2		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12																		
3		Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																		
4		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12																		
5		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12																		
6		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																		

Notice that this schedule displays its timeline graph in units of days. If this schedule were displayed in units of weeks, there would be one timeline graph column for each week instead of each day.

4.5 Creating activities

Creating activities

To add activities to the schedule, you enter their names in the Activity Name column and then enter their dates.

Steps:

1. In the **Tools group**, be sure the **Arrow** tool is selected.
2. Click in the Activity Name cell of the first empty row.
3. Enter the word **Preliminary** in row 7.
4. Press the **Down Arrow** on your keyboard to move the insertion point to the next row and enter the name, **Customer**.
5. Press the **Down Arrow** again and enter **Final Review**.
6. Press the **Down Arrow** once more so that "9" appears in the Row Number Action Column.

					March 2012																		
		Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T
						12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12																		
2		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12																		
3		Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																		
4		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12																		
5		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12																		
6		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																		
7		Preliminary																					
8		Customer																					
9		Final Review																					



4.6 Drawing bars

Drawing bars

Because the position of an activity bar in the timeline graph represents an activity's start, finish, and duration dates, you can draw a bar to automatically enter those dates in the columns.

As you move the cursor in the timeline graph, you can see the date and time over which it is positioned in the Cursor Tracking area at the bottom right of the application window. In addition, while you draw the bar, the Bar Tracking window pops-up, and shows the current bar's start, finish, and/or duration.

Steps:

1. From the **Tools group**, select the **Bar** tool. 
2. From the **Bar Styles group**, click this bar style .
3. In the Preliminary row, click in the timeline graph on day 29 and, holding down the mouse button, drag to the right until the bar's duration is 2 days.

					March 2012																				
		Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12																				
2		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12																				
3		Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																				
4		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12																				
5		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12																				
6		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																				
7		Preliminary	2.00	3/29/12	3/30/12																				
8		Customer																							
9		Final Review																							

4.7 Typing dates

Typing dates

You can also define activity dates by typing values in the Duration column or the Start Date and Finish Date columns. You only have to enter a Start Date and Finish Date, a Start Date and Duration, a Finish Date and Duration, or simply a Duration—FastTrack Schedule automatically calculates the remaining value and draws the bar.

Steps:

1. Click in the Start Date cell of row 8, the Customer row.
2. Enter a Start Date of **April 02, 2012** in the Express Date calendar and click OK to enter the date in

the cell.


3. Click in the Duration cell.

A Duration of 1.00 is entered by default, double-click in the cell to highlight the entry.

4. In the Duration cell, type **2** and press the **Enter/Return** key on your keyboard to enter the value.

					March 2012																															
					M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T		
					12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3									
1		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12																															
2		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12																															
3		Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																															
4		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12																															
5		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12																															
6		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																															
7		Preliminary	2.00	3/29/12	3/30/12																															
8		Customer	2.00	4/2/12	4/3/12																															
9		Final Review																																		

Note:


Because the  bar style was still selected in the Bar Style group, it is that bar style that is drawn when you enter the dates.

4.8 Drawing milestones

Drawing milestones

So far you have worked with activities that have a start and a finish. What about activities that do not really have duration—that are just a moment in time, such as a deadline? These types of activities are represented by another style of graphic called a milestone.

Steps:

1. From the **Bar Styles** group, click the single green diamond-shaped bar style .
2. In the Final Review row, enter **04/04/12** in the Start Date column and press the **Enter/Return** key on your keyboard.

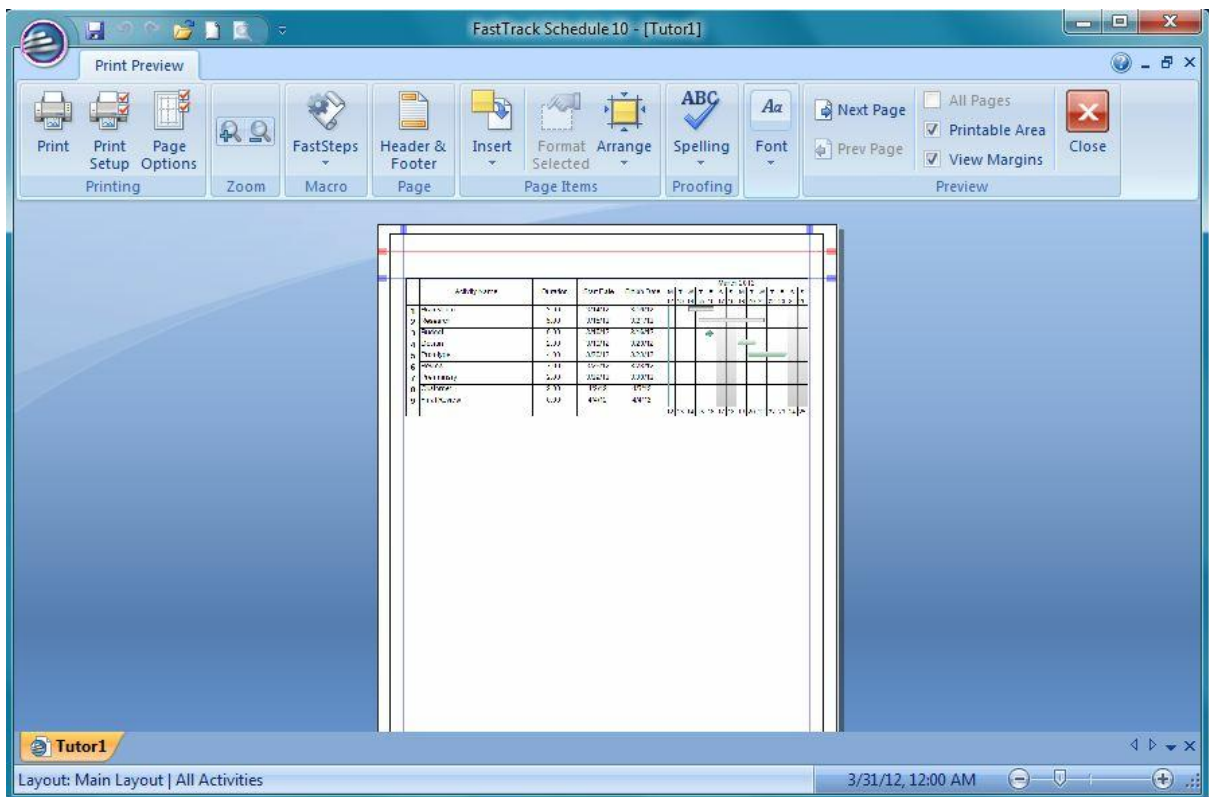
A milestone appears on that date in the timeline.

					March 2012																																
					M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T			
					12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4									
1		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12																																
2		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12																																
3		Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																																
4		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12																																
5		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12																																
6		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																																
7		Preliminary	2.00	3/29/12	3/30/12																																
8		Customer	2.00	4/2/12	4/3/12																																
9		Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12																																

4.9 Dragging bars

Dragging bars

Dragging bars is one way of changing an activity's dates. By using the Arrow tool to drag the middle, start, or end of a bar, you can change the activity's start, finish, or duration. If they are displayed, these changes will appear in the time, date, and duration columns.



2. In the Printing group, click **Print**.
3. Follow your normal printing procedures.
4. Click **Close** to exit Print Preview.

4.13 Printing the schedule in Calendar View

Printing the schedule in the Calendar View

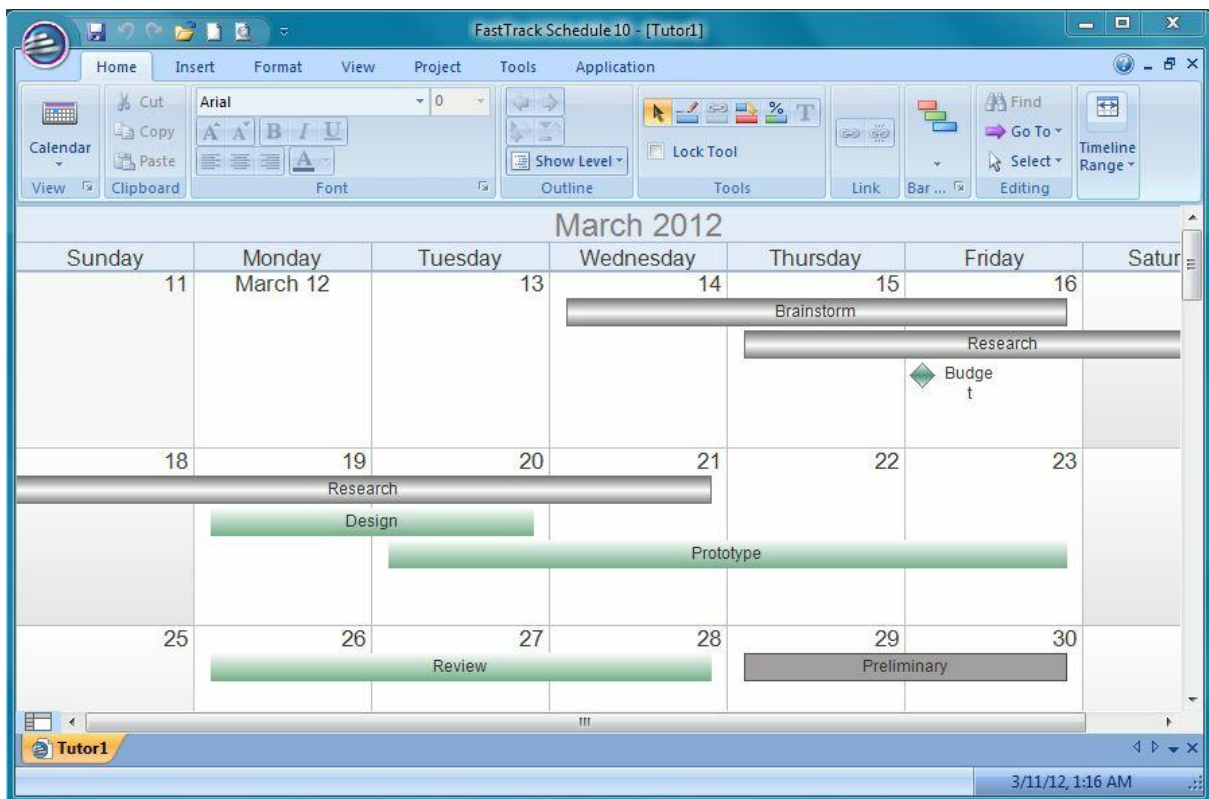
As you have been setting up your schedule, a calendar containing your activities was being created at the same time. You can open the Calendar View by selecting Calendar from the View menu or Views Toolbar.


You can use the same steps for changing the schedule range to change the date range shown in your calendar.

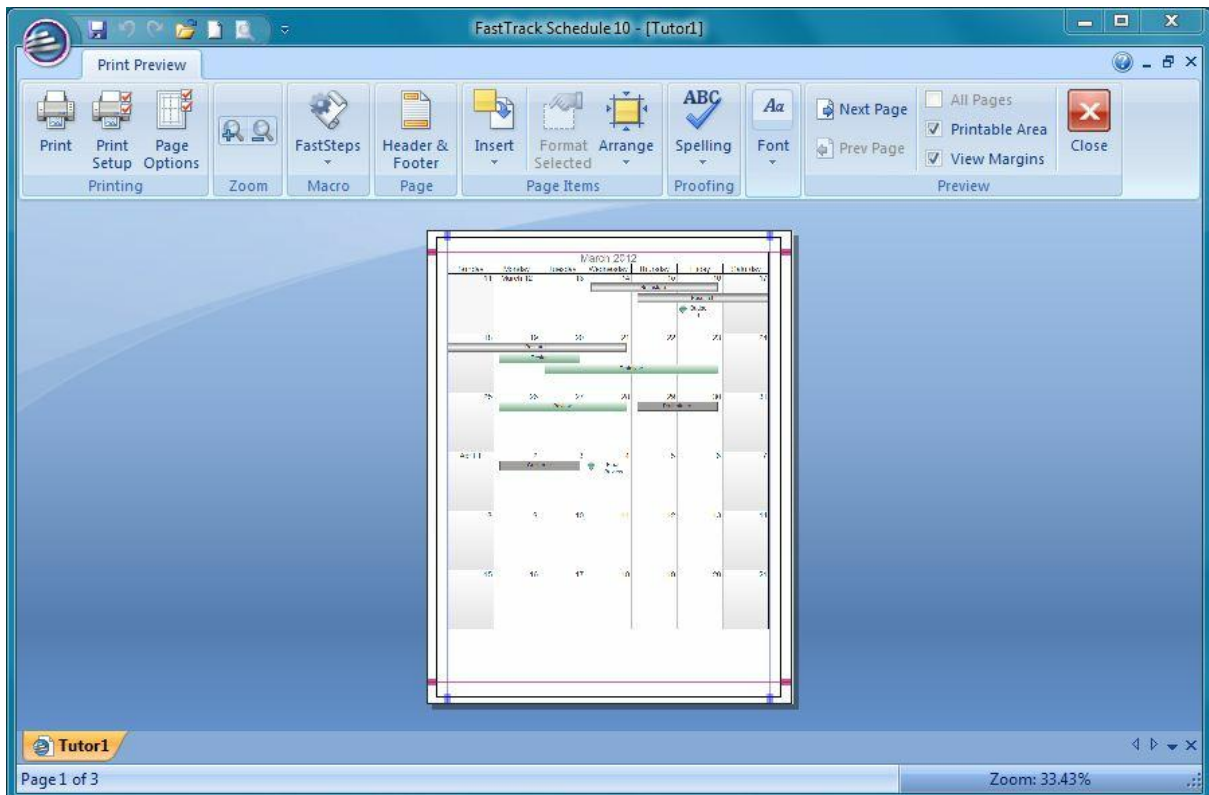
When you are ready to print your calendar, Print Preview shows you exactly how the calendar will look before you print.

Steps:

1. In the **View group**, select **Calendar**.
The Calendar View opens.



2. Click  to open the **Application** menu, select **Print** and choose **Print Preview** from the submenu.



3. In the Printing group, click **Print**.
4. Follow your normal printing procedures.
5. Click **Close** to exit Print Preview.

4.14 Finishing Tutorial 1

Finishing Tutorial 1

You are done with Tutorial 1. You now know the very basics of FastTrack Schedule. The next two tutorials build on these basics, showing you how to layout and customize your schedule.

To close the Tutor1 file:

1. From the **View** group, select **Schedule**.
The Schedule View opens.
2. To close the **Tutor1** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
3. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go on to [Tutorial 2: Laying Out Your Schedule](#).
- or-**
Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

5.3 Collapsing outline levels

Collapsing outline levels

When activities are outlined, you can collapse each outline level to hide its subactivities. When an outline level is collapsed, the Expand/Collapse triangle points to the right and the activity name is followed by an ellipsis. This ellipsis is especially helpful for identifying collapsed outline levels when the Expand/Collapse action column is not displayed.

Collapsed outline levels can also display summary bars-activity bars that extend from the beginning of the first collapsed subactivity to the end of the latest collapsed subactivity.

To collapse an outline level:

1. In the activity named Development, click the triangular handle in the **Expand/Collapse** action column.

	Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	March 2012																															April
					M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	
1	▼ Planning	4.00	3/12/12	3/16/12	[Gantt bars for Planning]																															
2	Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	[Gantt bar for Brainstorm]																															
3	Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	[Gantt bar for Research]																															
4	Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12	[Gantt bar for Budget]																															
5	▶ Development...	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	[Summary bar for Development]																															
9	▼ Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12	[Gantt bars for Testing]																															
10	Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12	[Gantt bar for Preliminary]																															
11	Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12	[Gantt bar for Customer]																															
12	Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12	[Gantt bar for Final Review]																															


The subactivities of Development are now rolled-up. Note the summary bar in the Development row. Summary bars display by default. Summary bar options are available in the Summary Bar tab of the Format Row dialog which you can open by double-clicking on a row number. You can choose not to display summary bars and choose the style in which you would like summary bars to display.

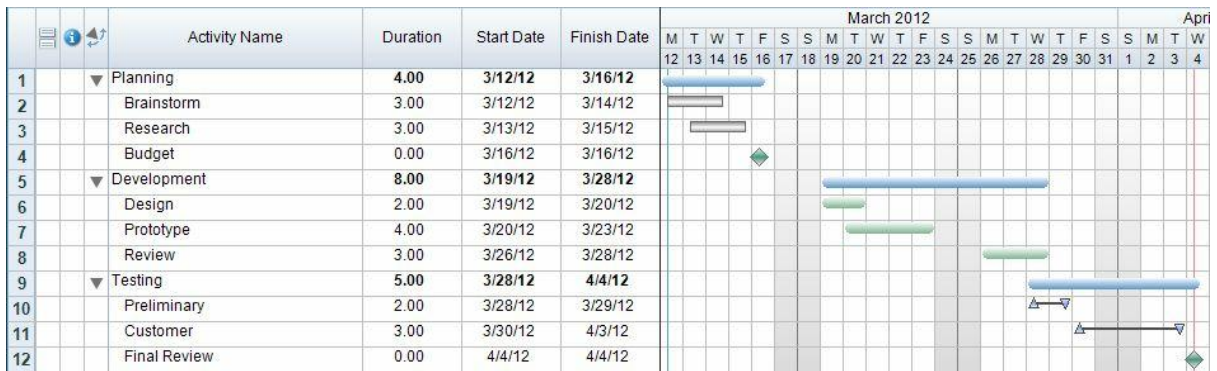
5.4 Expanding outline levels

Expanding outline levels

The Expand/Collapse action column acts like a toggle switch, so when outline levels are expanded, the triangle handle moves to point downward. Here, you will employ another method to expand the activity so that you will know how to expand and collapse your activities even if you choose not to display that Action Column.

To expand an outline level:

1. On the **Home** tab, in the **Outline** tab, click the **Expand All** button . This displays all subactivities in your schedule.



5.5 Viewing a different layout

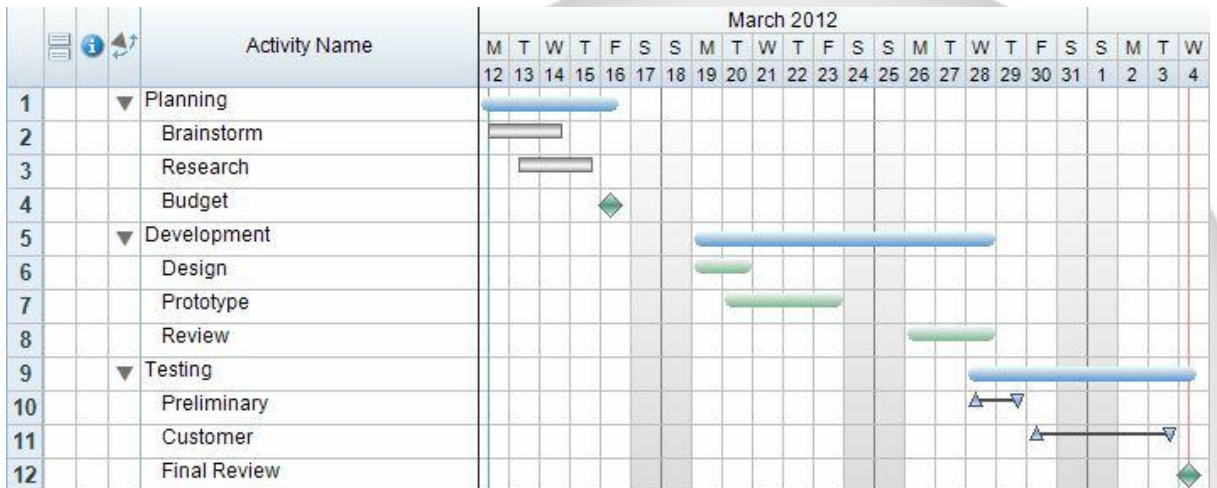
Viewing a different layout

The layout of a schedule is a "view" of its information. The layout determines which columns are displayed and in what order. Layouts also determine which, if any, Action Columns, summary graphs, and timescale areas are displayed. You can select a application-defined layout or create your own.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Layout** group, click **Layouts**, and choose **Basic Layout** from the drop-down list of pre-defined layouts.

"Activity Name" is now the only column displaying to the left of the timeline.



5.6 Inserting columns

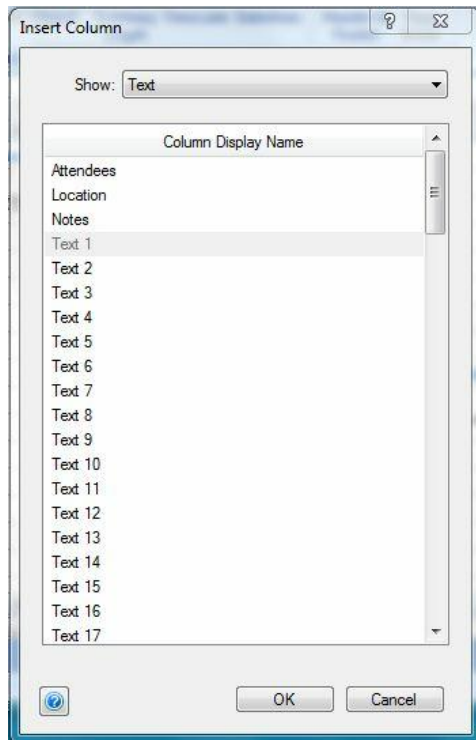
Inserting columns

You can insert columns using the Insert Column dialog. All columns are hidden until you choose to show them. Here you will insert a column that is currently hidden.

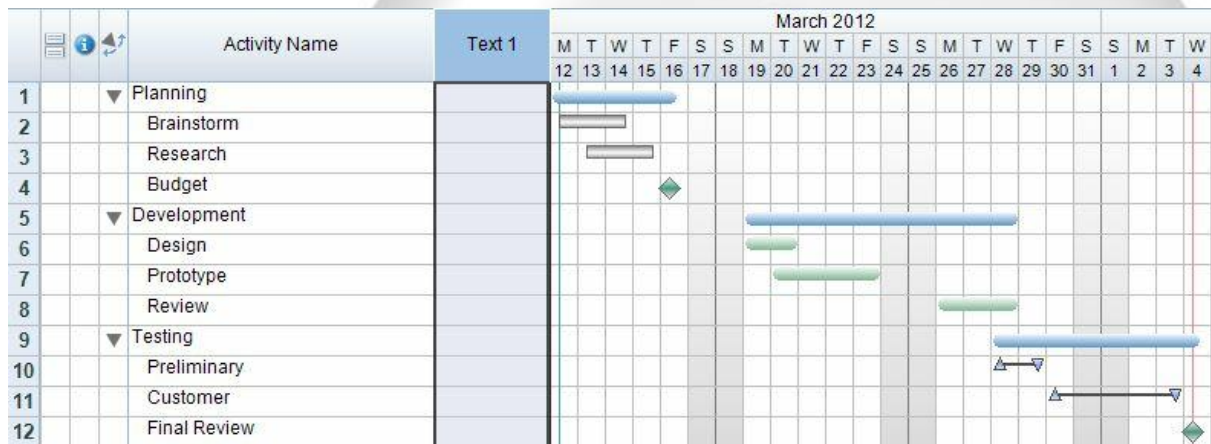
Steps:

1. Select the column heading of the Activity Name column.

- On the **Insert** tab, in the Rows & Columns group, click **Column**.
The Insert Column dialog opens.



- From the **Show** pop-up list, select **Text**.
- Click to highlight the first item in the **Column Display Name** table.
- Type **"t"** to cause the list to scroll to and select the item **Text 1**.
- Click **OK** to insert the Text 1 column and close the Insert Column dialog.



