

Drawing Sheet Editor

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KiCad 9.0 Reference Manual

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Соавторы

Jean-Pierre Charras, Graham Keeth

Перевод

KiCad Russian Team

alex9, 2016

Барановский Константин <baranovskiykonstantin@gmail.com>, 2019

Обратная связь

The KiCad project welcomes feedback, bug reports, and suggestions related to the software or its documentation. For more information on how to submit feedback or report an issue, please see the instructions at <https://www.kicad.org/help/report-an-issue/>

Software and Documentation Version

This user manual is based on KiCad 9.0.6. Functionality and appearance may be different in other versions of KiCad.

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Introduction to the KiCad Drawing Sheet Editor

The Drawing Sheet Editor is a tool to create custom drawing sheets for use in the KiCad Schematic and Board Editors. Drawing sheets can include custom title blocks, frames, logos, as well as other text and graphics.

The frame, title block, and other graphic items (logos) are collectively called a **drawing sheet**.

Basic drawing sheet items are:

- **Line** (линии)
- **Rectangle** (прямоугольники)
- **Text** (with keywords that will be replaced by the actual text, like the date, page number...) in the Schematic or Board Editors.
- **Poly** (полигоны; в основном – для размещения логотипов и специальных графических фигур)
- **Bitmap** (растровые изображения)

WARNING

Растровые изображения могут быть начерчены только в некоторых форматах (только в PDF и PS). Таким образом, для других форматов будет начерчен только ограничивающий прямоугольник.

- Items can be repeated, and text and poly_polygons can be rotated.

Drawing Sheet Editor files

The Drawing Sheet Editor reads and writes KiCad drawing sheet files (`.kicad_wks`). These files can be used as custom drawing sheets for schematic and PCB designs by selecting a custom drawing sheet in the **Page Setup** dialog in each editor.

When the Drawing Sheet Editor is first opened, it displays the default KiCad drawing sheet is used until a different drawing sheet file is opened.

ОСНОВНЫЕ ПОНЯТИЯ

Basic drawing sheet item properties

Basic drawing sheet items are:

- **Line** (линии)
- **Rectangle** (прямоугольники)
- **Text** (with keywords, with will be replaced by the actual text, like the date, page number...) in the Schematic or PCB Editors.
- **Poly-polygons** (mainly to place logos and special graphic shapes). These poly polygons are created by the **Image Converter** tool, and cannot be built inside the Drawing Sheet Editor, because it is not possible to create such shapes by hand.
- **Bitmap** (растровые изображения) – для размещения логотипов.

WARNING

Растровые изображения могут быть начерчены только в некоторых форматах – PDF и PS.

При этом:

- **Text**, **poly-polygons** and **bitmaps** are defined by a position, and can be rotated.
- **Line** (линии, а на самом деле – отрезки) and **Rectangle** (прямоугольники) определяются двумя точками: начальной и конечной. Они не могут быть повернуты (для отрезков это бесполезно).

