

Creating Mind Maps with MindMeister

Are you interested in creating a mind map for a project, or having students work collaboratively on a mind map? MindMeister is an online mind mapping tool. There is no download; however, you do need to have an account. MindMeister offers a basic account with which you can create 3 maps. You can upgrade to a Premium account if you need to create more.

Mind maps are created around a keyword or phrase. All related ideas are created off of the main idea—these are called nodes. Each node can have sub-nodes. Items can include text, images and hyperlinks. With MindMeister, the maps can be shared, making them great for collaborative brainstorming and development.

According to the [MindMeister website](#), "MindMeister brings the concept of mind mapping to the web, using its facilities for real-time collaboration to allow truly global brainstorming sessions. Users can create, manage and share mind maps online and access them anytime, from anywhere. In brainstorming mode, fellow MindMeisters from around the world (or just in different rooms) can simultaneously work on the same mind map and see each other's changes as they happen."

Creating a Mind Map

1. Login to MindMeister at www.mindmeister.com.
2. Click the 'Create' button from the My Maps tab.



3. Enter the main idea (keyword or phrase) for the map.



4. Use the 'Add' button from the toolbar across the top of the screen to add a new idea or 'node' to the map.

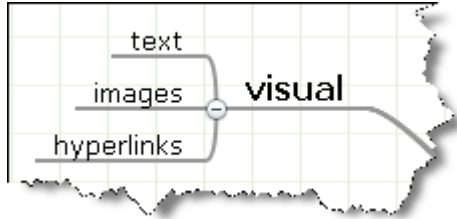


- Select the main idea and click the 'Add' button to continue adding nodes.

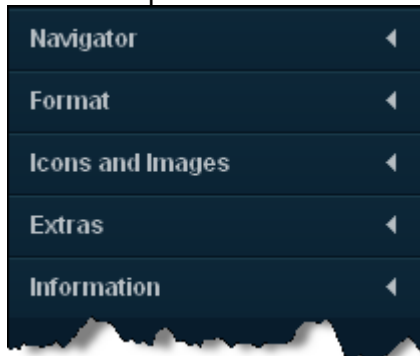
5. To move a node, select it and drag it to the desired location.

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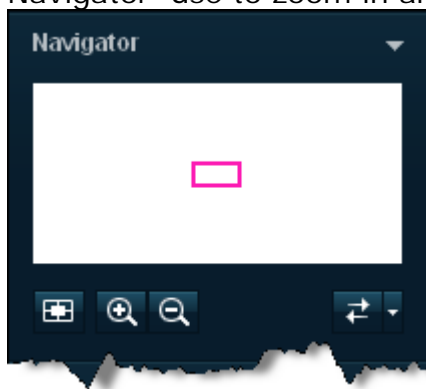
6. To add ideas to each node, select the node and click the 'Add' button.



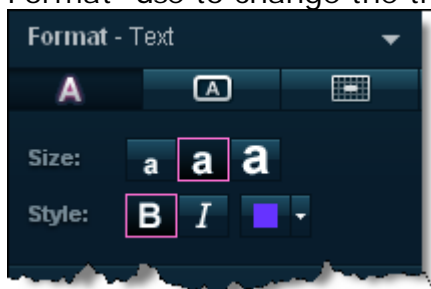
7. To remove a node, select it and click the 'Delete' button.
8. To add connections between ideas, select the appropriate node and click the 'Connect' button. Position the line to the node it should be connected with.
9. Use the options from the task pane to the right to manage the map.