5.7 Formatting columns

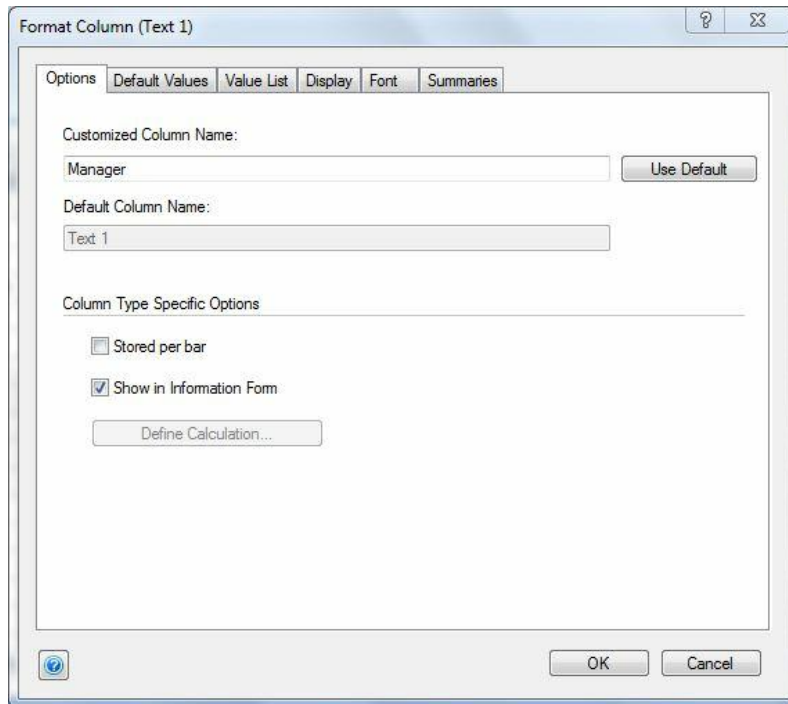
Formatting columns

The format of a column determines what type of information it contains and how that information is

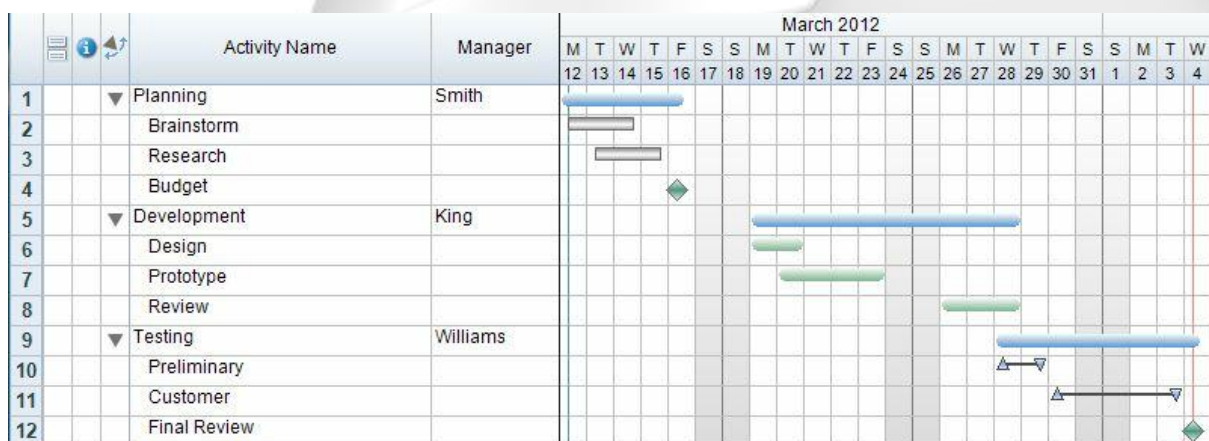
displayed. Here you will create a new column called "Manager."

Steps:

1. If it is not already selected, select the **Text 1** column.
2. On the **Format** tab, in the **Display** group, click **Format Selected**.
The Format Column dialog opens in the Options tab.
3. In the **Customized Column Name** box, enter **Manager**.



4. Click the **Display** tab.
5. Enter **85** in the **Column Width** box.
6. Click **OK** to close the **Format Column** dialog.
7. In cells 1, 5, and 9 of the Manager column, enter the manager names listed in the graphic below.



5.8 Designing a new layout

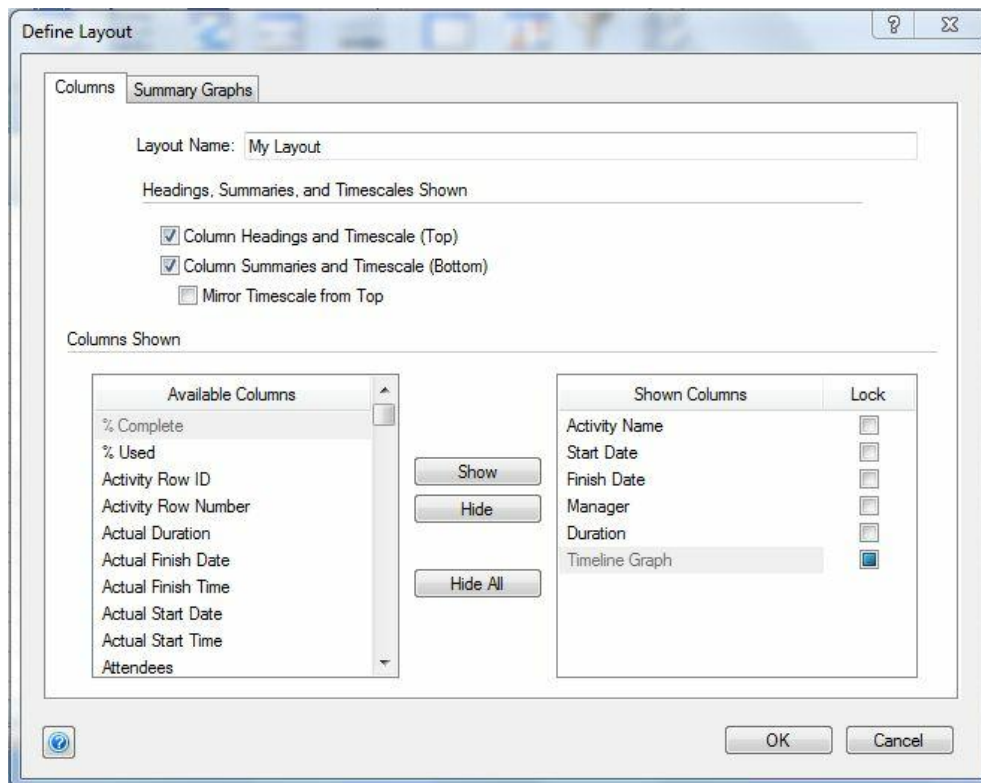
Designing a new layout

The Layouts dialog not only lets you apply layouts to a schedule, it also lets you design your own. Here, you will create a new layout.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Layout** group, click **Layouts**, and choose **Design** from the drop-down list.
The Layouts dialog opens.
2. Click **New** to create a new layout.
The Define Layout dialog opens.
3. Enter **My New Layout** in the **Layout Name** box.
4. To add a column to the layout, select **Duration** in the **Available Columns** table, and click the **Show** button.
The Duration column appears in the Shown Columns table.
5. Using the same method, send the **Manager**, **Finish Date**, **Start Date**, **Activity Name**, and **Timeline Graph** columns to the **Shown Columns** table.

Keep the Define Layout dialog open for the next section.

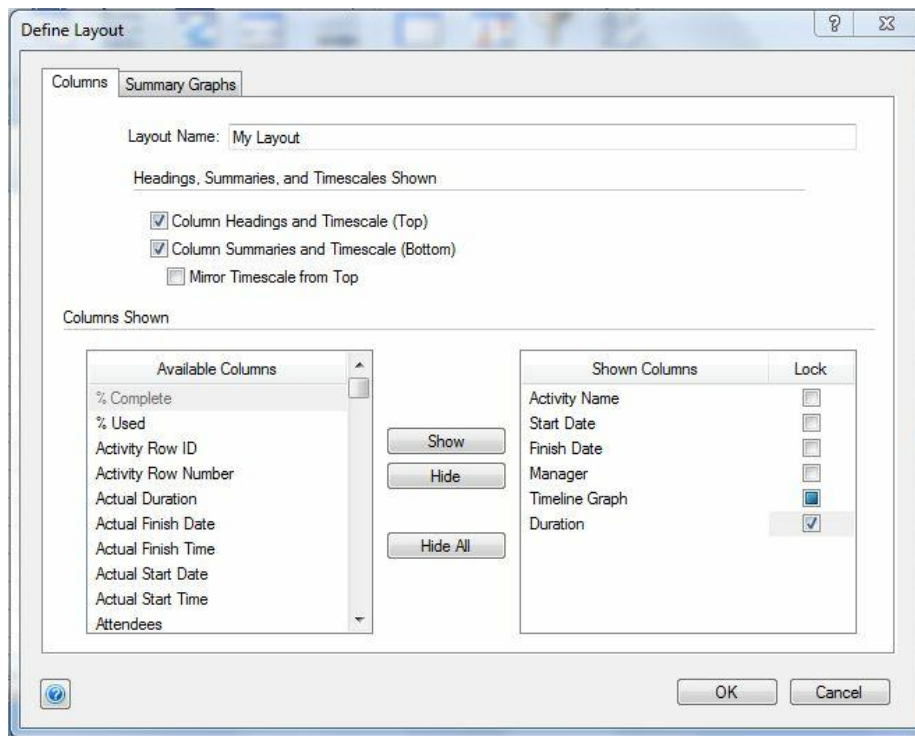


5.9 Designing a new layout (cont'd)

Designing a new layout (cont'd)

Steps:

1. In the **Shown Columns** table, drag **Duration** below the **Timeline Graph**.
2. Click the box to **Lock** the Duration column to keep it on screen.



3. Click **OK** to close the **Define Layout** dialog.
4. Click **OK** to close the **Layouts** dialog and view your new layout.

	Activity Name	Start Date	Finish Date	Manager	March 2012							April 2012				Duration			
					M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T		F	S	
1	Planning	3/12/12	3/16/12	Smith															4.00
2	Brainstorm	3/12/12	3/14/12																3.00
3	Research	3/13/12	3/15/12																3.00
4	Budget	3/16/12	3/16/12																0.00
5	Development	3/19/12	3/28/12	King															8.00
6	Design	3/19/12	3/20/12																2.00
7	Prototype	3/20/12	3/23/12																4.00
8	Review	3/26/12	3/28/12																3.00
9	Testing	3/28/12	4/4/12	Williams															5.00
10	Preliminary	3/28/12	3/29/12																2.00
11	Customer	3/30/12	4/3/12																3.00
12	Final Review	4/4/12	4/4/12																0.00

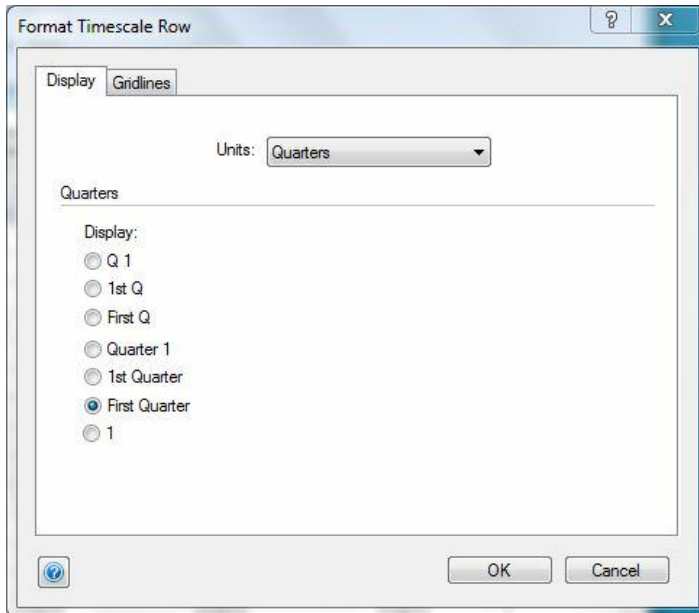
5.10 Inserting and formatting timescale rows

Inserting and formatting timescale rows

Here you will add a timescale row to the top timescale area and format it to show quarters.

Steps:

1. In the top timescale area, click in the top timescale row to select it.
2. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Timeline Elements** group, click **Timescale**.
The Format Timescale Row dialog opens.
3. Select **Quarters** from the **Units** pop-up list.
4. Select the **First Quarter** option.



5. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Timescale Row** dialog.

	Activity Name	Start Date	Finish Date	Manager	March 2012												April 2012								Duration		
					First Quarter												Second Quarter										
					12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		1	2
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	▼ Planning	3/12/12	3/16/12	Smith	[Gantt bar from 3/12 to 3/16]																				4.00		
2	Brainstorm	3/12/12	3/14/12		[Gantt bar from 3/12 to 3/14]																				3.00		
3	Research	3/13/12	3/15/12		[Gantt bar from 3/13 to 3/15]																				3.00		
4	Budget	3/16/12	3/16/12		[Gantt bar from 3/16 to 3/16]																				0.00		
5	▼ Development	3/19/12	3/28/12	King	[Gantt bar from 3/19 to 3/28]																				8.00		
6	Design	3/19/12	3/20/12		[Gantt bar from 3/19 to 3/20]																				2.00		
7	Prototype	3/20/12	3/23/12		[Gantt bar from 3/20 to 3/23]																				4.00		
8	Review	3/26/12	3/28/12		[Gantt bar from 3/26 to 3/28]																				3.00		
9	▼ Testing	3/28/12	4/4/12	Williams	[Gantt bar from 3/28 to 4/4]																				5.00		
10	Preliminary	3/28/12	3/29/12		[Gantt bar from 3/28 to 3/29]																				2.00		
11	Customer	3/30/12	4/3/12		[Gantt bar from 3/30 to 4/3]																				3.00		
12	Final Review	4/4/12	4/4/12		[Gantt bar from 4/4 to 4/4]																				0.00		

5.11 Moving timescale rows

Moving timescale rows

After inserting a timescale row, you can move it anywhere in the timescale area.

Steps:

1. Click the Month timescale row to select it.
2. When the move cursor appears, click and drag the outline of the Month timescale row all the way under the Quarters timescale row and release the mouse button.



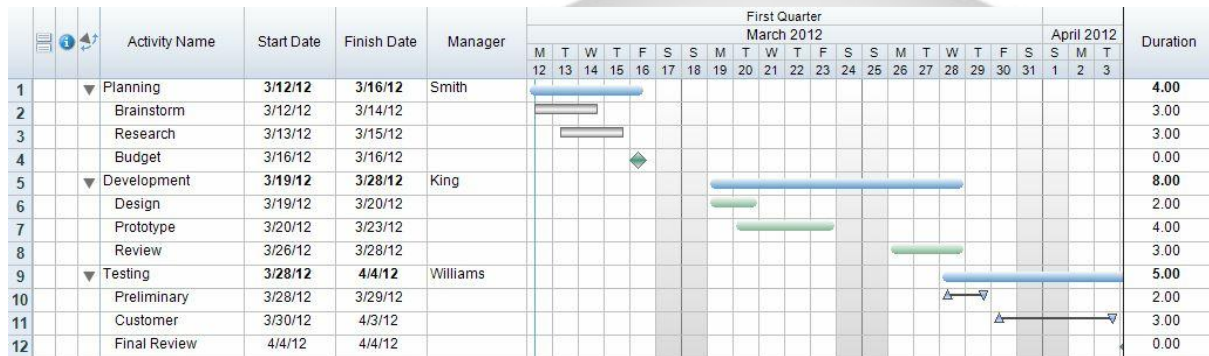
5.12 Resizing the timeline-columns

Resizing the timeline-columns

As a final modification to this schedule, change the width of the timeline-columns. The width of the timeline-columns is determined by the width of the divisions in the base timescale row - the row that defines the smallest unit of time displayed in the schedule.

Steps:

1. To resize the timeline-columns, be sure the **Arrow** tool is selected and position the cursor over a vertical gridline dividing units in the Day of the Week timescale row.
2. With the **Horizontal Resize** cursor, click and drag the gridline a little to the right.
The width of all of the gridlines change at the same time.



5.13 Finishing Tutorial 2

Finishing Tutorial 2

You are done with Tutorial 2. You now know the basics of laying out your schedule through outlining, columns, layouts, and timescales.

To close the Tutor2 file:

1. To close the **Tutor2** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 3: Customizing Your Schedule](#).

-or-

Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

6 Tutorial 3: Customizing Your Schedule

6.1 Customizing Your Schedule - Intro

Tutorial 3 - Customizing Your Schedule

This tutorial shows you how to customize the appearance of your schedule by inserting or modifying bar styles, text boxes, pictures, and other items.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor3.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor3.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

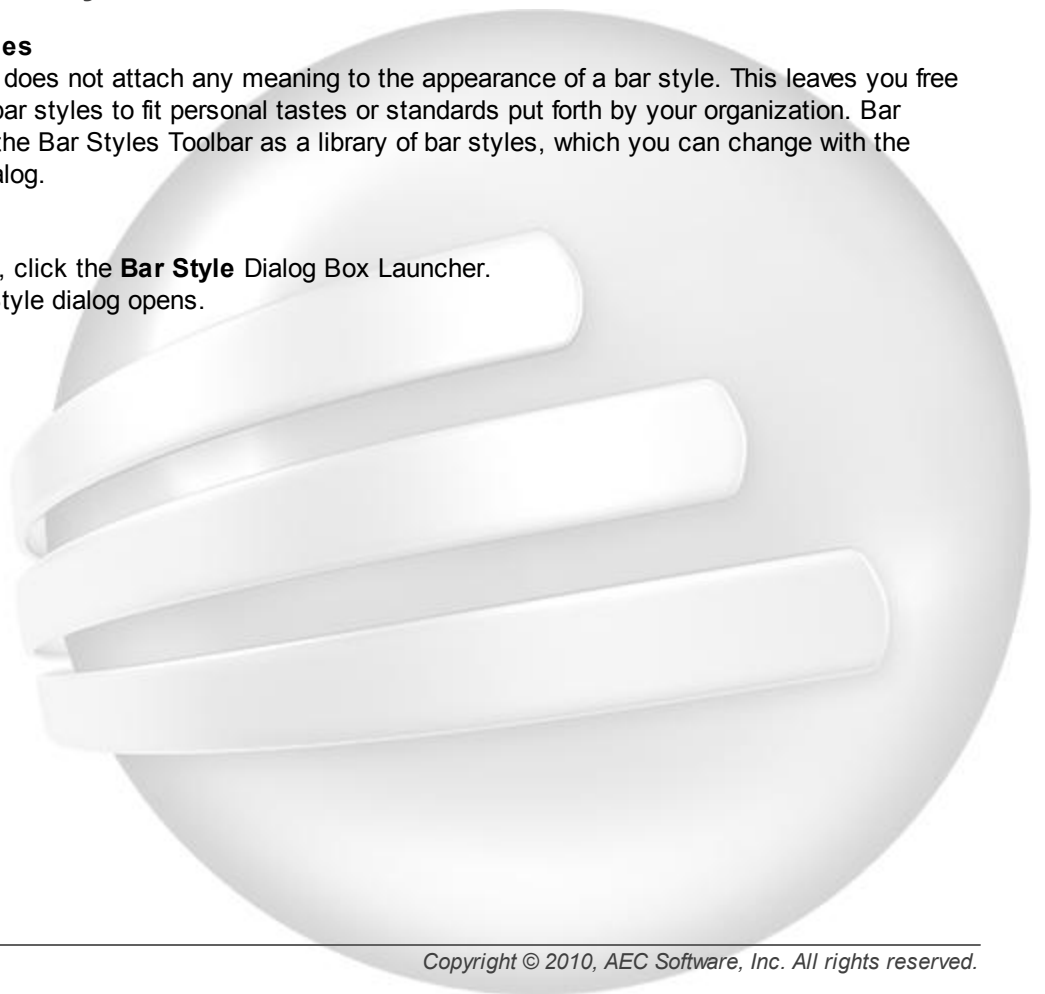
6.2 Formatting bar styles

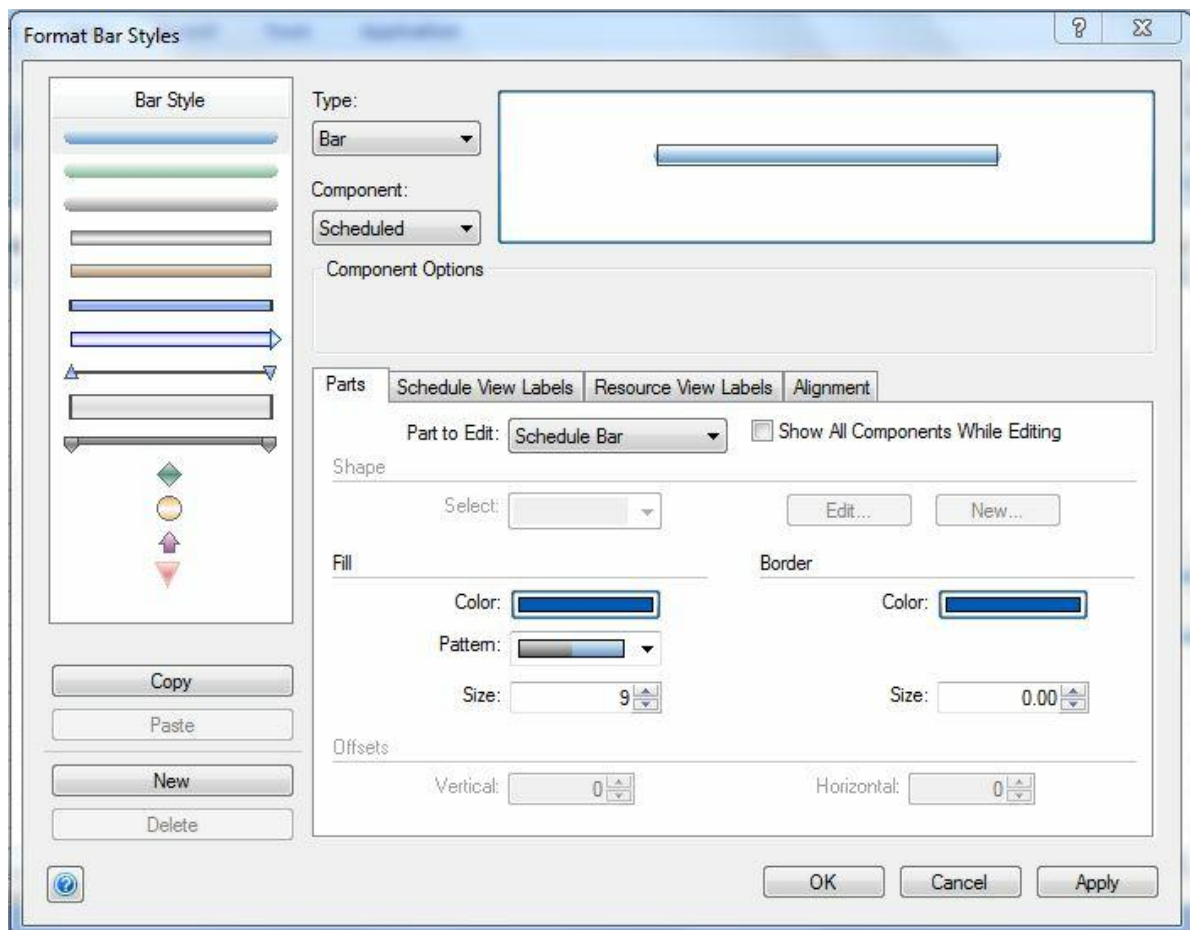
Formatting bar styles

FastTrack Schedule does not attach any meaning to the appearance of a bar style. This leaves you free to design your own bar styles to fit personal tastes or standards put forth by your organization. Bar styles are stored in the Bar Styles Toolbar as a library of bar styles, which you can change with the Format Bar Style dialog.

Steps:

1. On the **Home** tab, click the **Bar Style** Dialog Box Launcher.
The Format Bar Style dialog opens.





6.3 Designing the bar elements


Designing the bar elements

An activity bar has three components: Scheduled, Revised, and Actual. Each component displays a different type of information. In the simplest case, you are just interested in the Scheduled component since this is the basic bar.