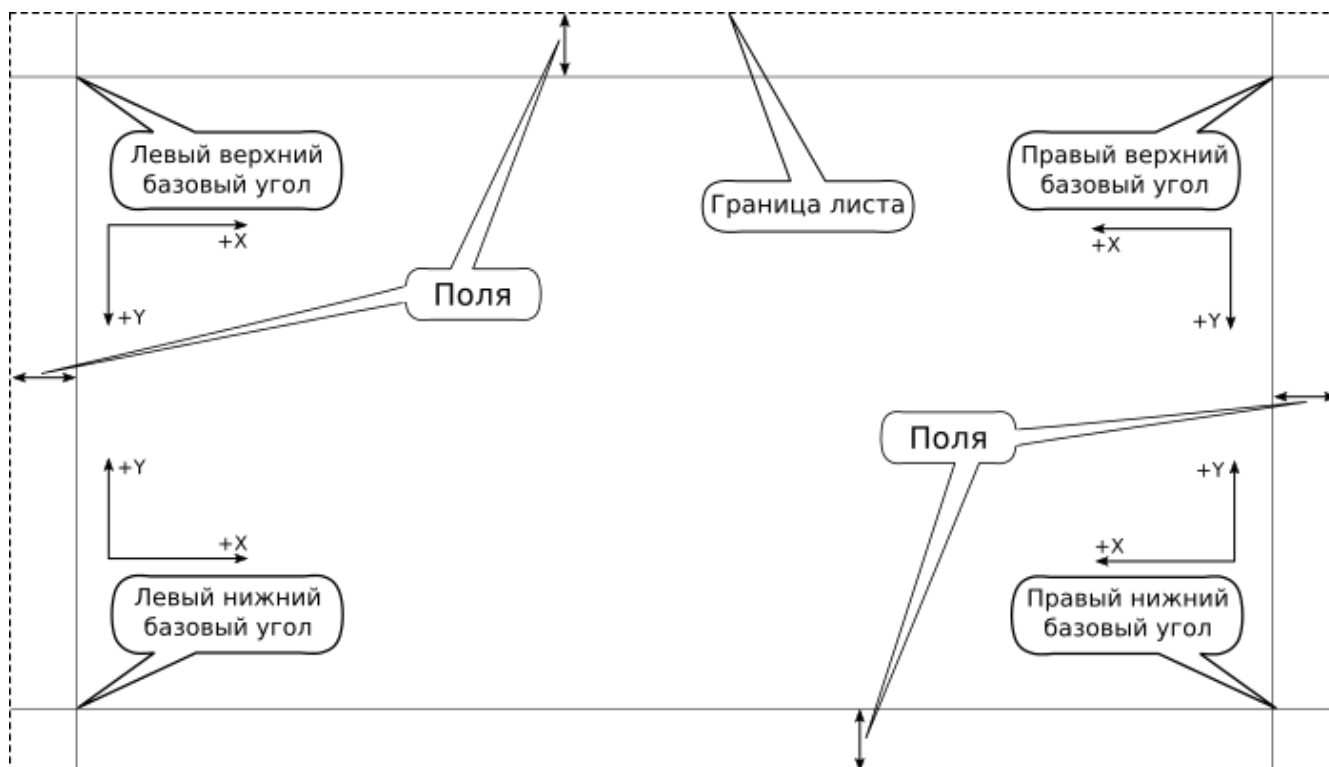
Эти основные элементы могут быть повторены.

Repeated text also accepts an increment value for labels (has meaning only if the text is one letter or one digit).

Определение координат

Each position, start point and end point of items is always relative to a page corner. This feature allows you to define a drawing sheet which is not dependent on the paper size.

Базовые углы и координаты.



- Когда меняется размер страницы, положение элемента относительно его базового угла не меняется.
- Обычно основные надписи привязаны к правому нижнему углу, поэтому при создании элемента по умолчанию задаётся именно этот угол.

Для каждой из двух точек, определяющих прямоугольник или линию, задаётся свой базовый угол.

Поворот

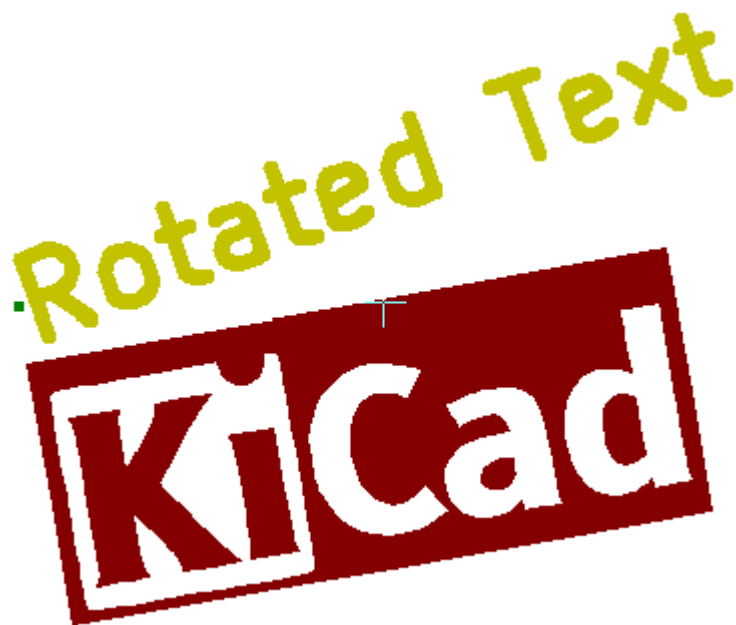
Items which have a position defined by just one point (text and poly-polygons) can be rotated:

