

ArcGIS® Pro Terminology Guide



Essential Terminology or Functionality That's New to ArcGIS® Pro

ArcGIS® Pro	Usage	Similar Concepts in Other ArcGIS Desktop Applications
Project	A collection of related geographic datasets, maps, layouts, tools, settings, and resources, saved in an .aprx file	
Map	The project item used to display and work with geographic data in two dimensions (A map opens in a map view.)	Data frame
Scene	The project item used to display and work with geographic data in three dimensions	Global scene: ArcGlobe™ document (.3dd) Local scene: ArcScene™ document (.sxd)
Ribbon	The rectangular area across the top of the application composed of tabs that contain software functionality	User interface menus and toolbars
Tab on the ribbon	A region on the ribbon that groups related software commands	Toolbar
View	The window representing the primary work area of the application	Similar to a map view or layout view, but there can be other types in ArcGIS Pro
Active view	The view that currently has keyboard focus (The active view controls the contents of the ribbon.)	Active data frame
Pane	A dockable window that contains a related set of commands	Dockable window
Gallery	A rectangular window or menu that presents an array or grid of visual choices	
Task	A set of preconfigured steps to guide users through a workflow or business process	Similar to functionality in the Task Assistant Manager extension
Quick Access Toolbar	A collection of icons located on the title bar that provides shortcuts to commonly used commands	
Portal	Connection to an ArcGIS Online or Portal for ArcGIS organization	Similar to ArcGIS Administrator > Add Portal Connection. In ArcGIS Pro, connect to a portal on the Project tab > Portals tab
ScreenTips	Pop-up info tips that appear when you hover over the ribbon	Hover over a button on a toolbar
KeyTips	Small tips that appear when you press the Alt key and show keyboard shortcuts for the ribbon	Press Alt and an underlined letter
Range	Optional dynamic filter that can be applied to a map based on numeric values	Has the similar concept in other Desktop apps of a Geoprocessing Service Project pane is renamed to Catalog pane
Web Tool	An analysis tool that runs through the web or on a server	
ArcPy.da	Python module for data access	
ArcPy.na	Python module for network analysis	
ArcPy.sa	Python module for spatial analysis	
ArcPy.wmx	Python module for workflow management	

General Items

Terminology and User Interface Cross-Reference

ArcGIS Pro	ArcMap and Other ArcGIS Desktop Products
Contents pane	Table of Contents window
Catalog pane and Catalog view	Similar to the Catalog window
Map view	Data view
Layout view	Layout view; layout of an ArcMap document (.mxd)
Select item in Contents pane to open additional ribbon tabs and tools	Right-click item in Contents window to access the context menu (This is still available in ArcGIS Pro.)
Explore tool	Contains functionality of Pan, Zoom, and other navigation tools, and HTML Pop-Up and Identify tools
Click with the Explore tool	Get a pop-up window about what you clicked; similar to HTML Pop-Up and Identify tools
Attributes pane	Similar to the Attributes and Identify Results windows, also allows editing
Default project database	Default map (or scene or globe) document geodatabase
Locate pane	Find tool
Add Folder	Create Folder Connection
Edit tab on the ribbon	Editor toolbar
Geoprocessing pane (opened from the Analysis tab)	Search tools, show the system toolbox, and run geoprocessing tools; similar to ArcToolbox™ window and tool dialog boxes
Geoprocessing History	Results window
Fields, Subtypes, and Domains views	Feature Class Properties and Geodatabase Properties dialog boxes
Project tab > Options	Contains settings for customizing ArcGIS Pro
Data tab > Export Features (opens Copy Features tool)	Right-click a layer in the table of contents > Data > Export Data
Active Portal	Default connection to the ArcGIS Online or Portal for ArcGIS organization where you share and search for content

Mapping and Visualization

Terminology and User Interface Cross-Reference

ArcGIS Pro	ArcMap and Other ArcGIS Desktop Applications
Symbology pane	Symbology tab on the Layer Properties dialog box
Symbology pane > Gallery	Symbol Selector
Symbology pane > Properties	Symbol Property Editor
Point symbol	Marker symbol
Polygon symbol	Fill symbol
Color scheme	Color ramp
Style File	Style File
Favorites style	Personal style
Project styles	Referenced styles
Preset layer	A prebuilt layer embedded in ArcGIS Pro that only requires a data source
Raster functions	Similar to Image Analysis window > Processing section, but exposes all functions and more functionality
Appearance tab for rasters	Similar to Image Analysis window > Display section
Activate map frame on a layout	Similar to focus data frame on a layout
Element pane	Element property dialog boxes
Save As Layout File	Similar to File > Save As
Layout file (.pagx)	Similar to templates
ArcPy.mp	Significant update to the ArcPy.mapping module for Python scripting

Sharing

Terminology and User Interface Cross-Reference

ArcGIS Pro	ArcMap and Other ArcGIS Desktop Applications
Share content	Umbrella term referring to packaging, publishing, and sharing new ArcGIS Pro items
Project package (.ppkx)	File type used to package an entire project (new in ArcGIS Pro)
Map package (.mpkx)	File type used to package a map; similar to an .mpk file
Layer package (.lpx)	File type used to package an individual layer; similar to an .lpx file
Share or publish a web layer	Publish a service
Share Web Layer pane	Publishing wizard and Service Editor
Messages tab	Similar to the Prepare window
Web layer	Service
Web feature layer	Feature service
Web tile layer	Tile service/Cached map service
Project template (.aptx)	File type used to build a template for a new project (new in ArcGIS Pro)
Save As Map File	Similar to File > Save As
Map file (.mapx)	Similar to an .mxd file
Save As Layer File	Similar to Save As Layer File
Layer file (.lyrx)	Similar to an .lyr file
Export Map	Similar to File > Export Map
Tile package (.tpk)	File type used to package web map or elevation tiles
Vector tile package (.vtpk)	File type used to package vector tiles and styles
Scene layer package (.slpk)	File type used to package multipatch, point and point cloud features
Geoprocessing package (.gpkx)	File type used to share analysis services
Mobile map package (.mmpk)	File type used to share maps, basemaps, locators, and networks to mobile apps

Editing

ArcGIS Pro	Similar Concepts in Other ArcGIS Desktop Applications
Editing is enabled at all times	Start editing
Active Select tool on the Modify Features pane	Edit tool
Create Features pane	Create Features window
Modify Features pane	Contains tools for editing features, similar to those on editing toolbars
Manage Templates pane	Organize Feature Templates window
Reposition toolbar	Contains Move, Scale, and Rotate tools, similar to those on editing toolbars
Construction toolbar	Contains segment construction tools, similar to those on editing toolbars
Vertices toolbar	Edit Vertices toolbar

Additional ArcGIS Resources

ArcGIS Online: arcgis.com

What's New in ArcGIS: esri.com/whatsnew

Support: esri.com/support

Training: esri.com/training

Books: esri.com/esripress

