

Clipping

Clipping^o basically means punching a shape out of an object by using a stencil. The part of the object outside the contour of the stencil is cast away. The remaining inner part is retained.

This procedure can also be done electronically. Elements can be clipped by other elements or paths working as a stencil. Clipping enables you to display only the parts of an element that are within a stencil (clipping path) while hiding everything outside that path.

For example, you can superimpose text over a square filled with a color blend and use the shapes of the letters as clipping paths. This will cause the shapes of the letters to act as windows onto the blend while hiding the rest of the rectangle. The letters will appear colored by the blend.

The settings used for controlling clipping are discussed in the chapter entitled <Element Inspector> (`;/MainMenu/Element/ElementInspector.rtf;Ausstanzen;¬`) .

How to clip:

1. Place the element you want to clip (such as a TIFF image) onto your page.
2. Place the element you want to use as the stencil on top of the first element. The vector path of the upper element serves as clipping path, describing the outline of the stencil. It may cover the element behind it completely or partially.
3. Select the element to be clipped (see <Handling Elements in OneVision> `;Elementhandling.rtf;¬`) .

4. Choose the *<Connect>* command in the Element Inspector panel (see *<Element Inspector>* ;../MainMenu/Element/ElementInspector.rtf;Ausstanzen;-). The Cursor will change its shape, indicating the connection mode (see the chapter *<Connecting Elements>* ;Elementconnections.rtf;Element verknöpfen;-).
5. Now select the element (or elements) to be used as the stencil. If you select more than one element, these elements will be joined to form a single clipping path.
6. When you've finished your selection, exit the connection mode by clicking the right mouse button or clicking the *<Connect>* command again. The results of the clipping operation will appear.

If you want to undo the clipping, click *<Remove>* in the Element Inspector. The elements will be displayed in their original states.

Note: Only elements with vector paths can be used for clipping. Such elements include shapes, Pathtext elements, and elements created in OneVision-Type and OneVision-Art.

When text is used for clipping, you may experience problems with some older printers or RIPs, which have difficulty imaging very complex clipping paths. If this occurs, limit your clipping elements to single words in order to simplify the clipping path. When clipping very large images on older RIPs with limited RAM, you may receive "vm error" messages, indicating that there isn't enough memory available to process the image.

Note: Clipping an element does not delete any part of the clipped element. Clipped parts are only hidden on the screen and the printed page. To minimize file size and processing, then, keep the clipped image as small as possible.

Using Pathtext or text in OneVision-Type, stencils may show

inaccurate results on the screen. The reason for this is the ^ahints^o used by PostScript fonts, which do not function properly when characters are rotated. These inaccuracies don't appear at high resolutions or on printed pages.

Example:

To get a circle with a color blend inside:

- 1) Create a blend element using the Blend tool (see <Blend Editor> ;../TMSVerlauf/TMSVerlaufEditor.rtf; ;↵).
- 2) Select the <Shape Library> and create a circle.
- 3) Position the circle on top of the blend.
- 4) Select the blend element and click the command <Connect> in the Element Inspector panel (see <Element Inspector> ;../MainMenu/Element/ElementInspector.rtf;Ausstanzen;↵).
- 5) Click the circle element with the reshaped cursor indicating the connection mode.
- 6) Exit the connection mode by clicking the right mouse button or using the <Connect> command again from the Element Inspector.

(see also chapter <Connecting Elements> ;Elementconnections.rtf;Element verknöpfen;↵)

Next: ;Colors.rtf; ;↵ Color Selection Panel