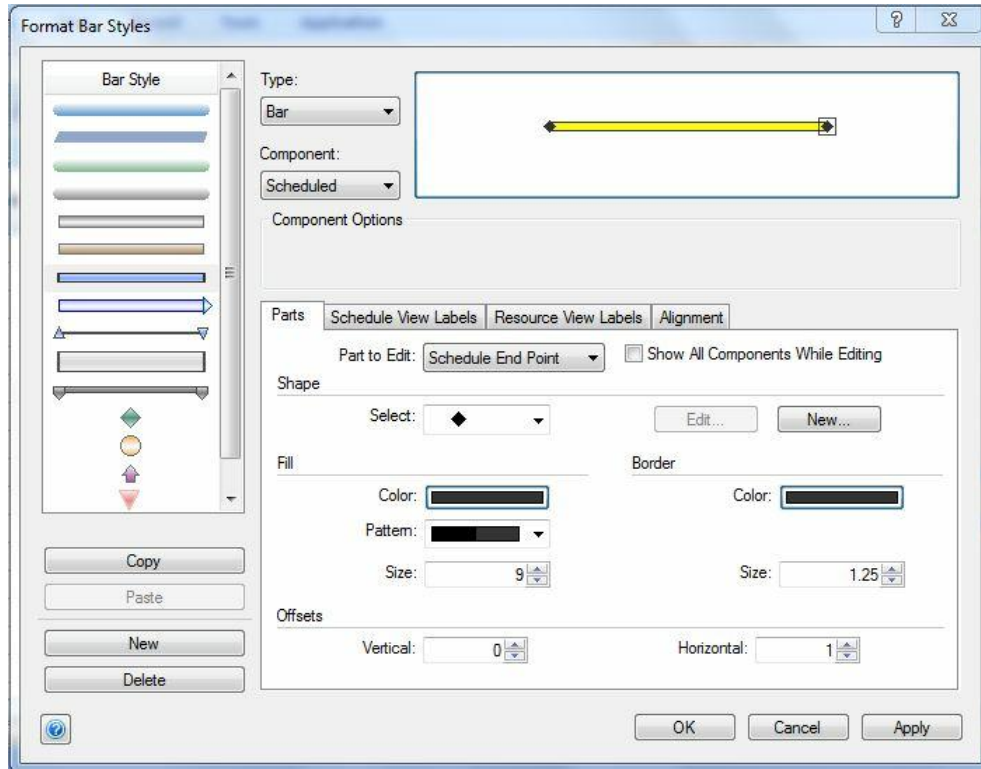
To format a bar, you select which of the three components you will design, how to display that component, and the appearance of each element (bar, start point, or end point).

In these steps, you will use the Format Bar Style dialog to select the elements of the Scheduled component and to design their appearance.

Steps:

1. From the Bar Style list, select this bar style .
2. From the **Type** drop-down list, select **Bar**.
3. To design the scheduled, basic component, select **Scheduled** from the **Component** drop-down list.
4. In the **Parts** tab, from the **Part to Edit** drop-down list, select **Schedule Start Point**.
5. In the **Shape** area, select the diamond point style from the drop-down list.
6. Click the **New** button to add the now altered bar to the Bar Styles library.
7. In the **Point** area, enter **9** in the **Size** box.
8. From the **Part to Edit** drop-down list, select **Schedule Bar**.

9. In the **Bar** area, select a new pattern.
10. From the **Part to Edit** drop-down list, select **Schedule End Point**.
11. In the **Shape** area, select the diamond point style from the drop-down list.
12. In the **Point** area, enter **9** in the **Size** box.



13. Click **OK** to create the bar style and close the **Format Bar Style** dialog.

6.4 Changing bars to different styles

Changing bars to different styles

In this section, you will change some existing bars in the schedule to the new style.

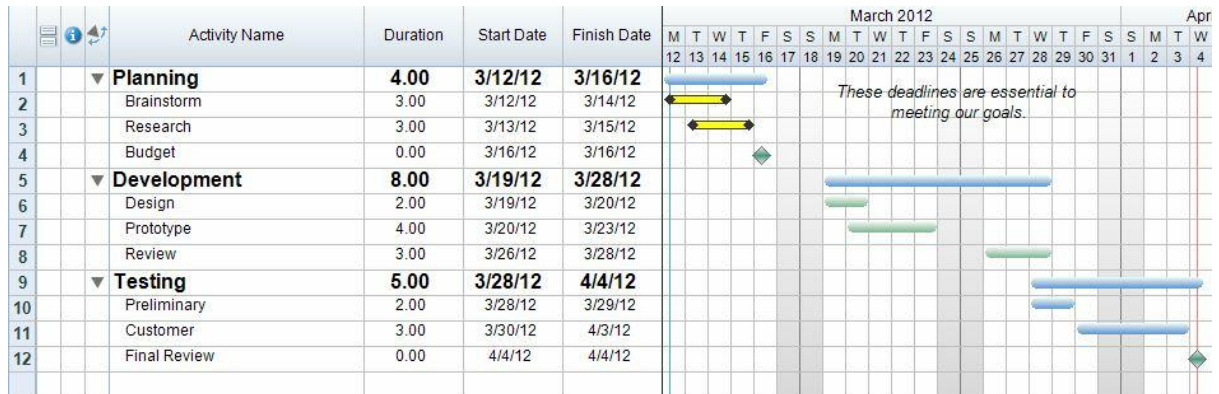
Steps:

1. In the schedule, select the activity bars in rows 2 and 3 by holding down the **Shift** key and clicking each one.
2. On the Home tab, in the **Bars Styles** group, scroll to the cell containing the bar style you just created and click it.

The selected bars adopt the new bar style.

one of its corner handles.

6. To change the font attributes of the text box, select the text box with the **Arrow** tool.
7. With the text box still selected, on the **Format** tab, in the **Display** group, click **Format Selected**.
The Format Item dialog opens.
8. Click the **Font** tab.
9. Click the **Italicize** button to italicize the text.
You can also use the Font tools on the Home tab to make your changes.
10. Click the button that horizontally centers the text.
11. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the Format Item dialog.



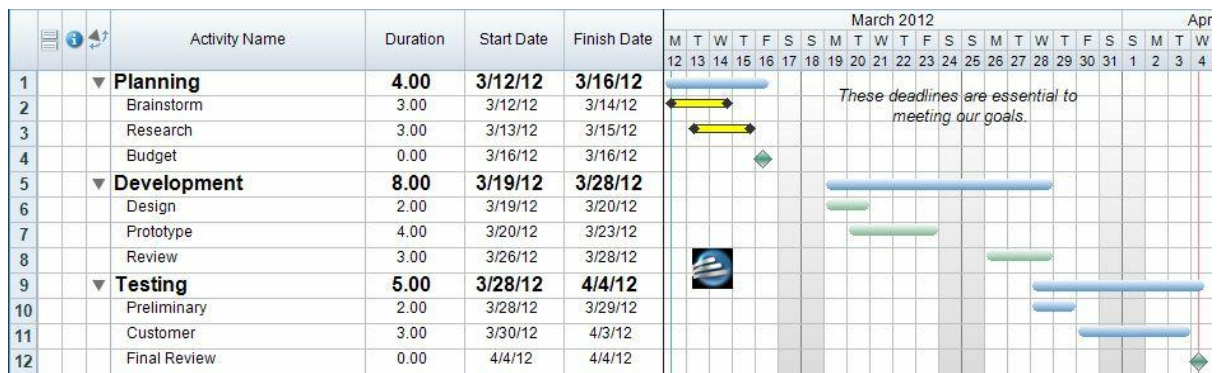
6.7 Including pictures

Including pictures

In addition to text boxes you can also add pictures. Pictures are graphic items such as clip art that are imported into the timeline graph area or Print Preview window.

Steps:

1. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Timeline Elements** group, click **Picture**.
The Insert Picture dialog opens.
2. Select **Clipboard** to include pictures pasted to the Clipboard or **File** to include a file saved on a disk.
You can either enter the file name and path or click the Browse button to navigate to the file.
Sample picture files are installed in the FastTrack Schedule directory in the Program Files directory.
3. Click **OK**.
4. To resize the picture, drag one of the eight resize handles.
You can hold down the **Shift** key and drag a corner handle to maintain its proportions.
5. You can drag a picture (or text box) anywhere on screen by selecting the **Arrow** tool and clicking and dragging the item.



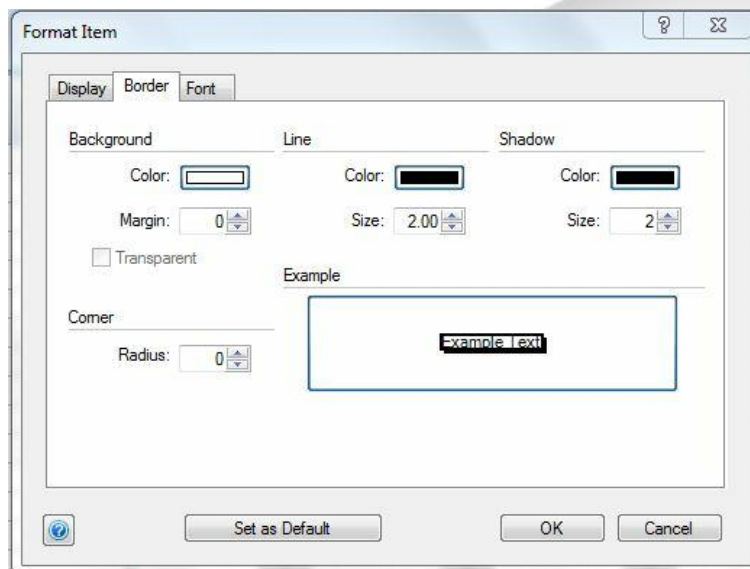
6.8 Formatting pictures and text boxes

Formatting pictures and text boxes

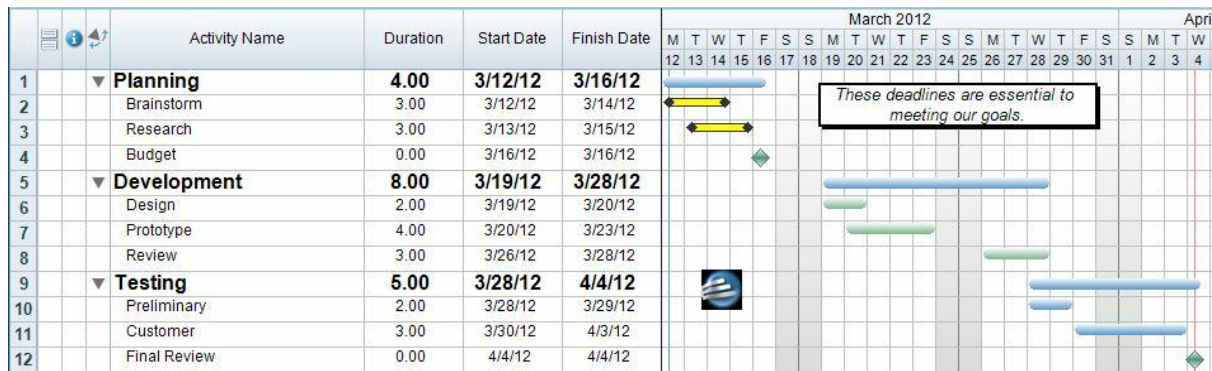
Formatting an item (such as a picture or text box) defines its background, border, and shadow. Here you will format a text box by adding a border and shadow.

Steps:

1. Select the text box and, on the **Format** tab, in the **Display** group, click **Format Selected**.
The Format Item dialog opens.
2. Click the **Border** tab.
3. In the **Line** area, enter **2** in the **Size** box.
4. In the **Shadow** area, enter **2** in the **Size** box.



5. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Item** dialog.



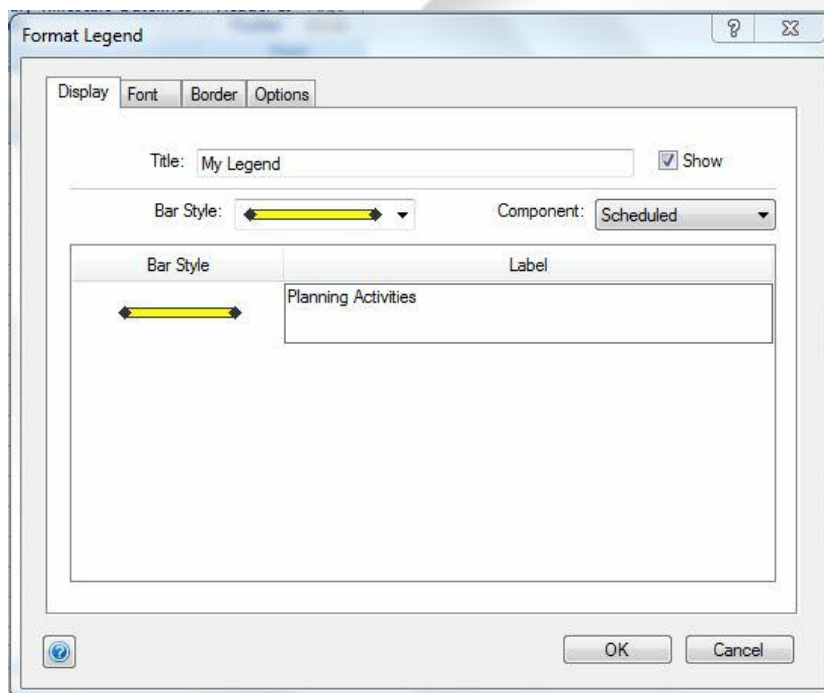
6.9 Including a legend



Including a legend

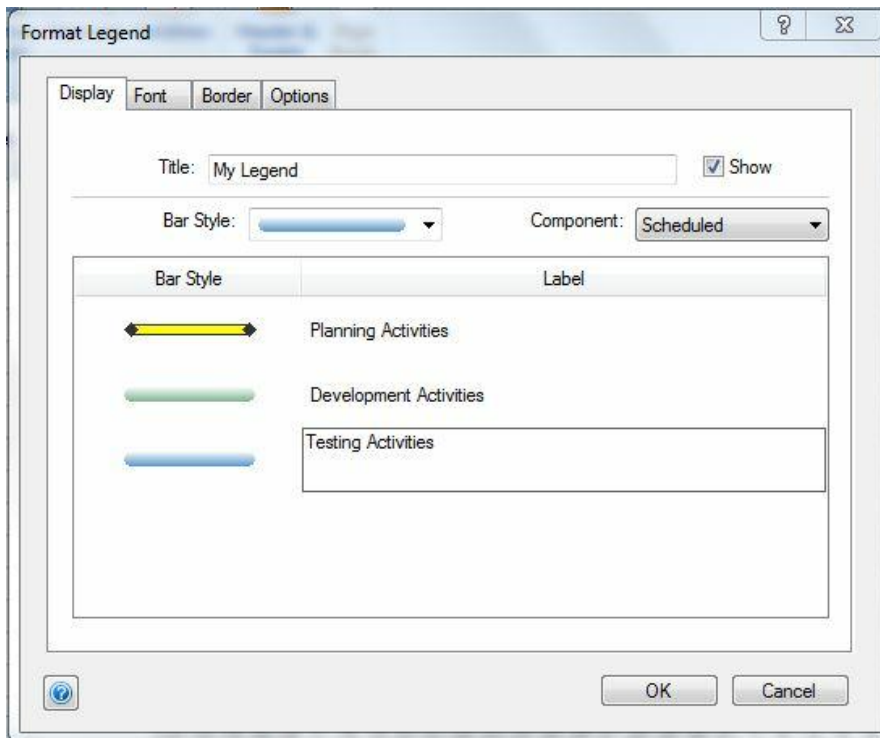
A legend creates a key to the bar styles used in the schedule. It lists the bar styles and allows you to assign a name, or a label, to each bar style. You can create multiple legends in the Schedule View and the Schedule and Resource Print Preview windows. In this case, you will enter a legend in the Schedule View.

Steps:

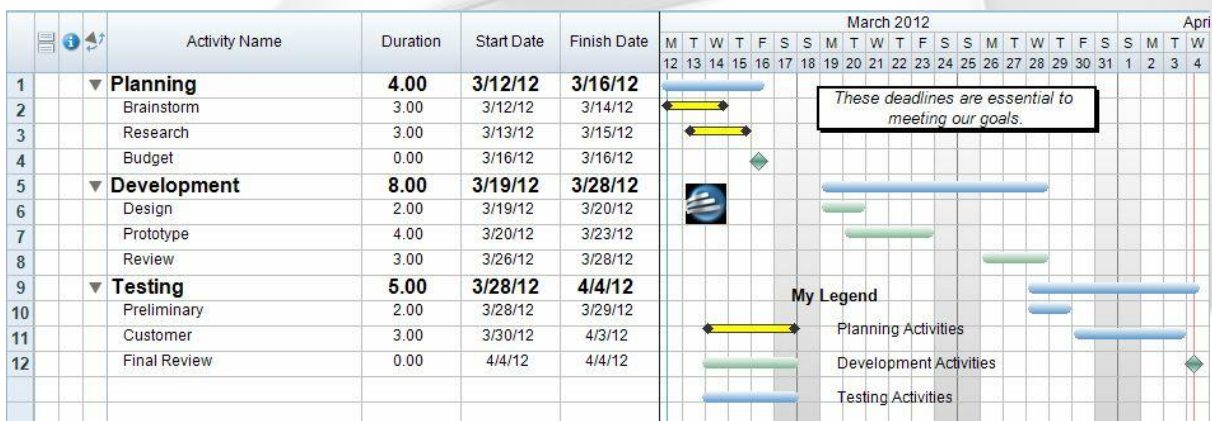
1. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Timeline Elements** group, click **Legend**.
The Format Legend dialog opens.
2. In the **Title** box, enter **My Legend**.
3. Click in the first row of the **Bar Style** column.
4. From the **Bar Style** drop-down list, select the bar you custom created.
The bar appears in the table below.
5. Click in the **Label** column next to the bar in the table and enter **Planning Activities**.



6. Select the second row in the **Bar Style** column.
- 7 From the **Bar Style** drop-down list, select this bar .
8. Click in the **Label** column next to this bar in the table and enter **Development Activities**.
9. Click the third row in the **Bar Style** column.
10. From the **Bar Style** drop-down list, select this bar .
11. Click in the **Label** column next to this bar in the table and enter **Testing Activities**.



12. Click the **Font** tab.
13. From the top drop-down list, select **Legend Title**.
14. Click the **Bold** button.
15. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Legend** dialog.
16. Using the **Arrow** tool, drag the legend to a location in the timeline graph where it is not covering any bars or items.



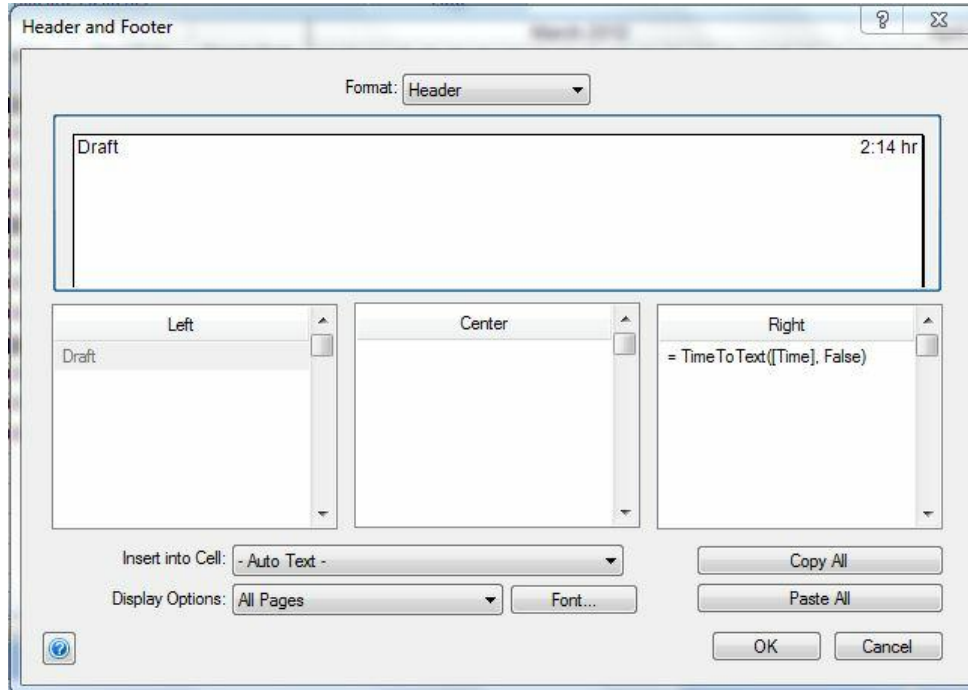
6.10 Adding headers and footers

Adding headers and footers

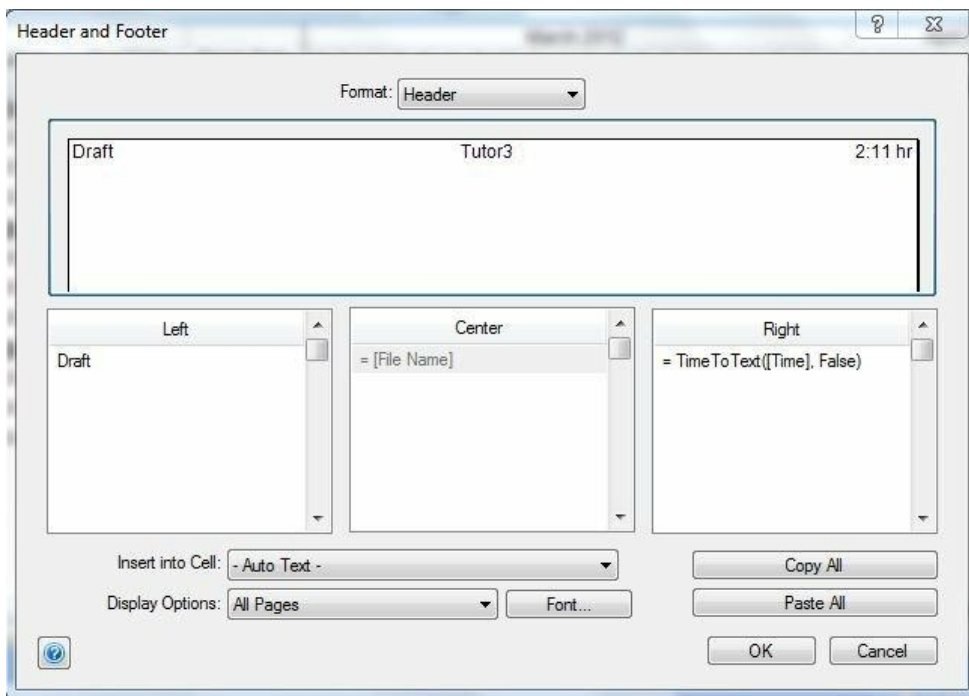
The Schedule, Resource, and Calendar Views all have the capacity to show headers and footers that appear when you print that View or access that View's Print Preview window. This allows you to include information such as the file name, date, and page number on printed pages.

Steps:

1. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Page** group, click **Header & Footer**.
The Header and Footer dialog opens.
2. From the **Format** drop-down list, select **Header**.
3. Select a cell in the right table.
4. From the **Insert into Cell** drop-down list, select **Time (12 Hour)**.
5. Select a cell in the left table.
6. Enter the word **Draft**.



7. From the **Format** drop-down list, select **Footer**.
8. Select a cell in the middle table.
9. From the **Insert into Cell** drop-down list, select **File Name**.



10. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Header and Footer** dialog.

6.11 Previewing the customized schedule

Previewing the customized schedule

You are done! You now have a customized schedule with new bar styles, different text styles, text boxes, and a picture.

Steps:

1. In the Quick Access toolbar, beside the Application menu, click the **Print Preview** icon . The Print Preview window opens.

2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor4.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, go to Search and search for "Tutor4.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

7.2 What is linking?

What is linking?

Linking two activity bars creates a dependency between activities. When an activity bar is moved, it can affect all bars linked to it. Links may be created from the start or end point of one bar to the start or end point of a second bar, which is to say that FastTrack Schedule supports Start to Start, Start to Finish, Finish to Start and Finish to Finish links.