Нормально: Поворот = 0

Rotated Text



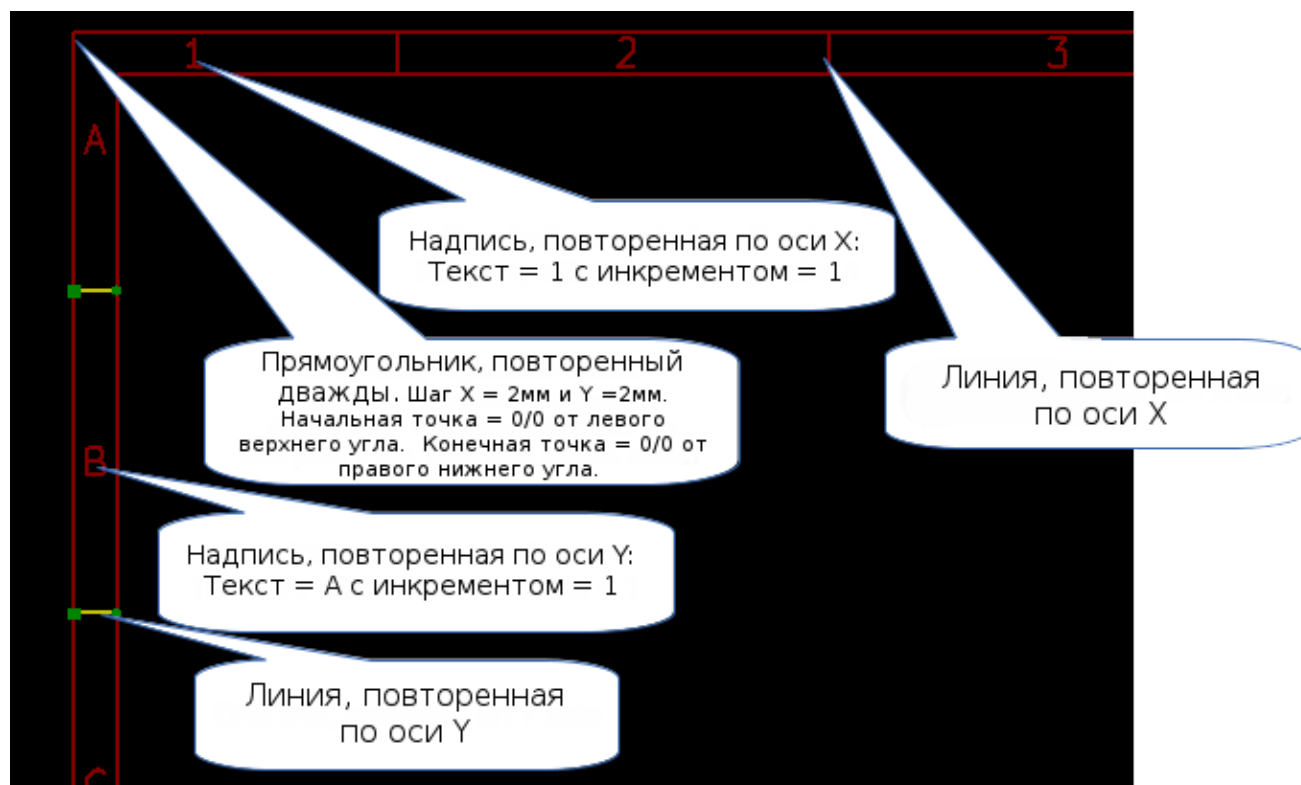
Повёрнуто: Поворот = 20 и 10 градусов



Повтор

Элементы могут быть повторены.