- Navigator—use to zoom in and out; move to different areas of the map



- Format—use to change the theme, font size, color and style

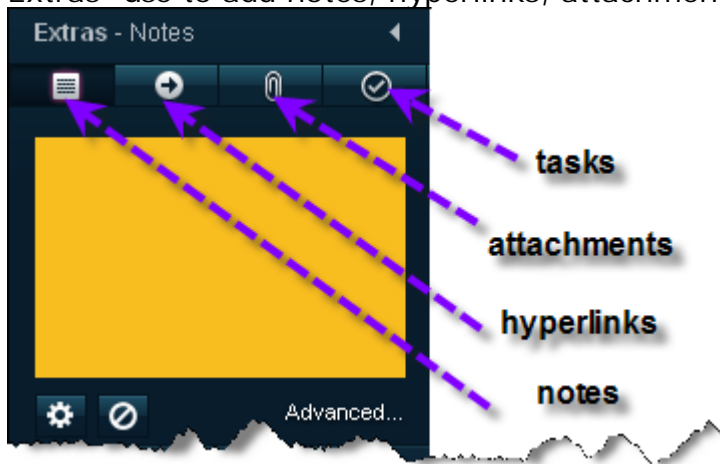


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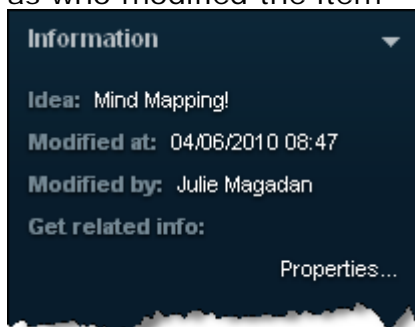
- Icon and Images–use to add images from the MindMeister library, the web or add your own



- Extras–use to add notes, hyperlinks, attachments and tasks

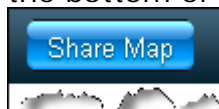


- Information–different for each node; shows modification date and time as well as who modified the item



Sharing a Mind Map

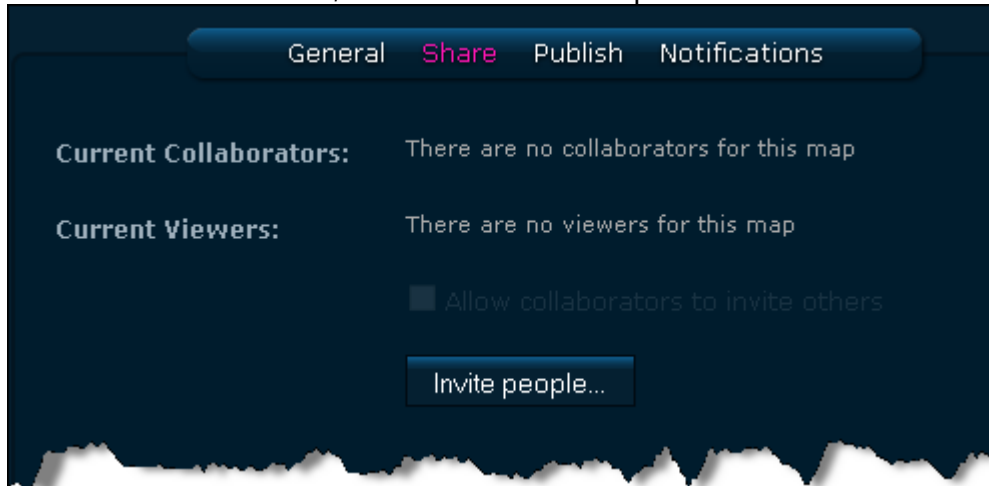
1. To share a map with a colleague or student, click the Share Map button (located at the bottom of the map).



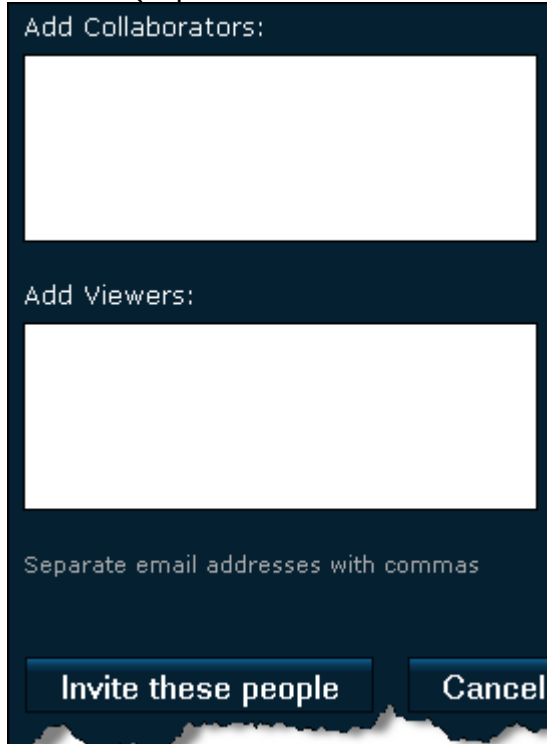
- The Map Properties window displays.

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2. From the 'Share' menu, click the 'Invite People' button.



3. Add the email addresses for collaborators (people who can modify the map) and/or viewers (separate names with commas). Click the 'Invite these people' button.



- Maps can also be published (publicly viewable on the Internet) and embedded into a website or blog. Use the Publish menu to do this.
4. Click OK at the Map Properties window.