Once bars are linked, you can set the Lead or Lag time between activities to determine how much one activity may slip before it affects another.


7.3 Drawing links

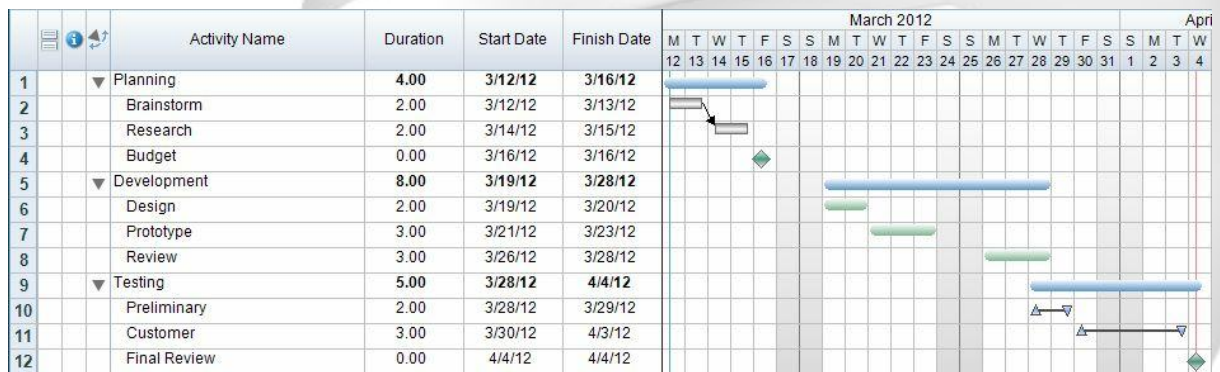
Drawing links

You can use the Link Bars tool to create dependencies between bars.

Steps:

1. On the **Bar** tab, in the **Tools** group, select the **Bar Link** tool. 
2. With the **Link** tool, click the **END POINT** of the Brainstorm activity bar and drag to the **START POINT** of the Research activity bar.
3. To drag the linked bar, select the **Arrow** tool, and drag the **MIDDLE** of the Brainstorm activity three days to the right.

You will know you have selected the middle of the activity when you see a cursor with arrows pointing in both directions. The Research activity moves when you move the Brainstorm activity. In the Quick Access toolbar, beside the Application menu, click , the **Undo** icon to return the bars to their place.



Information (Preliminary : Row 10)

Row Bars

Bar ID 8

Duration: 2.00

Fixed Duration

Tracking Columns Links Assignments

0 Predecessors

..	Row	Bar	Activity Name	Type	Lag/Lead	Link Duration

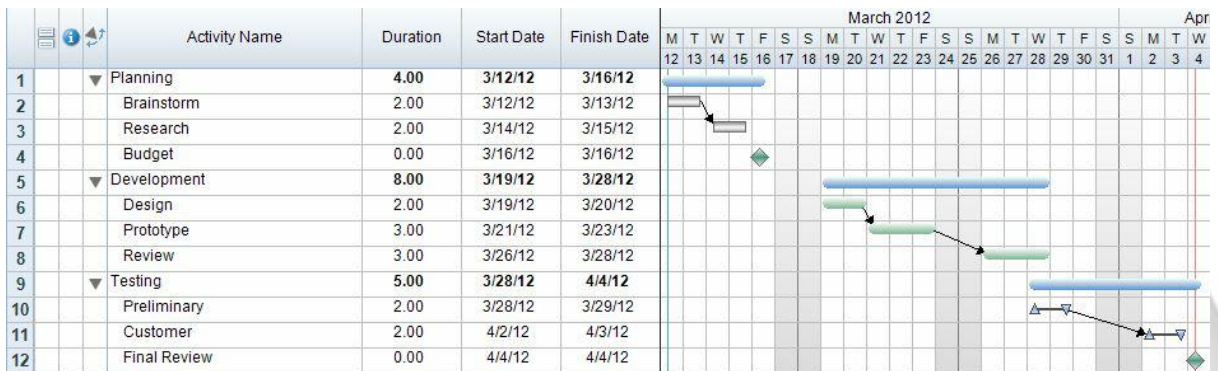
1 Successors

..	Row	Bar	Activity Name	Type	Lag/Lead	Link Duration
!	11	9	9 - Customer	Finish-to-Start (FS)	0.00	1.00

Lag/Lead and Link Duration are in units of: Days

Close

- Click **Close** to close the Information Form and apply your changes. The activities Preliminary and Customer are now linked.



- Click in the **Information Form** action column of **Row 11**, the activity named Customer. The Information Form opens in the Row tab.
- Click the Bars tab.
- Click the Bars>Links tab.
- In the Activity Name column of the Successors table, choose "10-Final Review" from the drop-down list.

Information (Customer : Row 11)

Row Bars

2.00

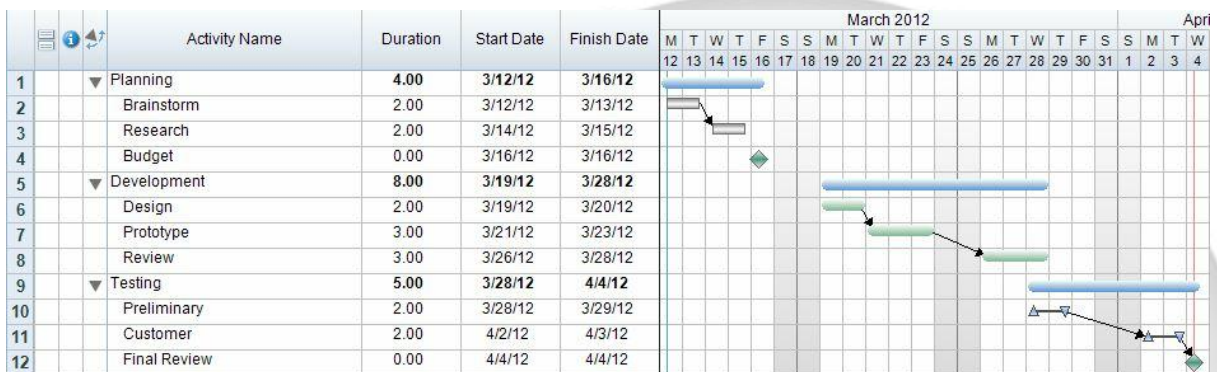
Tracking Columns Links Assignments

..	Row	Bar	Activity Name	Type	Lag/Lead	Link Duration
i	10	8	8 - Preliminary	Finish-to-Start (FS)	0.00	1.00

..	Row	Bar	Activity Name	Type	Lag/Lead	Link Duration
i	12	10	10 - Final Review	Finish-to-Start (FS)	0.00	0.00

Close

10. Click **Close** to close the Information Form and apply your changes.
The activities Customer and Final Review are now linked.



7.6 Finishing Tutorial 4

Finishing Tutorial 4

You are done with Tutorial 4. You now know the basics of scheduling dependencies through linking, locking, and chaining.

To close the Tutor4 file:

1. To close the **Tutor4** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 5: Tracking Progress](#).

-or-

Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

8 Tutorial 5: Tracking Progress

8.1 Tracking Progress - Intro

Tutorial 5 - Tracking Progress

This tutorial shows you how to track the progress of activities by entering their scheduled dates, revised dates, and work-in-place with actual dates and % complete.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor5.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor5.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

8.2 What is progress tracking?

What is progress tracking?

Thus far in the tutorials you have simply dragged activity bars to a new position in the timeline graph when their dates have changed. Some projects, and some companies, call for a way of tracking these changes. This is called progress tracking.

At all times, FastTrack Schedule automatically tracks the progress of activities as three sets of dates:

- **Scheduled** – Dates that reflect when your schedule was originally planned, also called the "baseline" or "promised" dates.
- **Revised** – Dates as they are currently projected, accounting for adjustments since the project began.
- **Actual** – Dates as they actually happened, also tracked as a percentage complete, or "work-in-place."

Each set of dates (or "component") can be displayed within a single bar style and each has its own tool for editing that component. The bar styles in this schedule have been formatted to Always Display the Revised Element even when the revised dates and times match the scheduled dates and times.

Example: As an example, the graphic below represents what a schedule would look like when you first plan the project. At this stage, the activity bars represent the Scheduled starts and finishes. In this example, the Scheduled component is the top bar, the Revised component is a bar just below the Scheduled component, and the Actual component is a different color fill in the Revised bar. For the Milestone, the Scheduled, Revised and Actual are represented by different fill colors..

	Activity Name	Start Date	Finish Date	Revised Start Date	Revised Finish Date	Actual Start Date	% Complete	Mar 12			
								11	18	25	1
1	▼ Planning	3/12/12	3/26/12	3/12/12	3/27/12	3/12/12	100%				
2	Brainstorm	3/12/12	3/15/12	3/12/12	3/15/12	3/12/12	100%				
3	Research	3/16/12	3/20/12	3/19/12	3/21/12	3/19/12	100%				
4	Budget	3/21/12	3/26/12	3/22/12	3/27/12	3/22/12	100%				
5	▼ Development	3/19/12	4/4/12	3/19/12	4/5/12	3/19/12	100%				
6	Design	3/19/12	3/23/12	3/19/12	3/23/12	3/19/12	100%				
7	Prototype	3/26/12	4/3/12	3/27/12	4/4/12	3/27/12	100%				
8	Review	4/4/12	4/4/12	4/5/12	4/5/12	4/5/12	100%				

8.3 Using Revised dates

Using Revised dates

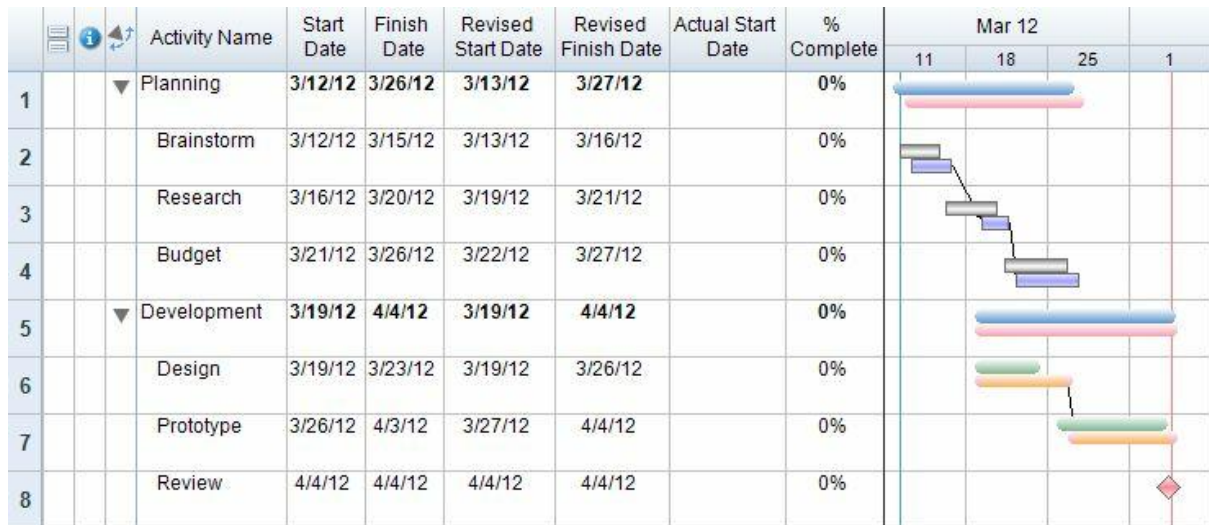
While the three components can be displayed in thousands of ways, in rows 2, 3, and 4 they will be displayed as a black color bar for Scheduled, a violet color bar for Revised that is always displayed, and a yellow fill color for Actual. In rows 6 and 7, they will be displayed as a green color bar for Scheduled, an orange color bar for Revised, and a purple fill color for Actual.

With the Scheduled dates in place and an understanding of the bar styles used, you are ready to track the progress of your activities. Let's say that because of conflicts, the Brainstorming activity cannot begin when scheduled. You must revise it to start later, slipping it a few days.

You can change the Revised dates by typing in the Revised columns, but here you will use the Revised tool.

Steps:

1. On the **Home** tab, in the **Tools** group, select the **Revise** tool.
2. Position the cursor in the MIDDLE of the Brainstorm activity bar and drag to the right 1 day to 03/13/12.
3. Select the **Revise Bar** tool again and drag the END POINT of the Design activity bar to the right 3 days to 03/26/12.



Notice that the Prototype bar also shows revisions. This is because it is linked to the Brainstorm bar and when you change the Revised dates you also revise the dates of the linked bars.

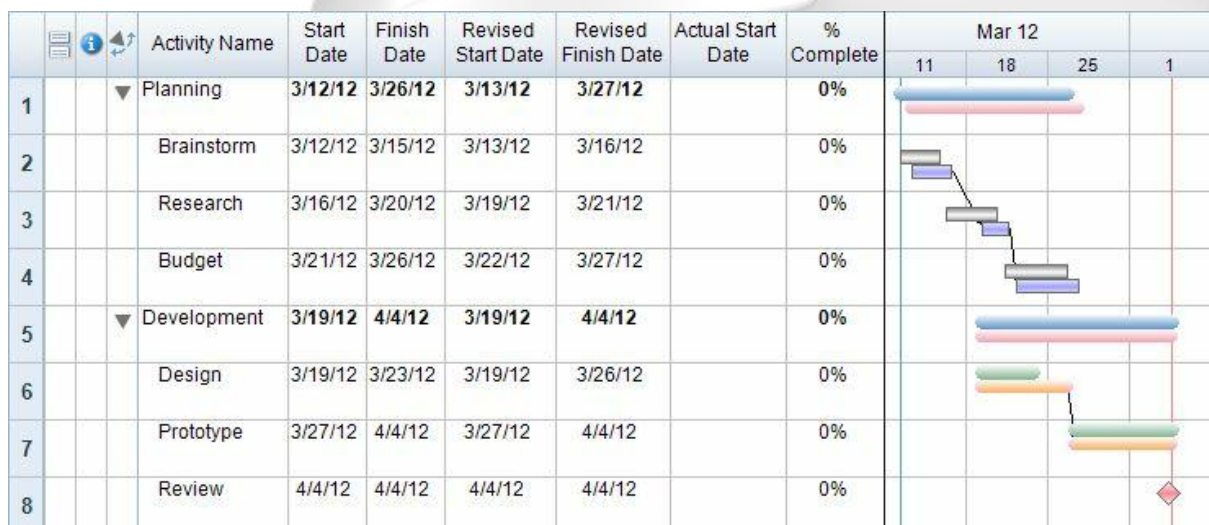
8.4 Resetting Revised dates

Resetting Revised dates

If you make a mistake or your revisions no longer apply, you will want to reset the Revised dates back to the Scheduled dates. For instance, if it happens that the Prototype activity is not affected by the revised slip of the Design activity, you need to return it to where the Scheduled dates and Revised Dates are the same.

Steps:

1. To reset the Revised dates, select the Prototype activity bar with the **Arrow** tool.
2. On the **Tools** tab, in the **Tracking** group, and click **Reset Revised**.
The Prototype bar returns to where the Scheduled dates and Revised Dates are the same.




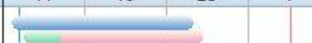



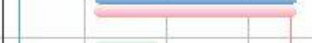
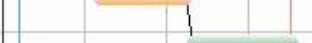
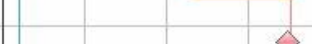

8.5 Using Actual dates and % Complete

Using Actual dates and % Complete

An activity's Actual dates and % Complete are interrelated - they both represent "work-in-place." As an activity is worked on, it is first given an Actual Start date, then an increasing % Complete, and when completed, an Actual Finish Date and an Actual Duration.

Steps:

1. On the **Tools** tab, in the **Tracking** group, and click **Percent** tool. 
2. Position the **Percent** cursor in the middle of the Brainstorm activity's blue Revised bar and click your mouse button.
3. If the activity's % Complete column does not show **50%**, select the value and type **50**.
4. Press the **Return/Enter** key.

		Activity Name	Start Date	Finish Date	Revised Start Date	Revised Finish Date	Actual Start Date	% Complete	Mar 12			
									11	18	25	1
1		▼ Planning	3/12/12	3/26/12	3/13/12	3/27/12	3/13/12	18%				
2		Brainstorm	3/12/12	3/15/12	3/13/12	3/16/12	3/13/12	50%				
3		Research	3/16/12	3/20/12	3/19/12	3/21/12		0%				
4		Budget	3/21/12	3/26/12	3/22/12	3/27/12		0%				
5		▼ Development	3/19/12	4/4/12	3/19/12	4/4/12		0%				
6		Design	3/19/12	3/23/12	3/19/12	3/26/12		0%				
7		Prototype	3/27/12	4/4/12	3/27/12	4/4/12		0%				
8		Review	4/4/12	4/4/12	4/4/12	4/4/12		0%				

You do not need to be tracking all three sets of dates in order to use % Complete.

8.6 Designing Scheduled, Revised, and Actual bar display

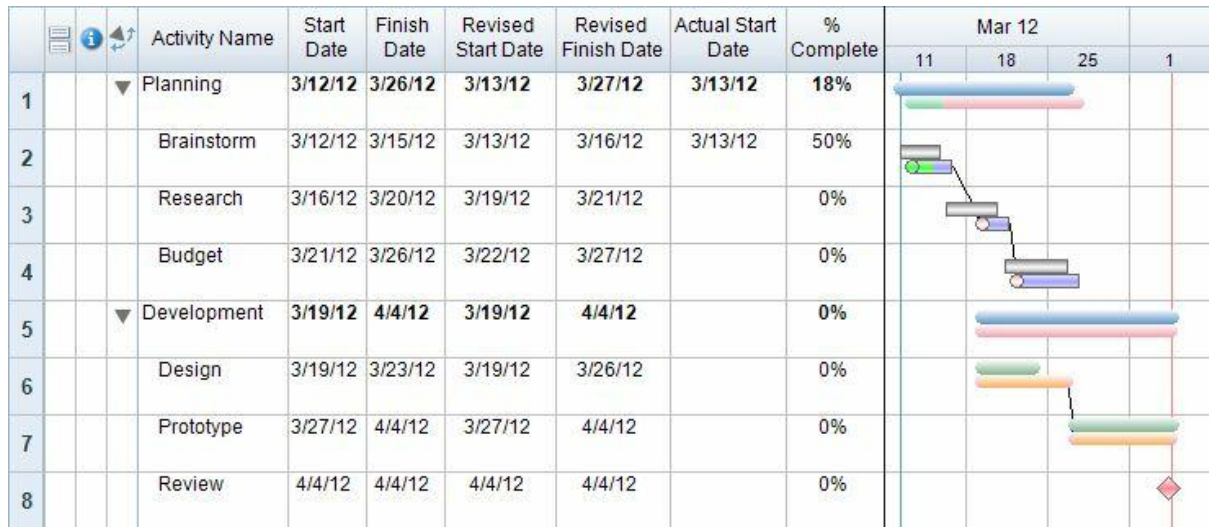
Designing Scheduled, Revised, and Actual bar display

You have seen how to track a bar's three components, so now you can learn how to design the three components.

Steps:

1. With the **Arrow** tool, click the Brainstorm activity bar to select it.
2. On the **Format Tab**, in the **Display** group, Click **Bar Style**
The Format Bar Style dialog opens.
3. Click the Show All Components While Editing box.
4. From the **Component** drop-down list, select **Revised**.
5. From the **Part to Edit** drop-down list, select **Revised Start Point**.
6. In the **Shape** area, select the circle point style.
7. Select **Actual** from the **Component** drop-down list.
8. In the **Fill** area, choose a shade of green from the **Color** box.

9. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Bar Style** dialog.



Changing the display of bar style components gives you complete flexibility in tracking and displaying Scheduled, Revised, and Actual dates and times.

8.7 Finishing Tutorial 5

Finishing Tutorial 5

You are done with Tutorial 5. You now know the basics of tracking an activity's scheduled, revised, and actual dates.

To close the Tutor5 file:

1. To close the **Tutor5** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 6: Using the Work Calendar](#).
- or-**
Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#)

9 Tutorial 6: Using the Work Calendar

9.1 Using the Work Calendar - Intro

Tutorial 6 - Using the Work Calendar

This tutorial shows you how to use Work Calendars to define typical and non-typical, or exceptional, work days for the project as a whole and for a resource. You will also learn how to handle contradictions between the project and resource work calendars, to display the work schedule in the timeline graph, calculate durations in work units, and to drag activity bars according to the work schedule.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor6.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor6.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

9.2 Defining a Work Calendar

Defining a Work Calendar

In Fast Track Schedule there are three types of work calendars: project, activity and resource. You assign just one calendar to the project, but any activity can be assigned a separate calendar and every resource has its own work calendar. Each of these calendars is edited in the Work Calendar dialog and each of these calendars is completely customizable.

Work calendars allow you to define typical work days and exceptional days for the project, each resource and any activity.

Work Calendars helps you accurately track the amount of time available for work on activities. Once

Work Calendars have been defined, you can utilize them in several ways:

- To display the work schedule in the Schedule View timeline by hiding and/or shading non-work times.
- To help you schedule activities during work times only.
- To calculate durations in work units.

There are four key elements of the Work Calendar: Base Work Days, the [selected] Calendar, Typical Days, and Specific Days.

This element:	Does this:
Base Work Day	Determines how durations of work days are calculated. This is only used in calculations. You set this number in the Project

	tab of the Document Options dialog.
[Selected] Calendar	Determines the calendar you assign to a project, activity or resource and from which you may build a custom calendar. Choose from: <i>Standard</i> - 8 hour work days Monday -Friday, <i>24 Hours</i> - 24 hour work days seven days a week, <i>Night Shift</i> - a 40 hour work week from 11 PM - 8 AM, and any custom calendars you have created.
Typical Week Day	Allows you to set up a work schedule in which each day of the week might have different hours, for instance, a Monday might differ from other days.
Exceptions	Defines the specific days of the year that deviate from the base work day or typical days. Each specific day can have its own set of hours or no hours. For example, you might want to define holidays as specific days. Specific days are listed in the Exceptions table and can be given a descriptive name.

If you choose to calculate durations in 24-Hour Calendar units, the Work Calendar is no longer being used in the schedule.

In these steps, you will create a new work calendar, define March 16, 2012 as a non-work day, and set this new calendar as the Project Work Calendar.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the Details group, click **Work Calendars**.
The Work Calendars dialog opens.
2. Click the **New** button.
3. In the New Work Calendar dialog, be sure Standard (Project Calendar) is selected in the Copy Calendar option, and enter "**Product Titan Launch**".

4. Click OK to close the New Work Calendar dialog.
5. In the **Define Specific Days** area, select March as the month and 2012 as the year.
6. Select day 16 in the calendar.
7. Click the **Clear Day** button.
The Work Shift Details table will now contain no start time or finish time.
8. In the Description field of the Exceptions table, enter "**Company Holiday**" beside the date 3/16/12.



9. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Work Calendars** dialog.
10. On the **Project** tab, in the Details group, click **Project Information**.
The Project Information dialog opens.
11. From the Calendar drop-down list select **Product Titan Launch**.

12. Click OK to close the Project Information dialog and save your changes.
Note that March 16th is now shaded as a non-work day in the timeline.

Clicking a day in the calendar or Typical Week Day area displays the work hours defined for that day in the Work Shift Details table. Here you cleared all of the work hours to make 3/16/12 a non-work day. You could, however, define new work hours by entering up to eight shifts, or "periods," of work time. Each period must be a continuous period of time.

In addition to defining the work schedule of specific days (as above), you can also define the work schedule for typical days of the week. This allows you to define a different work schedule for each day of the week.

9.3 Displaying the Work Calendar

Displaying the Project Work Calendar

The appearance of the Project Work Calendar in the timeline graph is defined in the Display tab of the Format Schedule View dialog.

By default, timeline graph shades all days that have no work defined in the project work calendar. In addition to the typical Sundays and Saturdays, the specific day that you changed, March 16, 2012, is also shaded.