Это полезно для создания сетки и меток.



Text and keywords

Keywords

Text can be simple strings or can include keywords.

Keywords are replaced by actual values when the drawing sheet is used in a schematic or PCB design. They behave like [text variables](#) in the Schematic and Board Editors, except the values are either automatically set by the editor or set by the user in the Page Setup dialog of the respective editor.

The keyword syntax is `${KEYWORD}`. The keyword, including the surrounding `${}`, will be replaced by the keyword's value.

Keyword name	Description
KICAD_VERSION	Version number of KiCad.
#	Sheet number.
##	Total number of sheets.
COMMENT1 - COMMENT9	Contents of the Comment<n> field in Page Setup.
COMPANY	Contents of the Company field in Page Setup.
FILENAME	Filename of the schematic or PCB design file, with a file extension.
ISSUE_DATE	Contents of the Issue Date field in Page Setup.
LAYER	Name of the current PCB layer. This is blank in the Schematic and Board Editors. It is only shown in plots of PCB designs.
PAPER	Current sheet's paper size, which is set in Page Setup.
REVISION	Contents of the Revision field in Page Setup.
SHEETNAME	Sheet name of the current sheet. This is blank in the Board Editor.
SHEETPATH	Sheet path of the current sheet. This is blank in the Board Editor.
TITLE	Contents of the Title field in Page Setup.

For example, `Size: ${PAPER}` displays "Size: A4" when the paper size is set to A4.

\${COMMENT4}
 \${COMMENT3}
 \${COMMENT2}
 \${COMMENT1}
\${COMPANY}
 Sheet: \${SHEETPATH}
 File: \${FILENAME}
Title: \${TITLE}
 Size: \${PAPER} | Date: \${ISSUE_DATE} | Rev: \${REVISION}
 \${KICAD_VERSION} | Id: \${#}/\${##}



This is a comment

Sheet:
File:

Title: **Drawing Sheet Example**

Size: A3

Date: 2024-07-12

Rev: 0

KiCad E.D.A. 8.0.3

Id: 1/1

Multi-line text

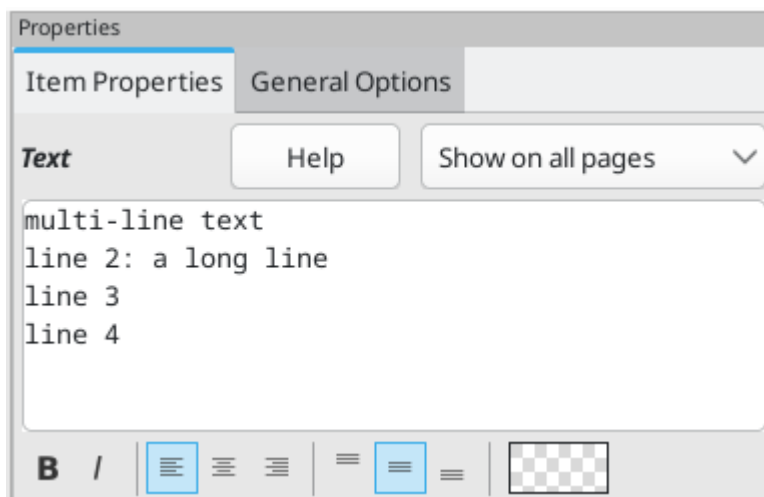
Text can be multi-line.

There are 2 ways to insert a new line in text:

1. Insert the `\n` 2 chars sequence (mainly in Page setup dialog in KiCad).
2. Insert a new line in the Drawing Sheet Editor Design window.

