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Creating a custom map

[model](#)[simio](#)[visualization](#)**By Matt72**March 26 in [Simio Product Details](#) [Share](#)[Followers](#)

0

Matt72

Posted March 26



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1

I have a project where I want to model aircraft moving around an area of a fake map. The only map options I've seen in simio are the ArcGIS World View and Street map under View → Map View. I uploaded a picture as a symbol and set it as a layer, but when I do that certain areas of the map work and others don't. It's like the map area is 'too busy' and it automatically declutters, which in this case hides aircraft moving in certain areas of the map. I tried to zoom in on areas and the map works as advertised, but for demonstration purposes, I need to have all traffic on the map appear at all times (as if I had a map selected under map view). This wouldn't be a problem if I could set an image as a "background color." Any suggestions?

First Name: Matthew**dsturrock**

Posted March 27

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Simio Employee



1.7k

First Name: David

A simple approach is to create the highest resolution image you can find using any map program or other software. Save it off in one of the import formats:

```
All Items (*.skp;*.dxf;*.dwg;*.jpg;*.png;*.bmp;*.gif)
SketchUp Files (*.skp)
Autocad Drawing Exchange Format Files (*.dxf)
Autocad DWG Files (*.dwg)
Image File (*.jpg, *.png, *.bmp, *.gif)
Ogre Mesh File (*.mesh)
3DS Max Files (*.3ds)
AC3D Files (*.ac)
Collada Files (*.dae)
LightWave Files (*.lwo)
Milkshape 3D Files (*.ms3d)
Wavefront Files (*.obj)
Stanford Polygon Files (*.ply)
Stereolithography Files (*.stl)
FBX Files (*.fbx)
Blender Files (*.blend)
STEP Files (*.ifc, *.ifczip, *.stp, *.step)
glTF Files (*.gltf, *.glb)
```

Hint: some software allows export as a high-resolution pdf. Then you can convert that pdf to a png file for import into Simio.

Then import that as a symbol and place that in your model (preferably to its original scale). Then lock that to the background and build your model on top of it. The main down side of this approach is that it is limited by the resolution of your image, so if you zoom in, it might appear fuzzy.

[Go to topic listing](#)

[Home](#) > [Simio Public Forums](#) > [Simio Product Details](#) > [Creating a custom map](#)

[All Activity](#)



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