We will now change the setting from shading non-work days to hiding them.

Steps:

1. On any tab, in the View group, click the Dialog Box Launcher.
The Format Schedule View dialog opens in the Display tab.
2. In the **Timeline Columns Display** area, select the **Hide Continuous Non-Work/Shade Other** option.
3. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Schedule View** dialog.



The timeline graph now hides all typical non-work days that are continuous with the weekend. All other specific non-work days, including Friday, March 16, 2012, are shaded when you select this option. If every Friday was deemed a non-work day in our Product Titan Launch work calendar, then all Fridays would be hidden also.

9.4 Creating a task specific Work Calendar

Creating a task specific Work Calendar

Any activity in your schedule can be assigned its own work calendar.

You will now create a new work calendar for the activity "Prototype". Currently this activity has a Start Date and Time of 3/21/12 at 8:00 AM and a Finish Date and Time of 3/23/12 at 5:00 PM.

Steps:

1. In Row 7, double-click the bar for the activity Prototype.

Information (Prototype : Row 7)

Row Bars

Bar ID 5

Duration: 3.00

Hidden

Bar Style: [Green Bar]

Fixed Duration

Tracking Columns Links Assignments

	Start Date	Start Time	Finish Date	Finish Time	Duration
Scheduled	03/21/2012	8:00 AM	03/23/2012	5:00 PM	3.00
Revised	03/21/2012	8:00 AM	03/23/2012	5:00 PM	3.00
Actual					

% Complete: 0.00%

Priority: [] (Days)

Constraints

Type: Start On Or After

Calendar: None

Constraint Date: 03/21/2012

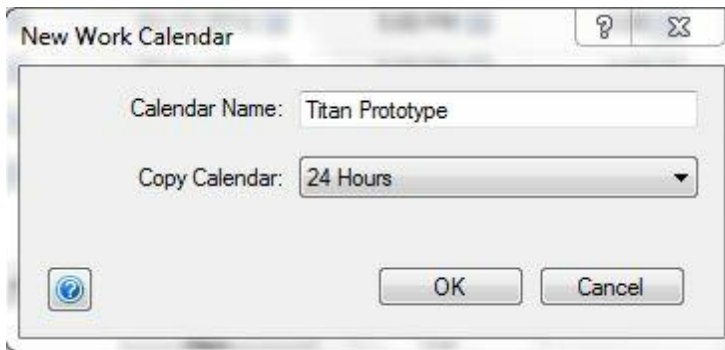
Constraint Time: 8:00 AM

New... Edit...

Ignore Resource Calendars

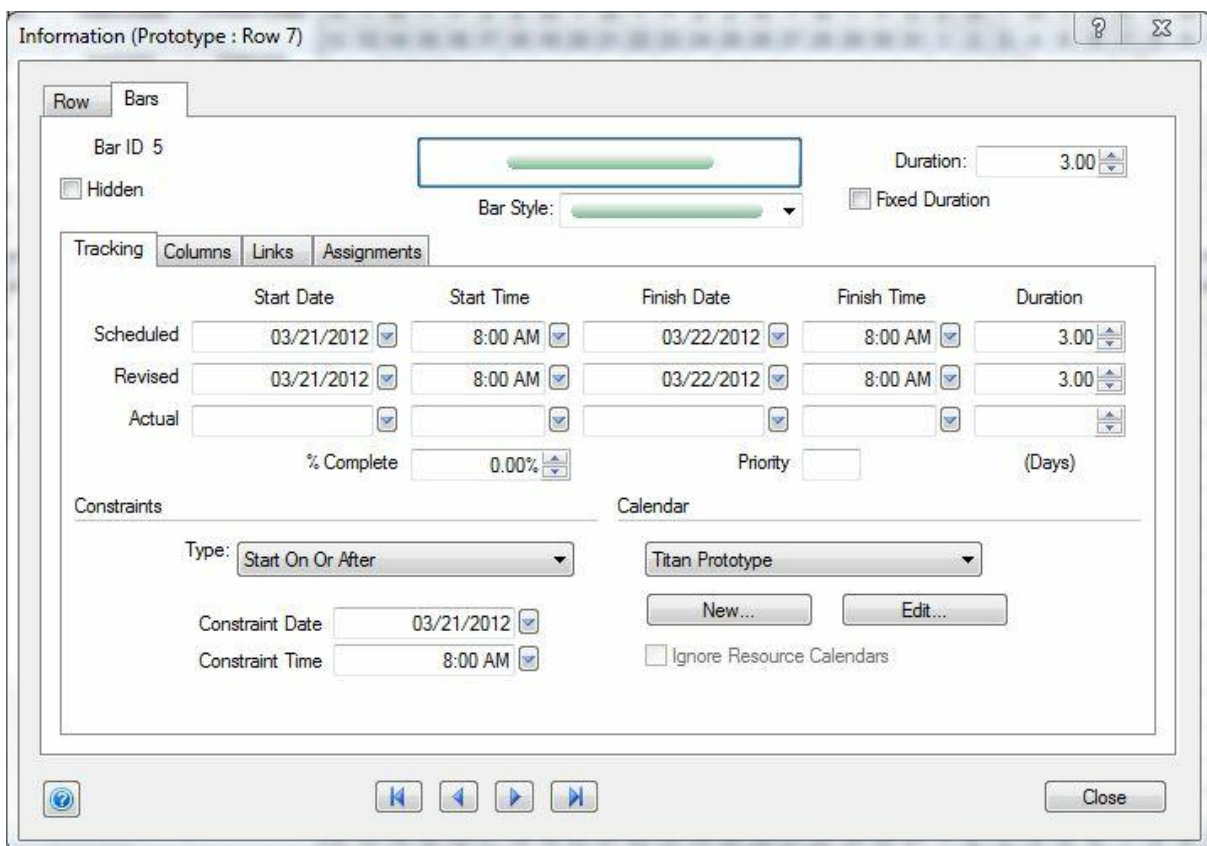
Close

2. In the Calendar area of the Prototype Information Form, click the New button.
3. In the Calendar Name option, enter Titan Prototype.
4. From the Copy Calendar drop-down list, choose 24 Hours.



The 'New Work Calendar' dialog box is shown. It has a title bar with a question mark and a close button. The main area contains two input fields: 'Calendar Name' with the text 'Titan Prototype' and 'Copy Calendar' with a dropdown menu showing '24 Hours'. At the bottom, there are three buttons: a help icon, 'OK', and 'Cancel'.

- Click OK to close the New Calendar dialog.
Note the new Finish Date and Time.



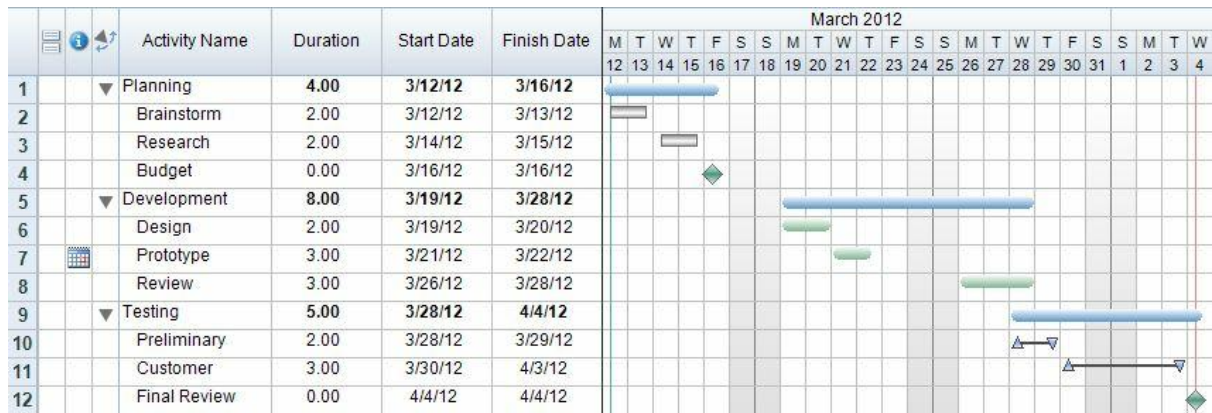
The 'Information (Prototype : Row 7)' dialog box is shown. It has a title bar with a question mark and a close button. The main area is divided into several sections:

- Row/Bar:** 'Bar ID 5', a bar style selector, 'Duration: 3.00', and a 'Fixed Duration' checkbox.
- Tracking:** A table with columns for 'Start Date', 'Start Time', 'Finish Date', 'Finish Time', and 'Duration'.

	Start Date	Start Time	Finish Date	Finish Time	Duration
Scheduled	03/21/2012	8:00 AM	03/22/2012	8:00 AM	3.00
Revised	03/21/2012	8:00 AM	03/22/2012	8:00 AM	3.00
Actual					
- Constraints:** 'Type: Start On Or After', 'Constraint Date: 03/21/2012', and 'Constraint Time: 8:00 AM'.
- Calendar:** 'Titan Prototype', 'New...' button, 'Edit...' button, and 'Ignore Resource Calendars' checkbox.

At the bottom, there are navigation buttons and a 'Close' button.

- Click Close to close the Information Form.
Note that Prototype now has a calendar icon in its Information action column denoting it's use of a work calendar different to the specified Project work calendar.



You can see that the Prototype bar is smaller now and that, though the activity still has a duration of "3.00," it now has a Start Date and Time of 3/21/12 at 8:00 AM and a Finish Date and Time of 3/22/12 at 8:00 AM. Because a work day is still defined in 8 hour increments, the duration calculated in days equaling 3 means that that duration represents 3 sets of 8 hours or 24 total hours. Now that Prototype has a 24 hour calendar, it's duration still displays in regards to the defined work days, but now all 24 hours can fit into one 24 hour time period - thus the new finish time.

9.5 Finishing Tutorial 6

Finishing Tutorial 6

You are done with Tutorial 6. You now know the basics of defining and using the work calendar.

To close the Tutor6 file:

1. To close the **Tutor6** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 7: Filtering and Sorting](#).

-or-

Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

10 Tutorial 7: Filtering & Sorting

10.1 Filtering and Sorting - Intro

Tutorial 7 - Filtering and Sorting

This tutorial shows you how to use filters and sorts to hide and rearrange rows according to the data they contain.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor7.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor7.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was

included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

10.2 Applying a filter

Applying a filter

Filtering activities allows you to hide and select rows based on criteria that you define. It is a way of searching rows for information. For each schedule, you can define a list of filters that search for data in the schedule's activities. Filters are stored in the Filters dialog.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Sort & Filter** group, click **Filters**, and choose **100% Complete** from the drop-down list.

							March 2012																								
							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T						
							11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						
1		▼	Planning	4.00	3/12/12	3/16/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/12 to 3/16]																							
2			Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/12 to 3/14]																							
3			Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/13 to 3/15]																							
4			Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/16 to 3/16]																							
5		▼	Development	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/19 to 3/28]																							
6			Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/19 to 3/20]																							
7			Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/20 to 3/23]																							
8			Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12	100%	[Gantt bar from 3/26 to 3/28]																							

By default, filters look at the information in the activities that are currently visible and those that are hidden. If you wish to create a filter that looks for information that is visible only, deselect the "Expand All Prior to Filtering" and the "Restore All Prior to Filtering" options in the Options tab of the Define Filter dialog.

10.3 Defining a filter

Defining a filter

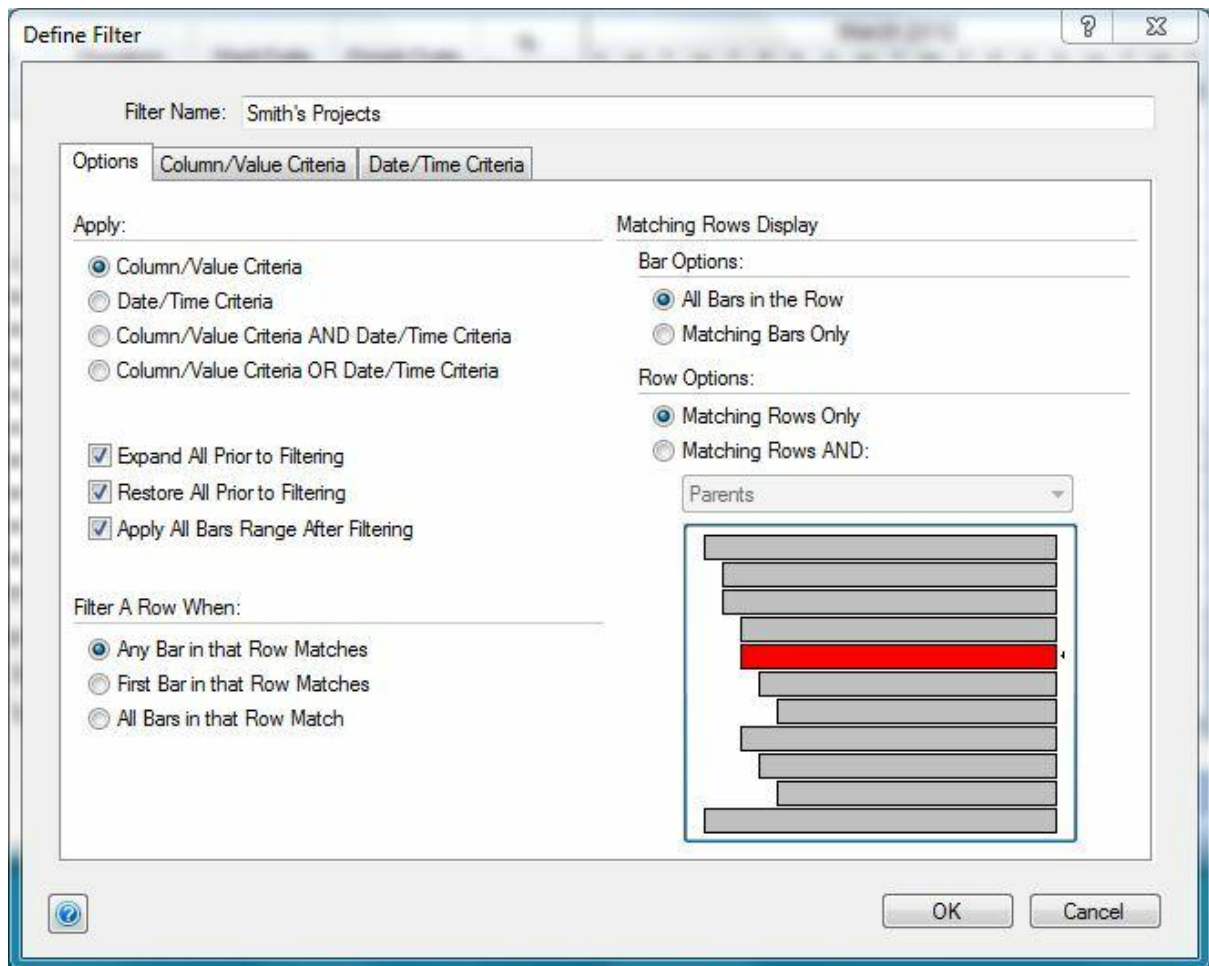
Filters are defined in the Define Filter dialog. You can think of the filter's criteria as questions the filter asks of each activity. Each question has three parts:

- a column in which to search
- a way of comparing the column data to values
- a value to look for

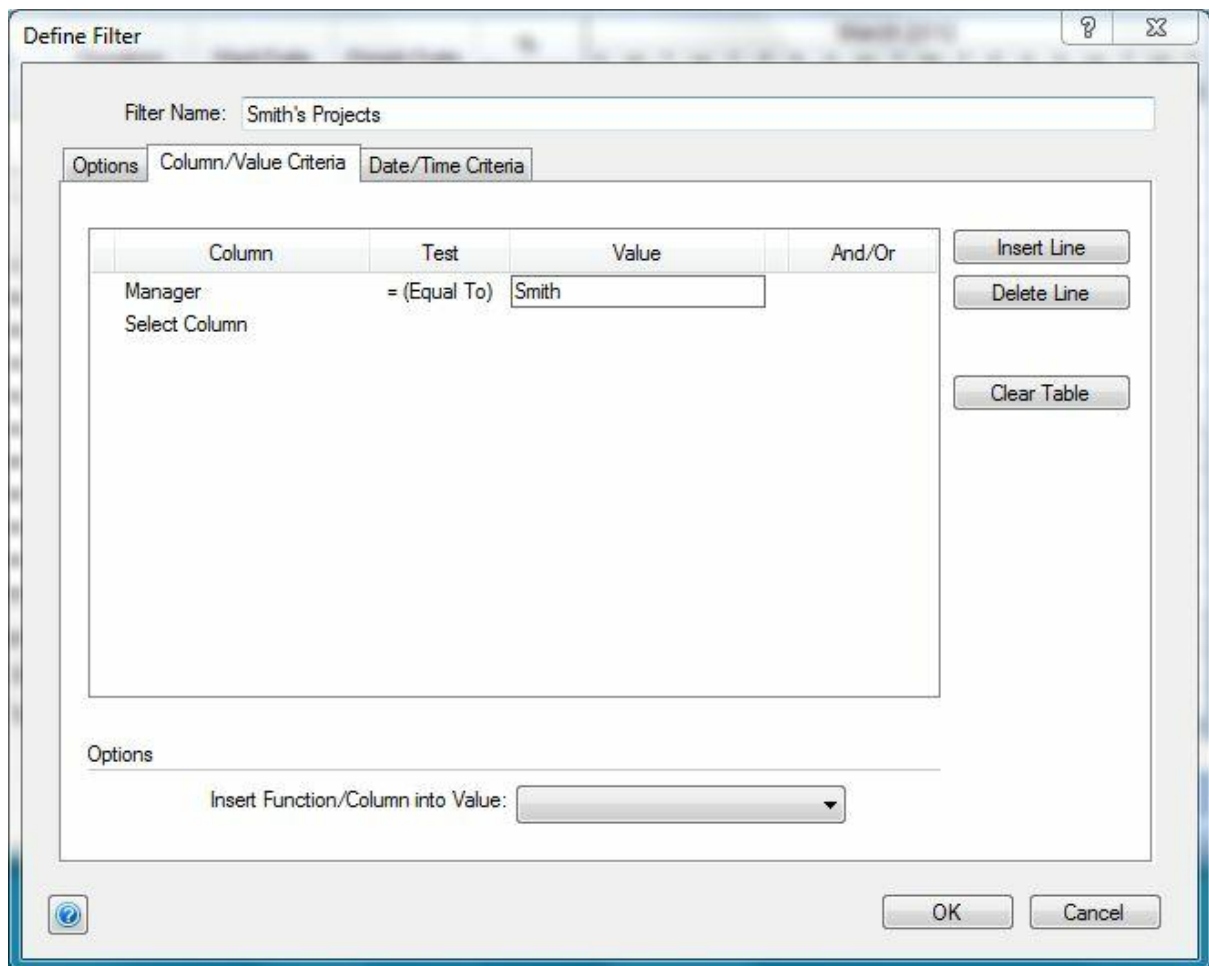
For this filter, you will define criteria that ask the question, "Which activities have in the Manager column, a value equal to Smith?"

Steps:

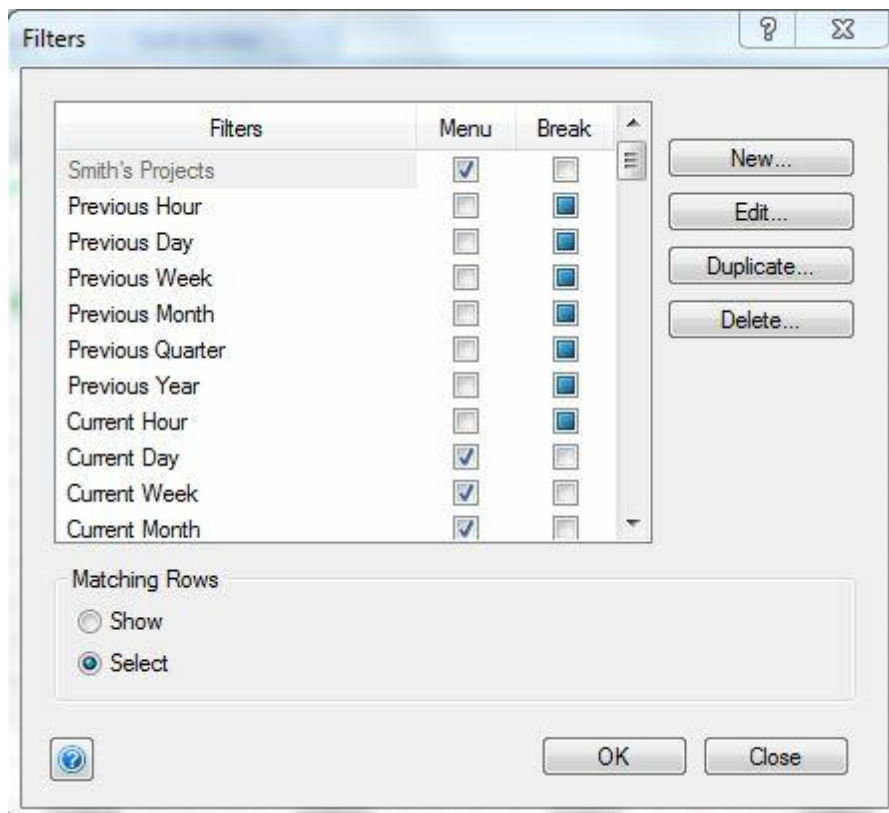
1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Sort & Filter** group, click **Filters**, and choose **Define** from the drop-down list.
 - The Filters dialog opens.
2. Click **New**.
 - The Define Filter dialog opens.
3. Enter **Smith's Projects** in the **Filter Name** box.
4. In the **Apply** area, select the **Column/Value Criteria** option.
5. In the **Row Options** area, select **Matching Rows Only**.



6. Click the **Column/Value Criteria** tab.
7. To define the column in which to search, in the table, click **Select Column** in the first **Column** cell.
8. When the drop-down list that appears, type an "m" to scroll to **Managers**, then click to select it.
9. Click the first **Test** cell to select it.
10. From the drop-down list that appears, select the equal sign (=).
11. Click the first **Value** cell to select it.
12. Select **Smith** from the drop-down list to enter the value against which all activities will be compared.
If a Value List had not been created for this column a value would have to be typed in.



13. Click **OK** to create the filter and close the **Define Filter** dialog.
14. In the **Filters** dialog, click the **Select** option to highlight the activities that match the criteria.



15. Click **OK** to apply the filter and close the **Filters** dialog.

	Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	% Complete	March 2012							April 2012												
						S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
1	▼ Planning	4.00	3/12/12	3/16/12	100%																				
2	Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	100%																				
3	Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	100%																				
4	Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12	100%																				
5	▼ Development	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	100%																				
6	Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12	100%																				
7	Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12	100%																				
8	Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12	100%																				
9	▼ Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12	0%																				
10	Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12	0%																				
11	Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12	0%																				
12	Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12	0%																				

Because the Restore All Prior to Filtering option is selected by default in the Define Filter dialog, all rows are restored from the last filter before the new filter is applied.

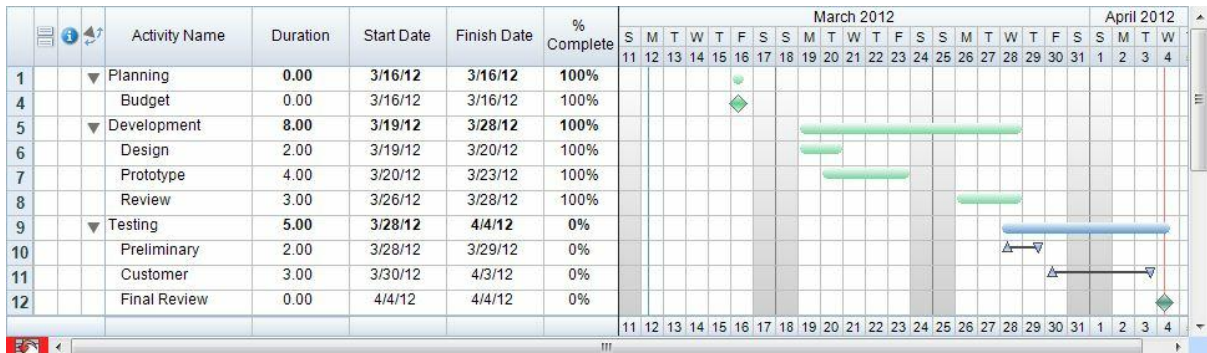
10.4 Hiding activities

Hiding activities

You can also hide activities without using the Filters dialog by right-clicking and using commands in the context menu. Here, since activities are already selected from the last filter, you will hide them by choosing Hide.