Вот пример второго способа:

Настройка



Вывод

multi-line text
line 2: a long line
line 3
line 4

Multi-line text in Page Setup dialog

In the Page Setup dialog, text controls do not accept multi-line text.

The `\n` 2 character sequence should be inserted to force a new line inside a text object.

Here is a two line text object, in the Comment2 field:

Comment1:

Результат:



However, if you really want the `\n` inside the text, enter `\\n`.

Comment1:

и получите:

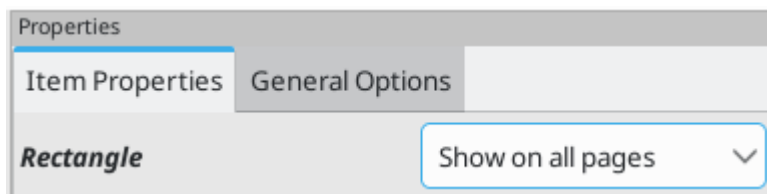


Ограничения

Ограничение первого листа

When using the Schematic Editor, the full schematic often uses more than one page.

Usually drawing sheet items are shown on all pages, but you can also set each item to be shown only on the first page or on all pages except the first page. To change which pages an item is shown on, use the dropdown in the the item's **Item Properties** panel. Options are **show on all pages**, **first page only**, and **subsequent pages only**.



Text maximum size constraint

Text items have a maximum size constraint. You can set a **maximum height** and **maximum width**, which together form a bounding box defining the maximum size of the text object.



The screenshot shows the 'Properties' dialog for a text object. It has two tabs: 'Item Properties' (selected) and 'General Options'. Under 'Item Properties', there is a 'Text' label, a 'Help' button, and a 'Show on all pages' dropdown. A text input field contains 'A long line of text'. Below this is a toolbar with icons for bold (B), italic (I), left-align, center-align, right-align, justify, and a background color selector. The 'Font' dropdown is set to 'Default Font'. Below the font settings are four input fields: 'Text width' (0 mm), 'Text height' (0 mm), 'Maximum width' (12 mm), and 'Maximum height' (0 mm). A note at the bottom right says 'Set to 0 to use default values'.

If the text object is bigger than the maximum size in a given dimension, the text object will be dynamically compressed in that dimension in order to fit within the bounding box. This will result in the text being visually distorted. If the text fits within the bounding box, the text will not be compressed.

When either parameter is set to 0, KiCad will not enforce a maximum size in that dimension.

Some text with the maximum height and width set to 0:



A long line of text

The same text compressed because the maximum width is set smaller than the width of the text:



A long line of text

Invoking the Drawing Sheet Editor

The Drawing Sheet Editor is typically invoked from a command line, or from the KiCad Project Manager.

Синтаксис командной строки: `pl_editor <*.kicad_wks file to open>`

Drawing Sheet Editor Commands

Главное окно

The image below shows the main window of the Drawing Sheet Editor.





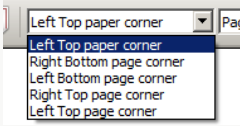
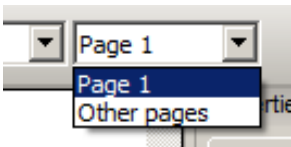


The main part of the screen is the editing canvas for the open drawing sheet.

The right pane is a properties editor for editing the selected item. It only appears when an item is selected in the canvas.

