

Designer Help

(definitely a work in progress)

The *ProjectX Case Designer* is designed to build interactivity for your case. The case content can be prepared in any word processor which can save to PDF. The only restriction is that you should limit your content to one page per phase. I have played with Word templates and we can offer that to users so they will produce and consistent and professional looking case.

See the next phase to learn how to create the case content.

Your case needs to be readable for it to be useful to students. Here are some recommended guidelines. We have several Word templates that incorporate these guidelines:

- Use a 12pt sans-serif font. Verdana is readable and recommended.
- Minimize the margins. Narrow or .5 is good.
- 60-80 characters per line is best. This one is 72.
- Use a page size that is narrow but long. A4 is good.
- Etc.

Enter your case as usual in a word processor but ensure that each phase fits on one page. You may insert images, equations etc. Leave space for the input components (widgets) you will be adding once your document is ready for using the Case Designer. While not required you could use a notation like

[textfield]

Using the *ProjectX Case Designer*, you can drop a textfield to cover that text. Once you are done, you can save your document as PDF. It can then be loaded into the *ProjectX Case Designer* to add all your widgets. When you save the case, it will be ready to be uploaded to ProjectX. Yes, it is that simple!

The *ProjectX Case Designer* appears like below when logging in. A typical workflow is shown to help you provide all the widgets (interactive components) for the phases in your case.



The marked areas are:

1. Upload and download your case PDF files in the **File panel**.
2. Click on the phase to view or rename the phase in the **Phase panel**.
3. Click on the **Widget toolbar** to add widgets to the phase.
4. Your current phase is shown in the **Content panel**.
5. Tools like resources and comments appear in the **Toolbox panel**.

The student view is very similar, absent the options to modify the phase titles, configure the toolbox or add widgets. This should give you a close idea of what the students sees.

See the next phase for adding widgets.

Click on any of the icons on the **Widget toolbar**. Widgets include:

- Textfield
- Textarea
- List (multiple choice or checklist)
- Select
- Carry-forward
- Media
- Diagnostic Path (not yet implemented)

To add a widget, click on the Widget Toolbar to select your widget. It will appear just below the toolbar. Drag it to the desired location. In most cases you can also resize it.

Hover over a widget and a **Widget menu** will appear. Click on the Copy, Properties or Delete options. Clicking on properties will let you change the properties of your widget.

Of particular interest is the list widget that helps you quickly create a multiple choice question or a checklist.

Let's try them out in the next phase.

When the content writer prepares the content, he or she will want to specify where to put the widgets. Basically, you will put widgets will cover the hints left by the writer.

To practice, I have put some places to drop your widgets below. Try your hand at adding the widgets.

[textfile] – try resize it

[textarea] – try resizing it

[list] – follow the instructions to change the bulleted list to a multiple choice question or checklist.

- Answer 1
- Answer 2
- Answer 3
- Answer 4

[select] – set some options

[carry-forward] the code isn't in yet but you will be able to select any widget in a previous phase and put its output here.

[media] – show a video. I would like the content to actually show here but am having a bit of trouble at the moment.

[diagnosticpath] It doesn't work yet but it will be a widget that will fill the content area.

[others] Other widgets could be provided. I am sure James could become rich building them for you.

See the next phase for the **Toolbox**.

The Toolbox is where the instructor can specify what tools are available on each phase. The typical tools include resources, comments and observations. Click on the Toolbox icon and pick which tools you want to be available on this phase.

See the next phase for the final step.

Once all the phases have been configured, the PDF can be downloaded, bundling all the phase widgets and tools along with the content. When uploaded to the ProjectX website, the case will be created. The instructor can specify the due dates and the case is ready to go.

The PDF can be easily shared and used by another instructor. Since all the images and other content are bundled in the PDF, there is no need to supply any other resources.

Easy peasy.