Steps:

1.Right-click in the row number action column of row 2 or 3, each having been left selected when you applied the "Smith's Projects" filter, and select **Hide** from the context menu.



Note the Restore All button at the bottom left of the window. Do not click it at this time, but know that clicking it will quickly restore all rows hidden by filters and sorts.

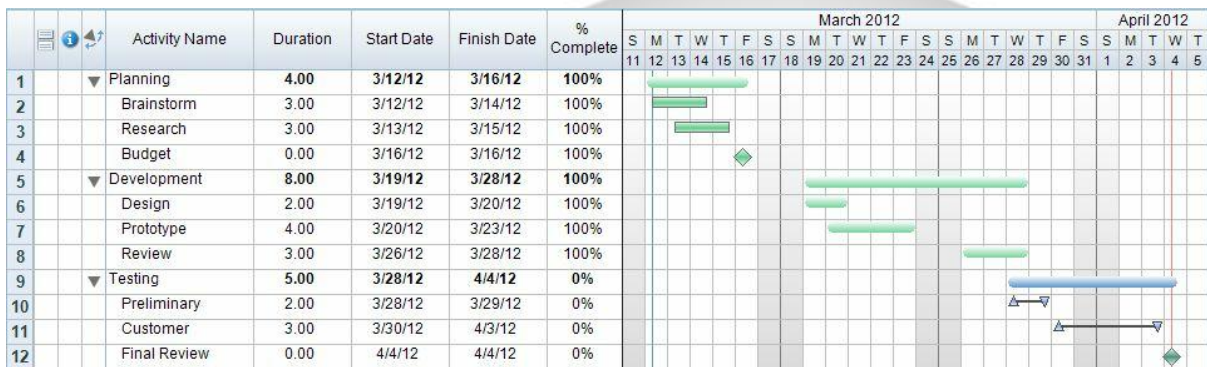
10.5 Restoring filtered activities

Restoring filtered activities

When you are done hiding rows and wish to see all of the activities again, you restore the schedule.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Sort & Filter** group, click **Restore All**.



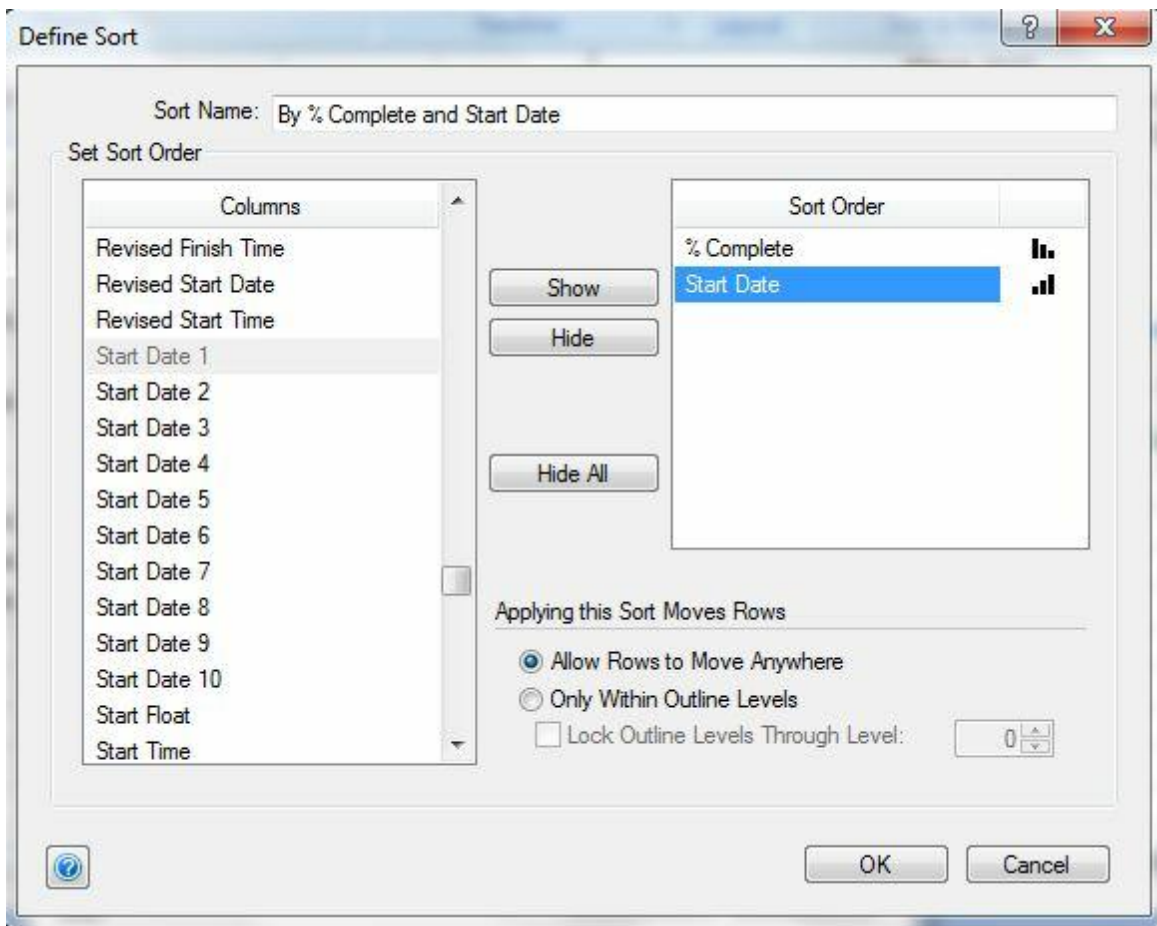
Restore does not undo changes you have made to activities. It only shows hidden activities and returns them to the Master Sort Order.

You should be aware that changes you make to the order of activities are not restored. Changes that could affect the order of activities include: moving, deleting, inserting, cutting, and pasting rows.

10.6 Applying a sort

Applying a sort

Whereas filtering hides rows, sorting rearranges the row order based on information in an activity's columns. Like filtering, sorting is done on visible activities and can be temporary.



9. Click **OK** to create the sort and close the **Define Sort** dialog.
10. Click **OK** to apply the sort and close the **Sorts** dialog.

	Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	% Complete	March 2012							April 2012												
						S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
1	▼ Planning	4.00	3/12/12	3/16/12	100%																				
2	Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	100%																				
3	Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	100%																				
4	Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12	100%																				
5	▼ Development	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	100%																				
6	Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12	100%																				
7	Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12	100%																				
8	Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12	100%																				
9	▼ Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12	0%																				
10	Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12	0%																				
11	Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12	0%																				
12	Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12	0%																				

The schedule's activities are moved up and down into the new sort order. First they are arranged in descending order by % Complete value and then the activities with the same % Complete values are arranged in ascending order by Start Date.

The Sorts dialog also contains an option called Define as Master Sort that defines the selected sort as the Master Sort order. Once a sort order becomes the Master Order of activities, you cannot return to the original order. When you restore activities, they will restore to the current Master Sort order.

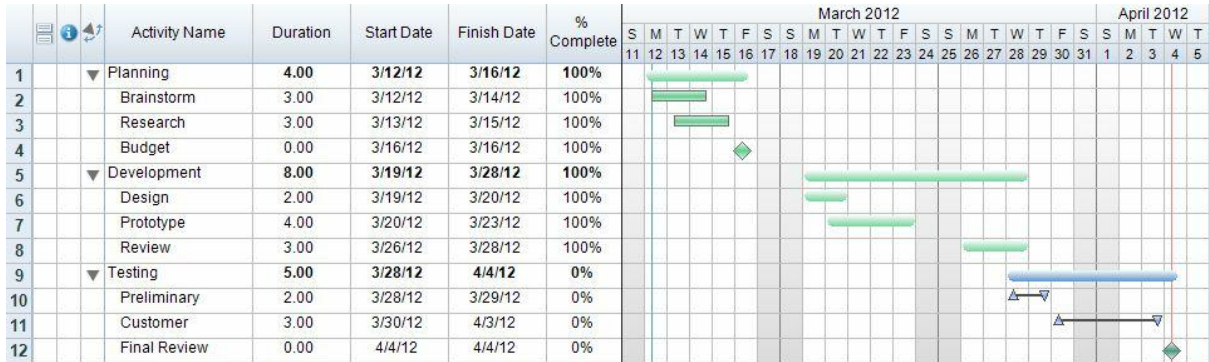
10.8 Restoring sorted activities

Restoring sorted activities

Like filtering, sorting is temporary if you return to the Master Sort order by restoring the schedule.

Steps:

1. On the **Project** tab, in the **Sort & Filter** group, click **Restore All**.



This returns the schedule to its Master Sort Order. Remember, restoring does not undo changes you have made to activities. It shows hidden activities and returns them to the Master Sort Order.

You should be aware that changes you make to the order of activities are not restored. Changes that could affect the order of activities include: moving, deleting, inserting, cutting, and pasting rows.

10.9 Finishing Tutorial 7

Finishing Tutorial 7

You are done with Tutorial 7. You now know the basics of filtering and sorting.

To close the Tutor7 file:

1. To close the **Tutor7** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 8: Using Summaries and Calculations](#).

-or-

Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

11 Tutorial 8: Using Summaries & Calculations

11.1 Using Summaries and Calculations - Intro

Tutorial 8 - Using Summaries and Calculations

This tutorial shows you how to use column summaries, summary graphs, and calculation columns.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor8.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor8.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

11.2 Adding a column summary

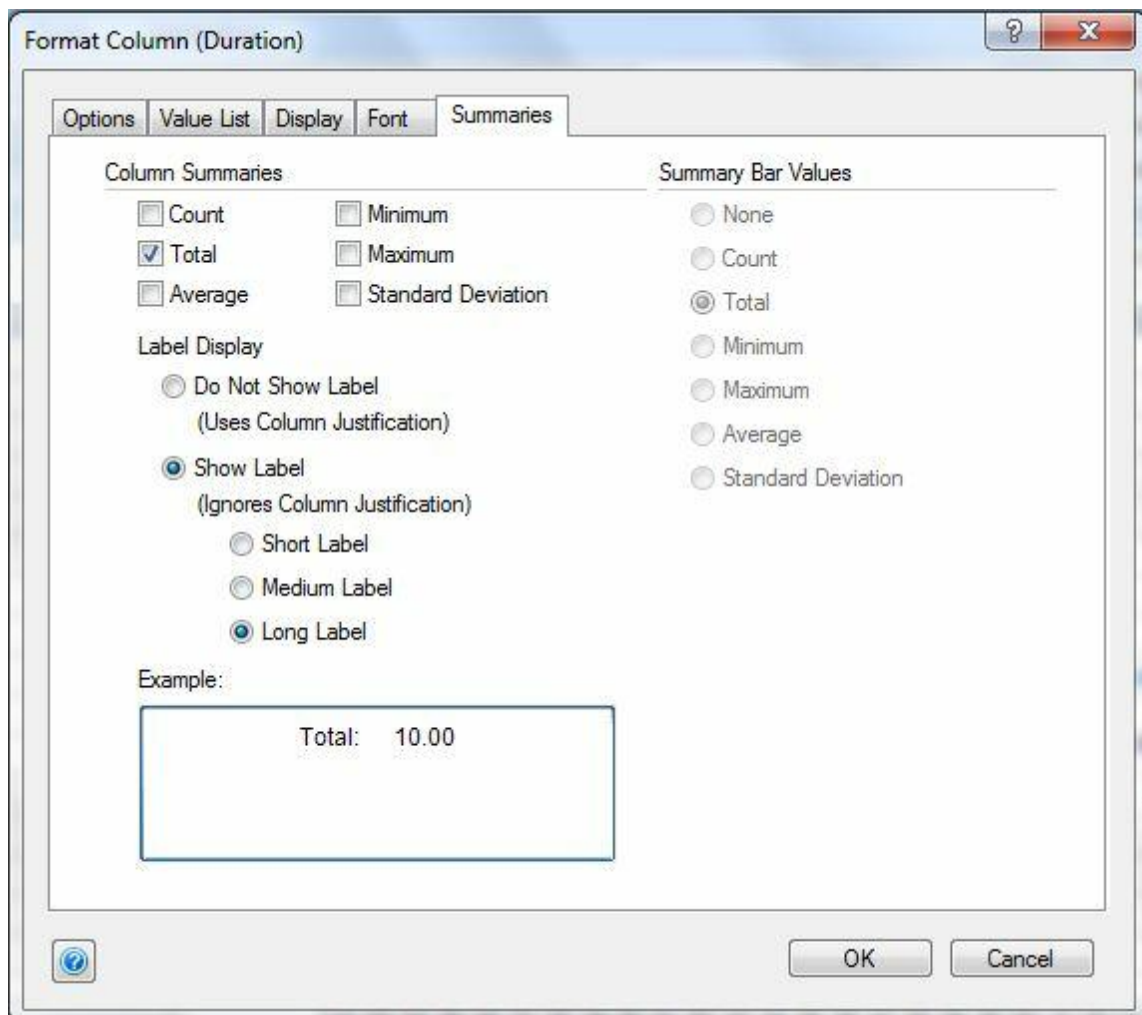
Adding a column summary

Column summaries display the total, average, standard deviation, minimum, and maximum of values currently visible in a column.

Steps:

1. Double-click the column heading of the **Duration** column.
The Format Column dialog opens.
2. Click the **Summaries** tab.
3. Select the **Total** option.





4. Click **OK** to apply your changes and close the **Format Column** dialog.

						March 2012							April 2012																			
						M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
						12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1		▼ Planning	7.00	3/12/12	3/20/12	\$250.00																										
2		Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	\$100.00																										
3		Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	\$75.00																										
4		Budget	3.00	3/16/12	3/20/12	\$75.00																										
5		▼ Development	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	\$285.00																										
6		Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12	\$125.00																										
7		Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12	\$80.00																										
8		Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12	\$80.00																										
9		▼ Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12	\$175.00																										
10		Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12	\$75.00																										
11		Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12	\$100.00																										
12		Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12																											
Total: 23.00																																

This displays the total of all values visible below the Duration column.

In order to view column summaries, the Column Summaries & Timescale (Bottom) option must be selected in the Columns tab of the Define Layout dialog.

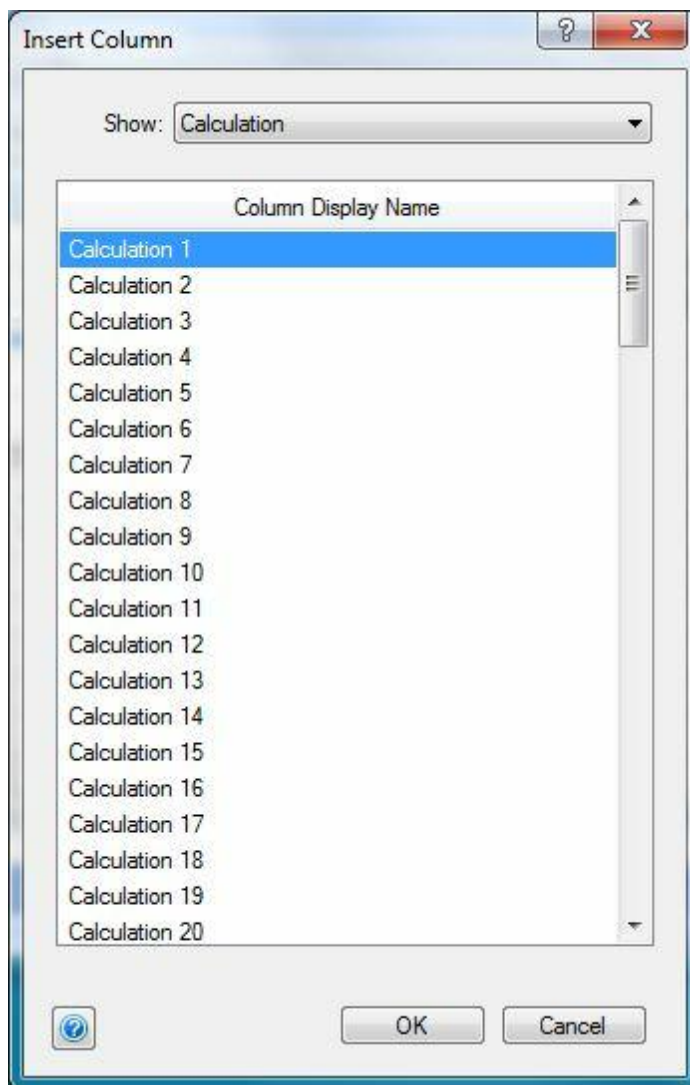
11.3 Defining a calculation column

Defining a calculation column

You can add columns to your schedule that derive their values from other column. These are called calculation columns. Instead of entering values for a calculation column, you set up a statement that tells FastTrack Schedule to use operations and functions to calculate the value.

Steps:

1. Click the column heading of the Rate Per Day column to select the column.
2. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Rows & Columns** group and click **Column**.
The Insert Column dialog opens.
3. From the **Show** drop-down list, select **Calculation**.
4. In the Column Display Name table, select **Calculation 1**.



5. Click **OK** to insert the column.
The Format Calculation dialog opens.

Keep the Format Calculation dialog open for the next section.

11.4 Setting up a calculation

Setting up a calculation

A calculation contains an expression that FastTrack Schedule evaluates to derive a value for each activity bar. An expression can contain:

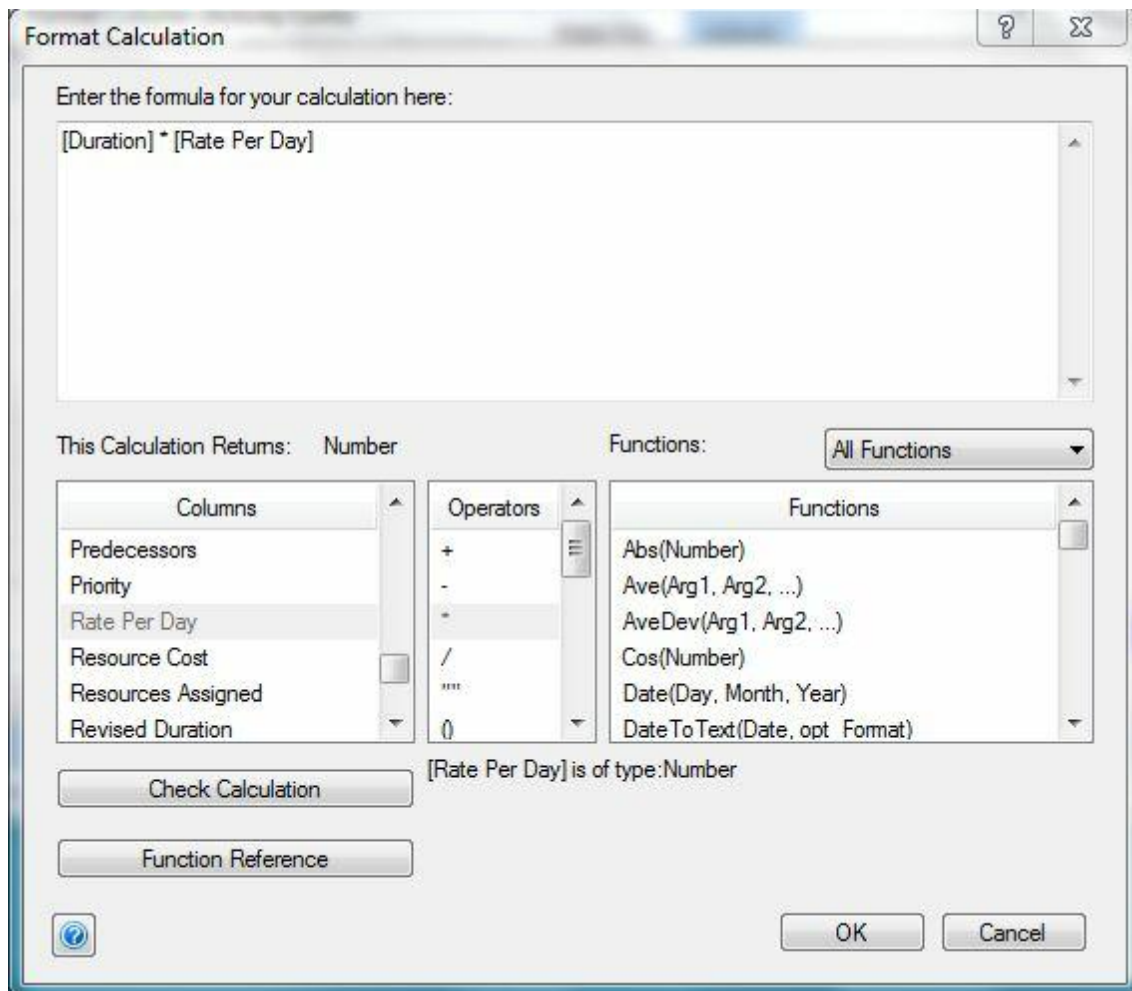
- **column names** - though they must be defined as part of the bar, not row
- **operators** - like +, -, *, /
- **functions** - like Ave() for finding the average; or If() for testing for conditions
- **values** - like the number 20 or text strings like "Bob"

Here, you will define a simple calculation that multiplies the Duration of an activity bar by its Rate per Day. This will represent the cost of the activity bar.

Steps:

1. In the **Format Calculation** dialog, select **Duration** from the **Columns** table and double-click it to enter it in the calculation.
2. In the **Operators** table, double-click the "*" button to insert the multiplication operator.
3. Use the scroll bar of the **Columns** table to scroll to Rate per Day.
4. Double-click **Rate per Day** to insert it into the calculation.