Панель инструментов главного окна

Верхняя панель инструментов обеспечивает легкий доступ к следующим командам:

	Create a new drawing sheet.
	Load a drawing sheet file.
	Save the current drawing sheet in a .kicad_wks file.
	Display the page size selector and the title block user data editor.
	Prints the current page.
	Undo/redo tools.
	Zoom in, out, redraw and auto, respectively.
	Show the drawing sheet in Preview mode: text is shown like in the Schematic or PCB Editors, with text keywords replaced by user text.
	Show the drawing sheet in Edit mode: text is displayed "as is", without any keyword replacement.
	Reference corner selection, for coordinates displayed to the status bar.
	<p>Selection of the page number (page & or other pages).</p> <p>This selection has meaning only if some items than have a page option, are not shown on all pages (in a schematic for instance, which contains more than one page).</p>

Команды рабочей области

Клавиатурные команды

F1	Увеличить масштаб
F2	Уменьшить масштаб
F3	Перерисовать экран
F4	Переместить курсор в центр окна отображения
Home	Автоматически масштабировать
Space Bar	Установить начало относительных координат в позицию курсора
Right Arrow	Переместить курсор вправо на одну позицию сетки
Left Arrow	Переместить курсор влево на одну позицию сетки
Up Arrow	Переместить курсор вверх на одну позицию сетки
Down Arrow	Переместить курсор вниз на одну позицию сетки
Ctrl+Z	Отменить действие
Ctrl+Y	Повторить действие
Return	Соответствует щелчку левой кнопкой мыши
End	Соответствует двойному щелчку левой кнопкой мыши
M	Переместить элемент
S	Переместить начальную точку элемента (позицию)
E	Переместить конечную точку элемента
P	Разместить элемент
Del	Удалить элемент

Команды мыши

Scroll Wheel	Увеличение и уменьшение масштаба в текущей позиции курсора
Ctrl + Scroll Wheel	Панорамирование вправо и влево
Shift + Scroll Wheel	Панорамирование вверх и вниз
Right Button Click	Открытие контекстного меню

Контекстное меню

Отображается по щелчку правой кнопкой мыши:

Добавить линию

- Добавить прямоугольник
- Добавить надпись
- Add Bitmap
- Выбор масштаба: непосредственный выбор масштаба отображения.
- Выбор сетки: непосредственный выбор сетки.

Строка состояния

The status bar is located at the bottom of the Drawing Sheet Editor and provides useful information to the user.



Coordinates are always relative to the corner selected as the reference corner in the reference corner dropdown in the menubar.

Properties editor

The right pane is a properties editor. It only appears when an item is selected in the canvas. The **Item Properties** tab contains properties for the selected item. These properties depend on what type of item is selected. The **General Options** tab lets you edit default properties and margins for the *sheet.

Changes made in the properties editor are not applied until you click the **Apply** button.

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the 'Properties' editor interface, showing different tabs.

Left Screenshot (Item Properties tab):

- Properties** (Header)
- Item Properties** (Selected Tab)
- Text** (Item Type)
- Help** and **Show on all pages** (Buttons)
- Text Content:** A text area containing `$(COMMENT3)`.
- Font:** A dropdown menu set to 'Default Font'.
- Text width:** 0 mm
- Text height:** 0 mm
- Maximum width:** 0 mm
- Maximum height:** 0 mm
- Comment:** A text area containing 'Comment 2'.
- Position:**
 - X:** 109 mm
 - Y:** 29 mm
 - From:** Lower Right (Dropdown)
- Line width:** 0 mm
- Rotation:** 0.000
- Repeat Parameters:**
 - Count:** 1
 - Step text:** 1
 - Step X:** 0 mm
 - Step Y:** 0 mm
- Apply** (Button)

Set to 0 to use default values

Right Screenshot (General Options tab):

- Properties** (Header)
- Item Properties** (Selected Tab)
- General Options** (Selected Tab)
- Default Values:**
 - Text width:** 1.5 mm
 - Text height:** 1.5 mm
 - Line thickness:** 0.15 mm
 - Text thickness:** 0.15 mm
 - Set to Default** (Button)
- Page Margins:**
 - Left:** 10 mm
 - Right:** 10 mm
 - Top:** 10 mm
 - Bottom:** 10 mm
 - Apply** (Button)

Design Inspector window

The Design Inspector shows a table of every item in the drawing sheet and their properties. Selecting an item in the Design Inspector also selects the item on the canvas and leaves it selected when you close the Design Inspector.