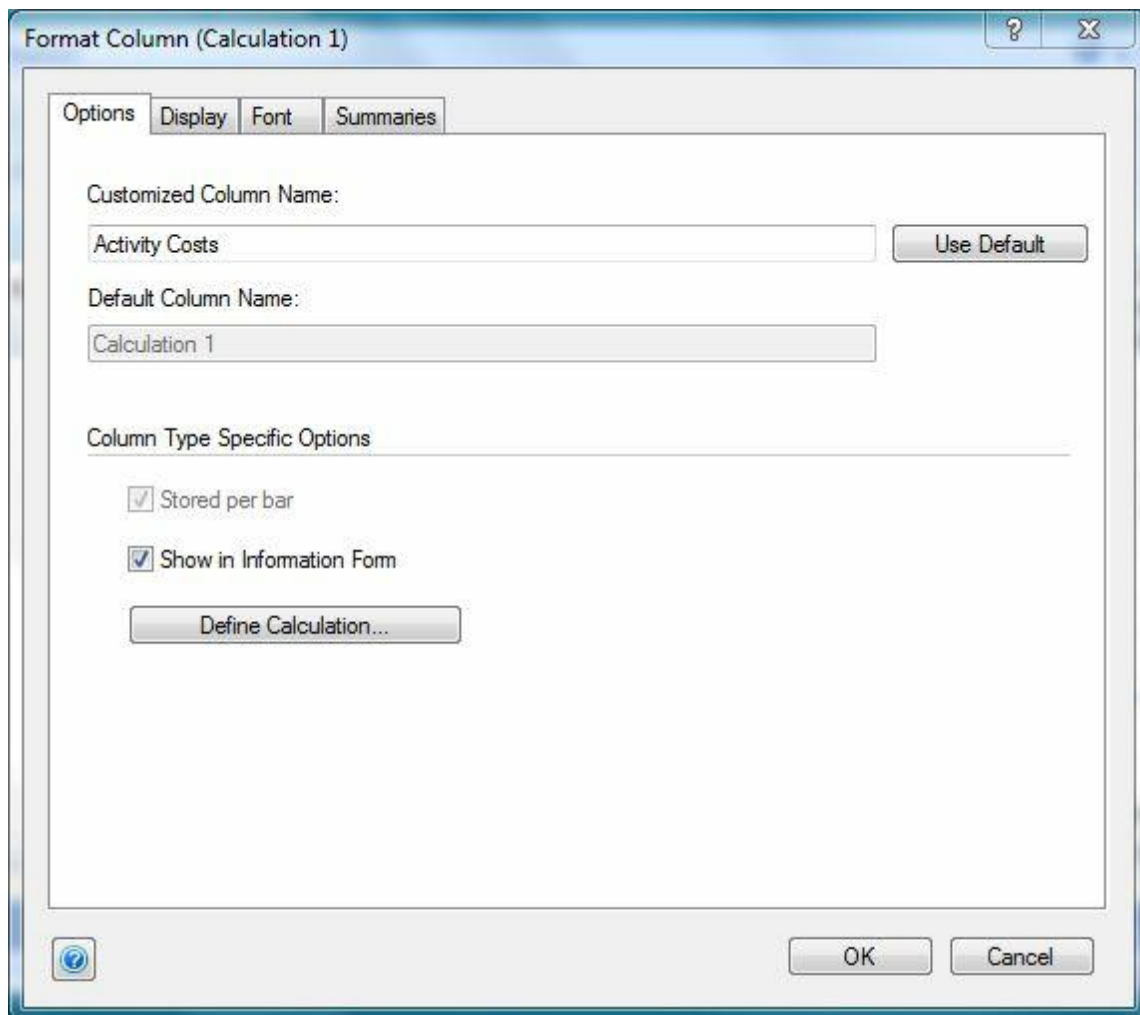




5. Click **OK** to save the calculation and close the **Format Calculation** dialog and the **Insert Column** dialog.

							March 2012							April 2012																
	Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	Rate Per Day	Calculation 1	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W
1	Planning	7.00	3/12/12	3/20/12	\$250.00	750.00																								
2	Brainstorm	3.00	3/12/12	3/14/12	\$100.00	300.00																								
3	Research	3.00	3/13/12	3/15/12	\$75.00	225.00																								
4	Budget	3.00	3/16/12	3/20/12	\$75.00	225.00																								
5	Development	8.00	3/19/12	3/28/12	\$285.00	810.00																								
6	Design	2.00	3/19/12	3/20/12	\$125.00	250.00																								
7	Prototype	4.00	3/20/12	3/23/12	\$80.00	320.00																								
8	Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12	\$80.00	240.00																								
9	Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12	\$175.00	450.00																								
10	Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12	\$75.00	150.00																								
11	Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12	\$100.00	300.00																								
12	Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12		0.00																								
		Total:	23.00																											

6. Double-click the **Calculation 1** column heading to open the **Format Column** dialog in the **Options** tab.
 7. In the **Customized Column Name** box enter **Activity Costs**.



8. Click the **Display** tab.
9. Enter **60** in the **Column Width** box.
10. In the **Number Display** section, select the **\$** option.

11.5 Defining a summary graph row

Defining a summary graph row

Summary graphs are similar to column summaries—they display the total, average, standard deviation, minimum, and maximum of values. Instead of summarizing values in a column, however, they summarize values in the time periods of the timeline graph. They appear directly beneath the timeline graph.

To define a summary graph row, you must tell it the unit of time to summarize, what data to summarize, and what summary operation to perform.

Steps:

1. On the **Insert** tab, in the **Timeline Elements** group and click **Summary Graph**.
The Format Summary Graph dialog opens.
2. From the **Summary Units** drop-down list, select **Weeks**.
3. In the table, click the first cell in the **Data to Summarize** section.
4. From the drop-down list that appears, select **Activity Costs** from the bottom.
5. In the table, click the first cell in the **Summary Operation** section.
6. From the drop-down list that appears, select **Total**.
7. In the table, click the first cell in the **Display As** section.
8. From the options that appear, select **Histogram**.
9. Click the **Fill Color** box and, from the Color dialog, choose a shade of **blue** and click **OK**.
10. In the table, select the **Show Labels** option.
11. In the **Label Options** area at the bottom of the dialog, change the Decimal Places to **0** (zero).
12. In the **Left Label** box, enter **Weekly Costs**.



You can choose to show or hide a particular summary row in the Summary Graph tab of the Define Layout dialog.

11.6 Finishing Tutorial 8

Finishing Tutorial 8

You are done with Tutorial 8. You now know the basics of defining and using column summaries, summary graphs, and calculation columns.

To close the Tutor8 file:

1. To close the **Tutor8** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 9: Working with Resources](#). Tutor9WorkWRsrces
-or-
Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

12 Tutorial 9: Working with Resources

12.1 Working with Resources - Intro

Tutorial 9- Working with Resources

This tutorial shows you how to create resources, display resources, and assign them to activities.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor9.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor9.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

12.2 Creating a new resource

Creating a new resource

Resources are the people or things that help you accomplish the tasks in your project. Every resource has a finite amount of time it can be used and effort it can exert. You can define these finite amounts in work calendars you can design specifically for each resource. Every resource also has a cost attached to it - whether it is a flat fee, a standard rate, an overtime rate, or any combination thereof. Each of these elements can be charted and controlled in the Resource View of FastTrack Schedule. You will now create a new resource.

Steps:

1. From the **View** group, select **Resource**.
2. Click in the Row 2 Resource Name column.
3. Type **Jane Phillips** and press the **Enter/Return** key.
4. Click in the **Information Form** action column of row 2.

The Resource Information form opens.

5. In the **Type** box, choose **Consultant** from the choice list.
6. In the **Per Use Cost** box, enter **200**.
7. In the **Standard Rate** box, enter **100**.
8. In the **Overtime Rate** box, enter **150**.

The screenshot shows the 'Resource Information' form for 'Jane Phillips : Row 2'. The form is divided into several sections: 'Resource', 'Addresses', 'Phone Numbers', and 'Internet'. The 'Resource' section contains fields for Resource Name (Jane Phillips), Type (Consultant), Per Use Cost (\$200.00), Standard Rate (\$100.00/h), Overtime Rate (\$150.00/h), Initials (JP), Code, Group, Job Title, Employee ID, Company, and Department. There is also a 'Resource Notes' text area and a 'Material Label' field. The 'Addresses' section has 'Business...' and 'Home...' buttons and text areas. The 'Phone Numbers' section has fields for Main, Business, Business Fax, Home, Home Fax, Mobile, and Mobile 2. The 'Internet' section has fields for E-mail, E-mail 2, Business URL, Home URL, IM Address, and IM Address 2. At the bottom, there are navigation buttons and a 'Close' button.

9. Click the **Work Calendar** tab.

Note that a typical workday for Jane Phillips is defined as being 8 hours long and lasting from 8 AM to 5 PM (with an hour off for lunch), and that no non-typical workdays (such as a half day for a doctor's appointment Jane might have) are, currently, defined.

10. Click Close to close the **Resource Information** form.

			March 2012															
Resource Name			Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1		Scott Murphy																
		Percent Work Usage	100															
		Hourly Work Usage	8															
		Prototype																
2		Jane Phillips																
		Percent Work Usage	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
		Hourly Work Usage	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h
		Assignments	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h

12.3 Assigning a resource to an activity

Assigning a resource to an activity

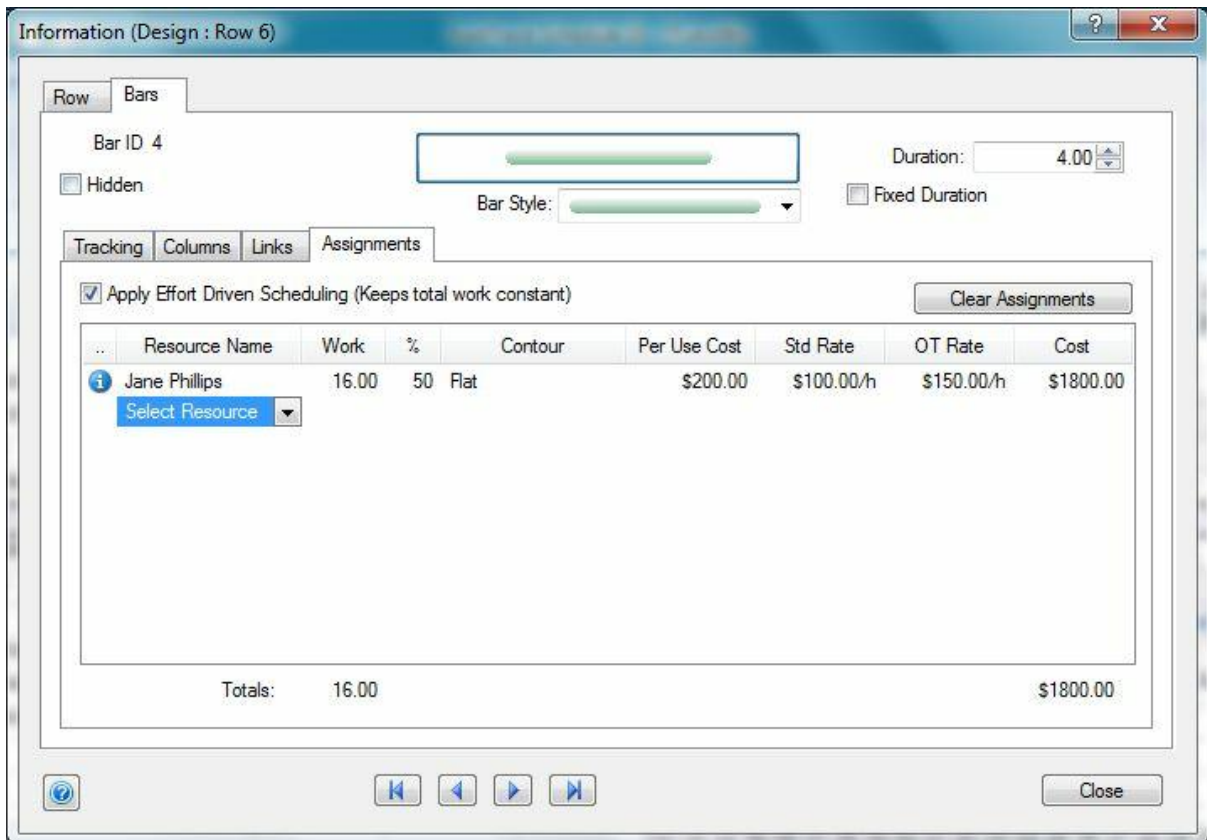
Assignments link a resource and all its data to a task or tasks in the schedule. The Schedule View and the Resource View draw from two different pools of information. Assignments act as a bridge between those two pools of information.

You can create a schedule full of tasks and you can create numerous resources complete with work calendars and cost data, but until you actually assign a resource to a task, the Schedule View and the Resource View do not interact.

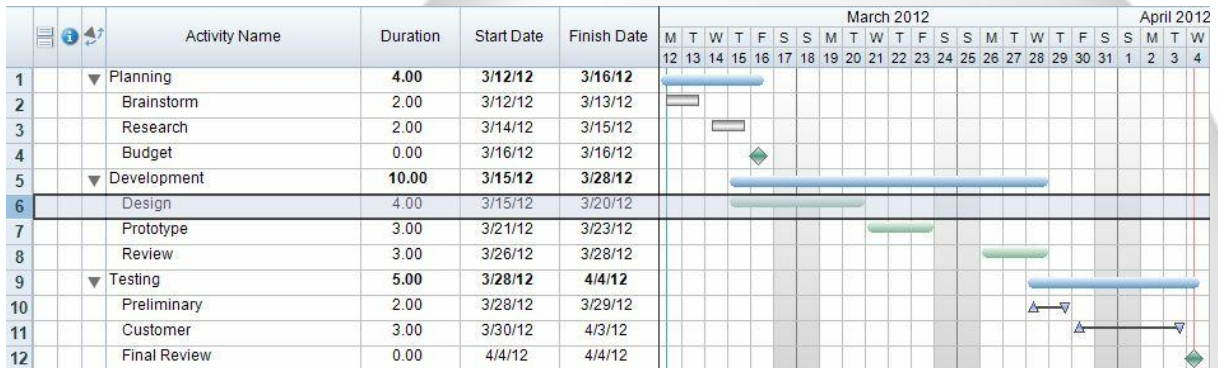
You will now assign Jane Phillips to work on an activity in the schedule.

Steps:

1. From the **View** group, select **Schedule**.
2. Double-click the Design bar, located in row 6.
The Information form opens in the Bars>Tracking tab.
3. Click the **Bars>Assignments** tab of the **Information** form.
4. In the **Resource Name** column of the table, select **Jane Phillips** from the drop-down list.
5. Click in the **% (Effort)** column; Jane's rates fill in across the row.
You know you intend to split Jane's times between this activity and another, so you do not want to allocate 100% of her effort to the task "Design."
6. Select the number **100** in the **% Effort** column, enter **50**, so that the new % Effort is 50.



7. Click **Close** to assign the resource and close the **Information form**.



Because Jane Phillips is the only resource assigned to the task "Design", the bar expanded to have a Duration of 4 days so that the bar's total work units of 16 hours could be completed by a single resource working 4 hours a day. The Start Date changed because the bar had a constraint type of Finish On Or After. If Jane Phillips had been assigned at 100% effort the Duration would have remained 2 days because the 16 work hours could have been completed in 2 8-hour work days.

12.4 Viewing resource assignments in the Schedule View

Viewing resource assignments in the Schedule View

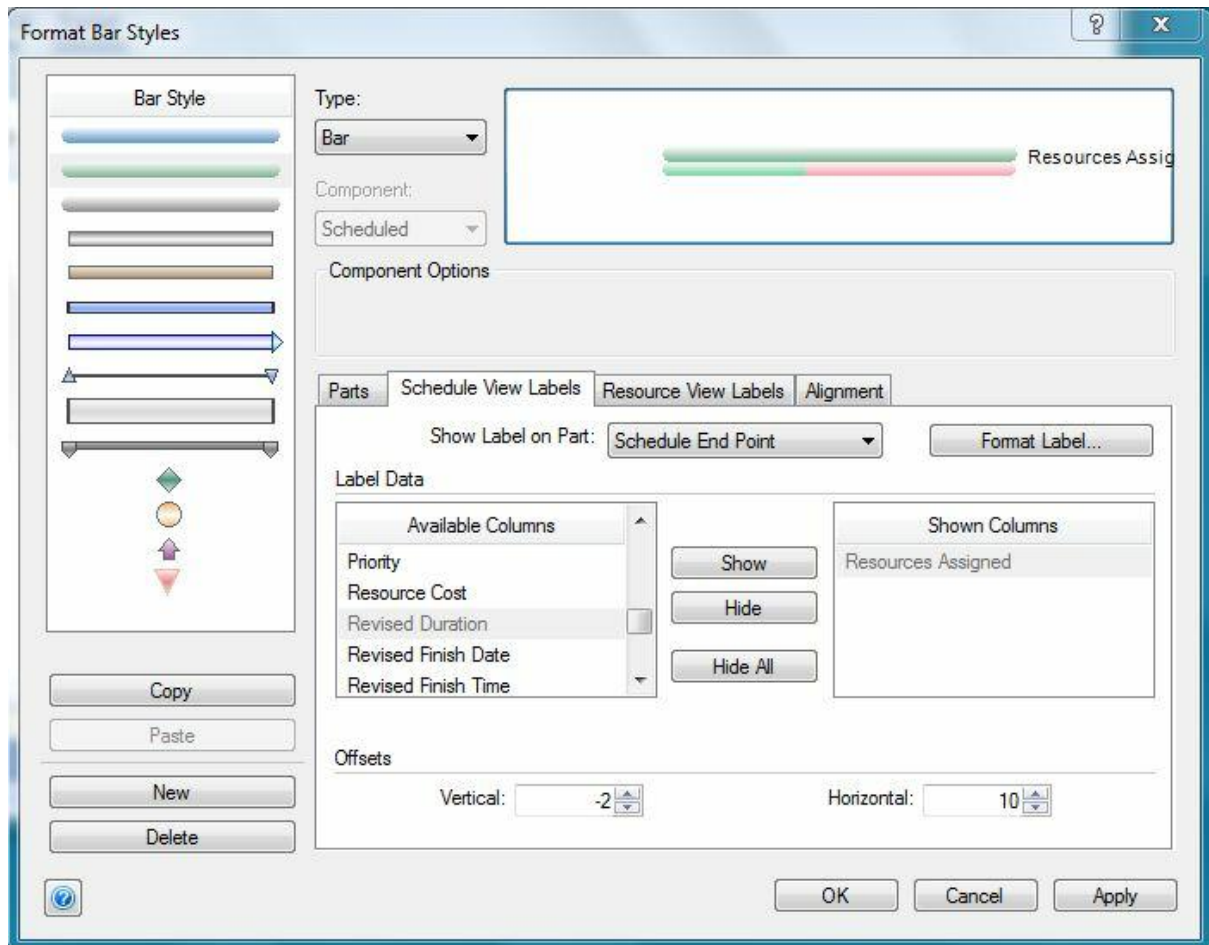
FastTrack Schedule has a column named "Resources Assigned" that will display, in comma delimited

format, the names of every resource assigned to a given bar. You can also enter a resource directly into the Resources Assigned column when it is inserted into your layout.

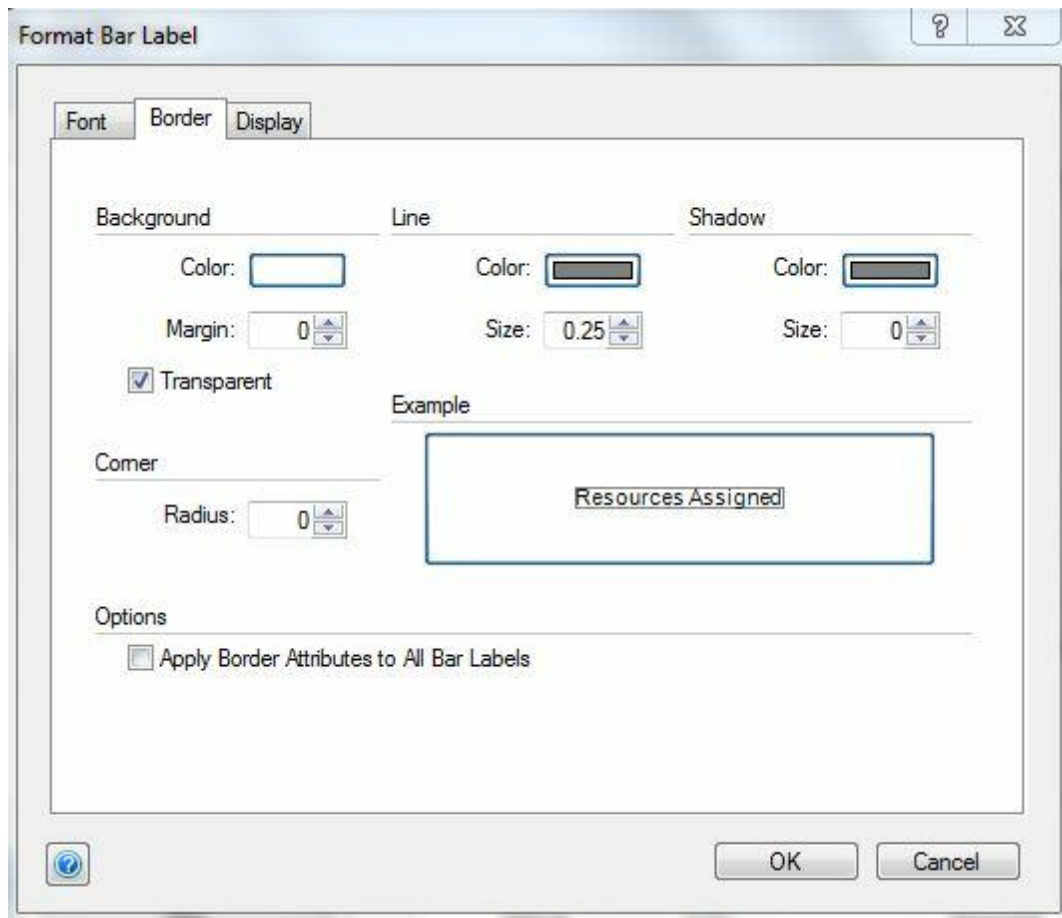
You will now add the Resources Assigned data as a label to the bar style in which the activity "Design" is displaying.

Steps:

1. Click the Design bar in row 6 to select it.
2. On the **Format** tab, in the **Display** group, click **Bar Style**.
The Format Bar Styles dialog opens.
3. Click the **Schedule View Labels** tab.
4. From the **Show Label On Part** drop-down list, select **Schedule End Point**.
5. In the **Available Columns** table, scroll down until you can see **Resources Assigned**.
6. Select **Resources Assigned** and click **Show** to send it to the **Shown Columns** table.
7. Select **Resources Assigned** in the **Shown Columns** table.
This makes formatting options available.
8. In the **Offsets** area, enter **-2** in the **Vertical** box and **10** in the **Horizontal** box.



9. Click the **Format Label** button.
The Format Bar Label dialog opens.
10. Click the **Border** tab.
11. In the **Line** area, enter **0.25** in the **Size** box.



12. Click **OK** to save your changes and close the **Format Bar Label** dialog.

13. Click **OK** to close the **Format Bar Styles** dialog.

The resource you assigned to this task now displays as a label at the end of the Design bar. Because the Prototype bar in row 7 contains the same bar style and has a resource assigned to it, a label appears for that bar also.

	Activity Name	Duration	Start Date	Finish Date	March 2012							April 2012													
					M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S							
1	▼ Planning	4.00	3/12/12	3/16/12																					
2	Brainstorm	2.00	3/12/12	3/13/12																					
3	Research	2.00	3/14/12	3/15/12																					
4	Budget	0.00	3/16/12	3/16/12																					
5	▼ Development	10.00	3/15/12	3/28/12																					
6	Design	4.00	3/15/12	3/20/12																					
7	Prototype	3.00	3/21/12	3/23/12																					
8	Review	3.00	3/26/12	3/28/12																					
9	▼ Testing	5.00	3/28/12	4/4/12																					
10	Preliminary	2.00	3/28/12	3/29/12																					
11	Customer	3.00	3/30/12	4/3/12																					
12	Final Review	0.00	4/4/12	4/4/12																					


12.5 Viewing resource subrows

Viewing resource subrows

There are three subrows in each row in the Resource View:

- The Percent Work Usage subrow displays a graph representing a resource's currently allocated time as a percentage of the overall available time for that resource.
- The Allocated Time Usage subrow displays a graph representing a resource's currently allocated time in respect to the Work Units. The name of this row changes to match the Work Units you have set in the Document Options dialog. If your Work Units were set to Days, this subrow would be titled Daily Work Usage instead of Hourly.
- The Assignments subrow displays the activity bar or bars to which a resource is assigned. Assignment bars display just as they do in the Schedule View. Links, however, do not display.

Steps:

1. From the **View** menu, select **Resource**.
All three subrows of row 2 are collapsed.
2. On the **Home** tab, in the **Outline** group, click the **Expand All** button. 
You can now view the Usage graphs and assigned bars for Jane Phillips.

			March 2012															
Resource Name			Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1	Scott Murphy																	
	Percent Work Usage	100- 50- 0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Hourly Work Usage	8- 4- 0	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	8.00 h	8.00 h	8.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h
	Prototype											8.00	8.00	8.00	Development:Prototype			
2	Jane Phillips																	
	Percent Work Usage	50- 25- 0	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Hourly Work Usage	4- 2- 0	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	4.00 h	4.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	4.00 h	4.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h	0.00 h
	Design				4.00	4.00	***	***	4.00	4.00	Development:Design							

12.6 Finishing Tutorial 9

Finishing Tutorial 9

You are done with Tutorial 9. You now know the basics of defining and assigning resources.