To open the Design Inspector, use **Inspect** → **Show Design Inspector**.

<default drawing sheet>					
	-	Type	Count	Comment	Text
1	→	Layout	-	A3	Size: 420.0x297.0mm
2	□	Rectangle	1	rect around the title block	
3	□	Rectangle	2		
4	└	Line	30		
5	T	Text	100		1
6	└	Line	30		
7	T	Text	100		1
8	└	Line	30		
9	T	Text	100		A
10	└	Line	30		
11	T	Text	100		A
12	T	Text	1		Date: \${ISSUE_DATE}
13	└	Line	1		
14	T	Text	1	Kicad version	\${KICAD_VERSION}
15	└	Line	1		
16	T	Text	1		Rev: \${REVISION}
17	T	Text	1	Paper format name	Size: \${PAPER}
18	T	Text	1	Sheet id	Id: \${#}/\${##}
19	└	Line	1		
20	T	Text	1		Title: \${TITLE}
21	T	Text	1		File: \${FILENAME}
22	└	Line	1		
23	T	Text	1		Sheet: \${SHEETPATH}
24	T	Text	1	Company name	\${COMPANY}
25	T	Text	1	Comment 0	\${COMMENT1}
26	T	Text	1	Comment 1	\${COMMENT2}
27	T	Text	1	Comment 2	\${COMMENT3}
28	T	Text	1	Comment 3	\${COMMENT4}
29	└	Line	1		
30	└	Line	1		

Cancel

Interactive editing

Выбор элемента

Элемент может быть выбран:

- From the Design Inspector
- щелчком на нём левой кнопкой мыши.
- щелчком на нём правой кнопкой мыши (будет выведено всплывающее меню).

When selected, this item is drawn in a lighter shade of color and the properties editor will be displayed for the selected item.

When right clicking on the item, a pop-up menu is displayed. The pop menu contents depend on the type of object selected.

Создание элемента

To add a new item, use the appropriate button in the right toolbar and then click on the canvas. The item will be added to the canvas and selected, and the properties editor for the new item will open. You can edit the item's properties in the properties editor, then click **Apply** to modify the new item.

The available items are lines (), rectangles (), text (), and bitmaps ().

You can also add new items from the right-click context menu.

Logos must first be created by the Image Converter tool, which creates a page layout description file. You can use the **Append Existing Drawing Sheet** command to insert the logo (a poly polygon) contained in the new drawing sheet.

Adding lines, rectangles and text

When you add lines, rectangles, or text, the item will be added to the canvas, selected, and shown in the properties editor. You can edit the item's properties in the properties editor, then click **Apply** to apply the changes.

You can also move the item in the canvas after it has been placed by dragging it or using the Move command (kbd:[M]). Lines and rectangles can be moved as a shape, but you can also move their points individually.

Lines and rectangles typically use the same corner reference for both the start and end points. If this is not the case, the item's geometry will change when the sheet size or margins are changed.

Добавление логотипов

To add a logo, a poly polygon (the vectored image of the logo) must be first created using the Image Converter tool, which is available in the main KiCad Project Manager window. Polygons cannot be created by hand.

The Image Converter tool creates a drawing sheet file which contains only one item: a poly polygon representing the source image. This drawing sheet file is appended to the current design, using the **Append Existing Drawing Sheet** command.

NOTE

This command can be used to append any drawing sheet file, regardless of what items it contains. All items in the appended file will be added to the current design.

После того, как полигон вставлен, он может быть перемещен, а его параметры – отредактированы.

Добавление растровых изображений

You can add an image bitmap using many common bitmap formats (PNG, JPEG, BMP, etc.).

- После импорта растрового изображения его разрешение – 300 PPI (пикселей на дюйм).
- This value can be modified in the properties editor.
- The actual size of the bitmap in the drawing sheet depends on this parameter.
- Be aware that using higher definition values brings larger output files, and can have an effect on draw or plot time.

Bitmaps can be repeated but not rotated.