To close the Tutor9 file:

1. To close the **Tutor9** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 10: Using FastSteps](#).

-or-

Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

13 Tutorial 10: Using FastSteps

13.1 Tutorial 10- Using FastSteps

Tutorial 10- Using FastSteps

This tutorial illustrates how to apply and create FastSteps.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor10.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor10.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

13.2 What are FastSteps?

What are FastSteps?

FastSteps are a scripting ability, built into FastTrack Schedule. FastSteps allow you to automate repetitive management tasks by grouping a series of commands into a single sequence that you can then initiate with a mouse click. FastSteps are available in the Schedule, Resource, and Calendar View and their Print Preview windows.

Each member of a project team can have a FastSteps sequence to suit his or her needs. You can create different sequences for every version of the schedule you would like to print, thus creating reports. There is no limit to the number of uses you can find for this powerful tool.

13.3 Applying a FastStep

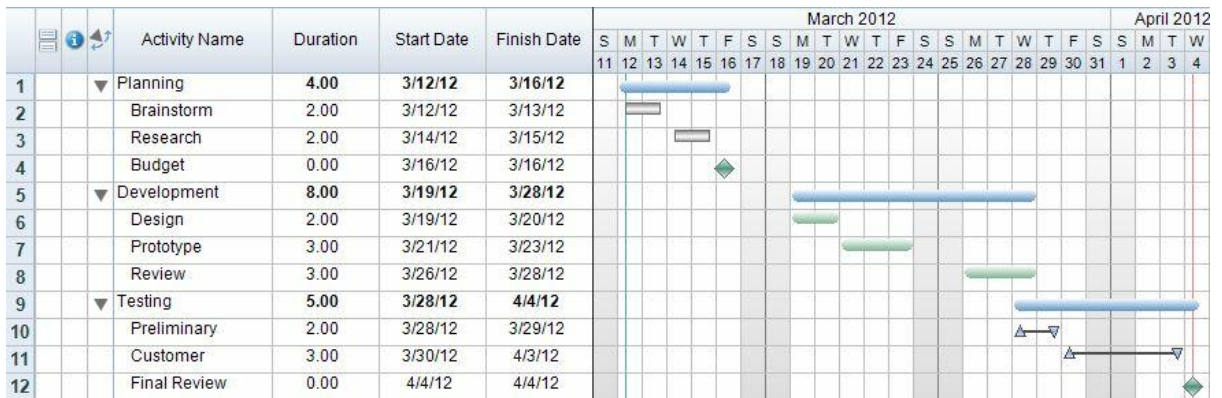
Applying a FastStep

In the Schedule View, existing FastSteps can be applied directly from the FastSteps submenu of the Schedule menu.

Steps:

1. On the **Tools** tab, in the **Macro** group, click **FastSteps**, and choose **Restore Master Schedule** from the drop-down list.

The View is switched to Schedule View, the Main Layout is applied, the Master Range is applied and all hidden rows are restored and returned to the Master Sort order.



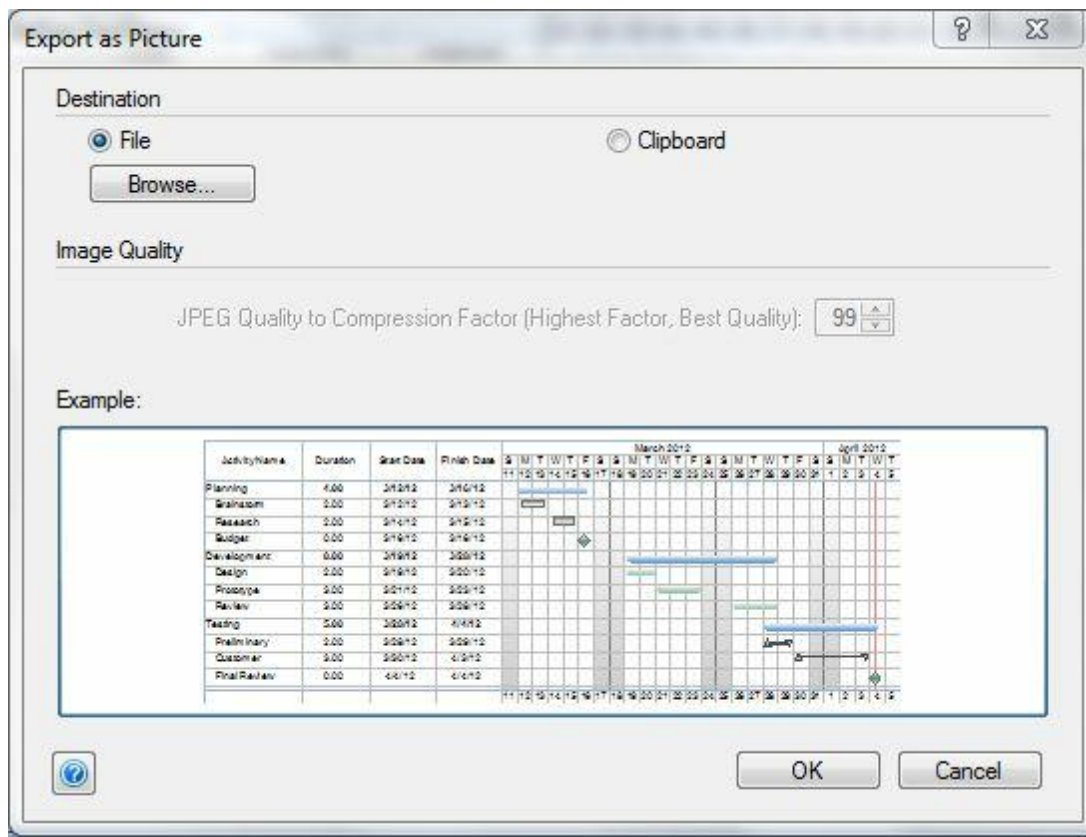
13.4 Creating a basic FastStep

Creating a basic FastStep

Custom FastSteps are created in the Define FastSteps dialog.

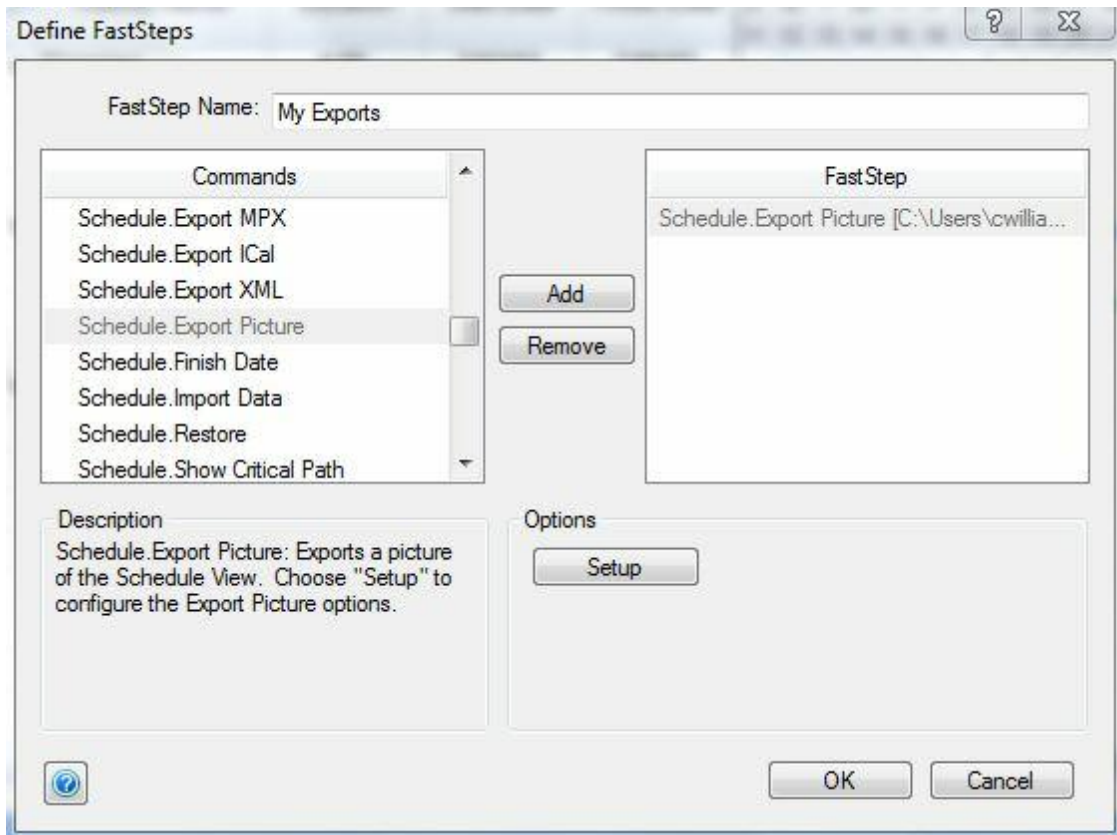
Steps:

1. On the **Tools** tab, in the **Macro** group, click **FastSteps**, and choose **Define** from the drop-down list.
The FastSteps dialog opens.
2. Click the **New** button.
The Define FastSteps dialog opens.
3. Enter **My Exports** in the **FastSteps Name** box.
4. From the **Commands** table scroll down to **Schedule.Export Picture** and click **Add** to send it to the **FastStep** table.
5. In the **FastStep** table, click **Schedule.Export Picture**.
6. Click the **Setup** button that appears in the **Options** area.
7. In the **Export as Picture** dialog, select the **File** option.



8. Click **Browse**.
9. In the save dialog, navigate to your Desktop.
10. Enter **Schedule View** as the filename.
11. Set the Save as type to Portable Networks Graphics (*.png).
12. Click **Save**.

Keep this dialog open for the next section.

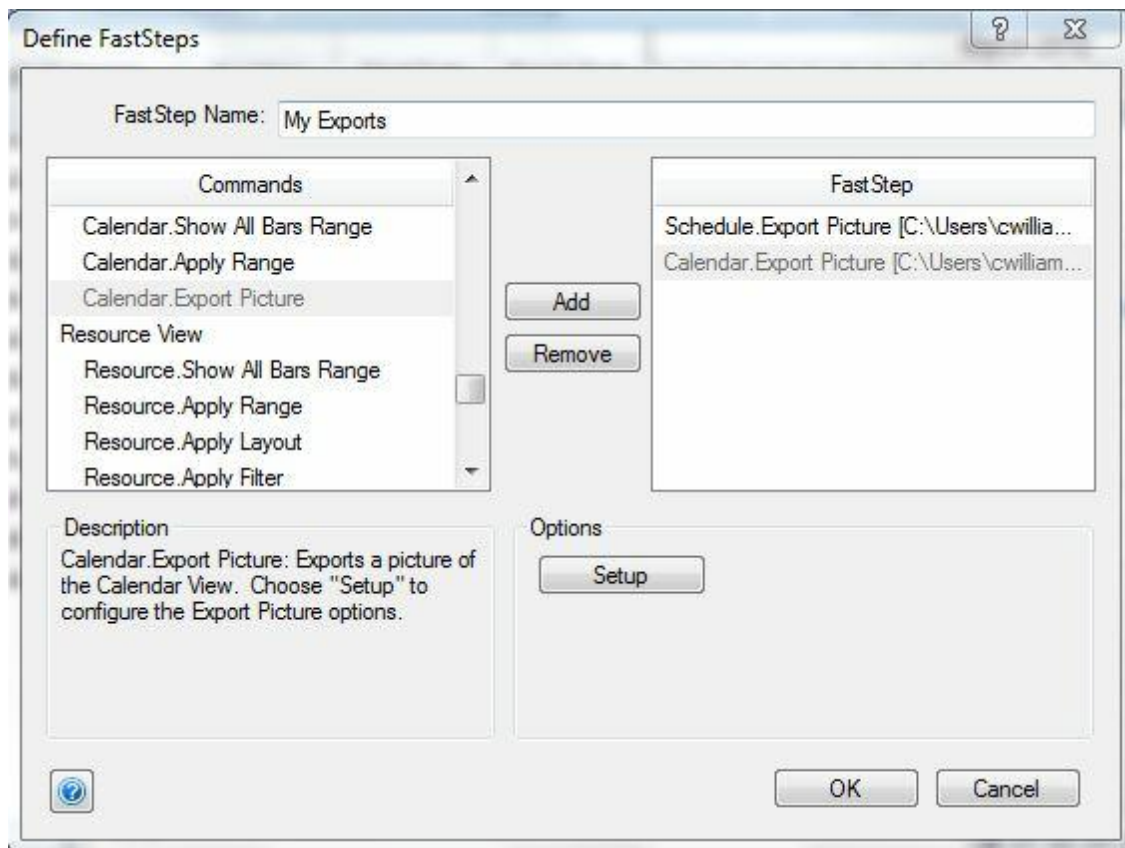


13.5 Creating a basic FastStep (contd)

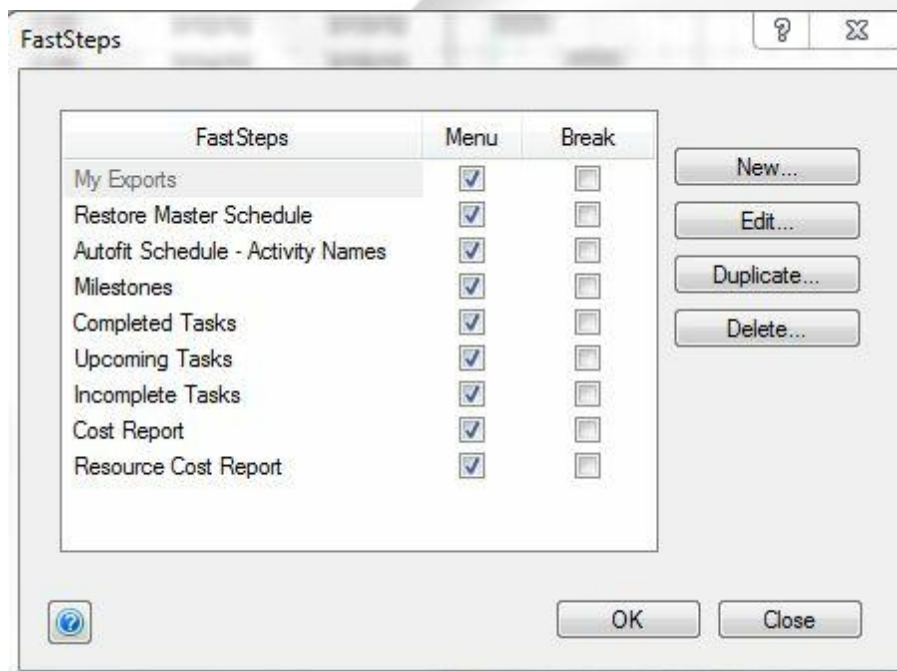
Creating a Basic FastStep (cont'd)

Steps:

1. Click **OK** to close the **Export as Picture** dialog.
2. In the **Commands** table, scroll down to **Calendar.Export Picture** and click **Add** to send it to the **FastStep** table.
3. In the **FastStep** table, click **Calendar.Export Picture**.
4. Click the **Setup** button that appears in the **Options** area.
5. In the **Export as Picture** dialog, select the **File** option.
6. Click **Browse**.
7. In the save dialog, navigate to your Desktop.
8. Enter **Calendar View** as the filename.
9. Set the **Save as type** to **Portable Networks Graphics (*.png)**.
10. Click **Save**.
11. Click **OK** to close the **Export as Picture** dialog.



- Click **OK** to save the FastStep and close the **Define FastSteps** dialog.
- In the **FastSteps** dialog, make sure **My Exports** is selected and click **OK**.



The Schedule View and Calendar View .png files appear on your Desktop.

13.6 Finishing Tutorial 10

Finishing Tutorial 10

You are done with Tutorial 10. You now know the basics of working with FastSteps.

To close the Tutor10 file:

1. To close the **Tutor10** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

To start the next tutorial:

1. Go to [Tutorial 11 - Consolidating Files](#).
- or-
- Return to the [Tutorial Contents](#).

14 Tutorial 11: Consolidating Files

14.1 Tutorial 11 - Consolidating Files

Tutorial 11 - Consolidating Files

This tutorial shows you how to consolidate separate subordinate files into one master file.

To open the practice schedule file to be used while taking this tutorial:

1. In **FastTrack Schedule**, on the **Application** tab, from the **Help** group, click **Tutorial**, and choose **Practice Files** from the submenu.
2. Select the **FastTrack Schedule** file **Tutor11.fts**.

Important:

If you cannot locate the Tutorial folder on your computer, Go to Search and search for "Tutor11.fts". If this produces no results, check with your System Administrator to make sure the Tutorial folder was included when FastTrack Schedule was installed on your computer.

14.2 Understanding Consolidation

Understanding Consolidation

You can easily consolidate your FastTrack files into one master file to analyze a big picture view of your data. Whether you want to see all the separate components of one larger project, or see every project your company is currently working on, Consolidation allows you to do so. Consolidation works across platforms so consolidated files can originate from either a Mac or Windows operating system.

Master file - the file you create by consolidating existing files is called a master file. A master file can never be inserted into another file or into itself.

Subordinate file - a file that is inserted into a master file is called a subordinate files.

Subordinate files must be accessible, either on the hard drive or by network, and openable. The master file's user must have read access to a file to insert it.

Important:

Consolidated subordinate files are not live. There are no automatic updates. When data changes in a subordinate file the changes do not appear in the master file until you choose to refresh the data from that subordinate file. Changes you make to data in the master file must be manually applied to the appropriate subordinate files.

A key to consolidation is the project Work Calendar. All subordinate files must have the same project Work Calendar as the master file. If you try to insert a file with a different project Work Calendar that file will be ignored and not inserted.

Changes to data in the master file are for analysis only and do not affect the subordinate file. If you decide that you want to apply changes you have made in a master file, you must open the appropriate subordinate files and manually make the changes there.

The following data is consolidated:

- All columns – except calculation columns
- Bars and bar styles
- Pictures, text boxes and legends
- Links
- Assignments
- Pointers

Any conflict in data between a subordinate and the master file results in that data being excluded from consolidation.

If a column in a subordinate file is formatted to save data Per Bar and the same column in the master file is formatted to save data Per Row, that column will not be included in the consolidation.

Consolidation is data driven, not visual. Formatting related information will not be consolidated. Formatting is originally determined by the master file's preference settings. You can edit Filter, Sort, Layout, Range, FastSteps and format settings in the master file, but the changes will not be applied to the subordinate file unless you manually apply them.

Resources do not get deleted from the master file even if future updates of the subordinate file in which the resource originated no longer includes that resource.

You can consolidate subordinate files that have different Resource Work Calendars defined for the same resource.

14.3 Defining Consolidation

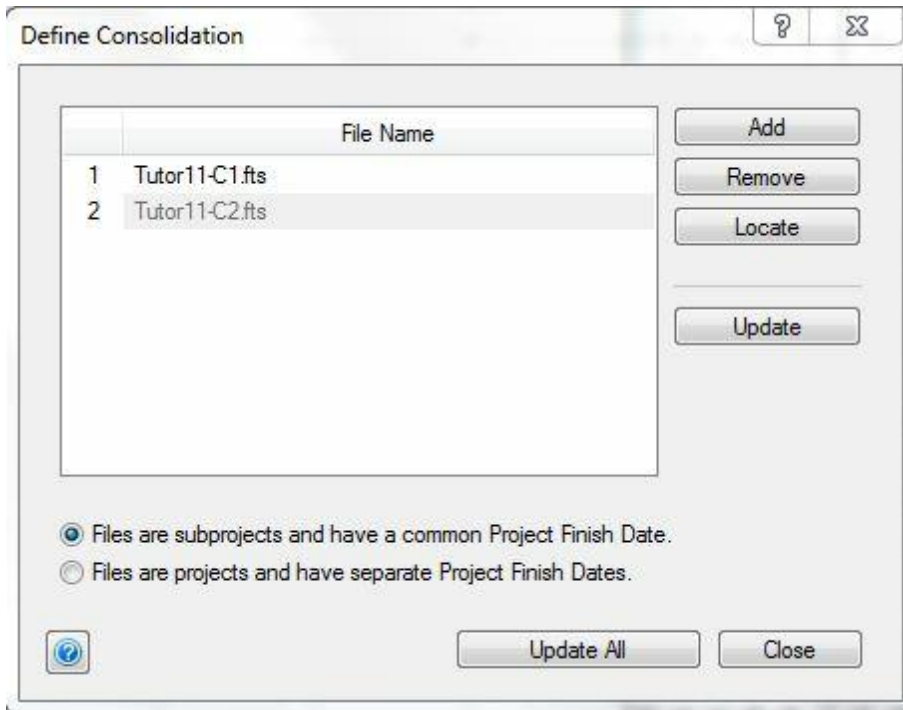
Defining Consolidation

To define the subordinate files to be consolidated:

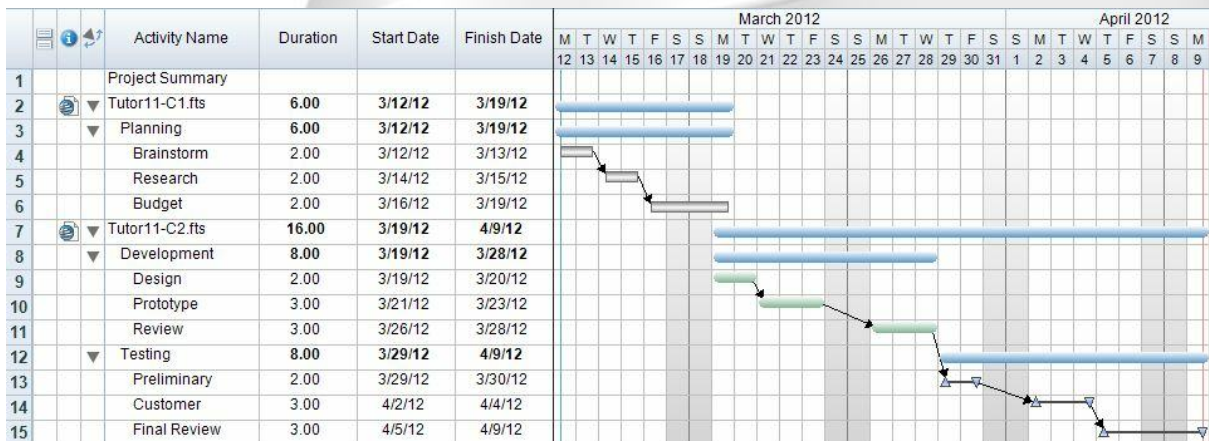
1. On the **Tools** tab, in the **Consolidation** group, click **Define**.
The Define Consolidation dialog opens.
2. Click **Add**.

The Open dialog opens.

3. Navigate to the folder containing the FastTrack Schedule Tutorial Practice Files.
4. Select the file **Tutor11-C1.fts**.
5. Click Open to close the navigation dialog and add Tutor11-C1.fts to the table in the Define Consolidation dialog.
6. Click Add.
7. Navigate to the folder containing the FastTrack Schedule Tutorial Practice Files.
8. Select the file **Tutor11-C2.fts**.
9. Click Open to close the navigation dialog and add Tutor11-C1.fts to the table in the Define Consolidation dialog.



10. Click **Update All** to consolidate both files into the master file Tutor11.fts.



You can update files by going to the **Tools** tab, in the **Consolidation** group, and clicking **Get Updates**.

If any saved changes have been made to one or more of the consolidated subordinate files, they will then display in the open master file.

14.4 Finishing Tutorial 11

Finishing Tutorial 11

You are done with Tutorial 11. You now know the basics of consolidating files.

To close the Tutor11 file:

1. To close the **Tutor11** file, from the **Application** menu, select **Close**.
2. Click **No** to close the schedule without saving your changes.

Congratulations! You have completed the last tutorial. You should now have a good idea of how to use FastTrack Schedule's basic scheduling operations as well as some of its most powerful features.

If you want to see examples of how you might use FastTrack Schedule, open some of the example schedules installed with this application. Or, dive right in and start scheduling your own projects. And remember, as you continue to use FastTrack Schedule, help is only a click away.



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