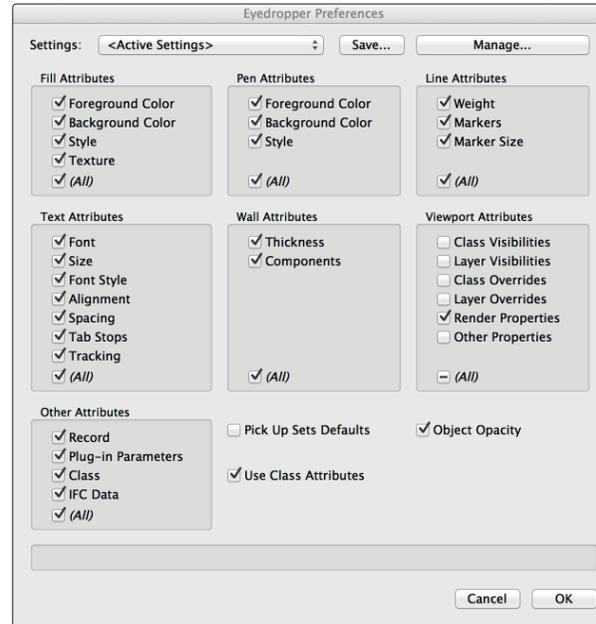


Tip 26
Eyedropper Preferences enable you to pick up selected properties from one object and drop them on another



Trace around objects with Polygon Outer Boundary

25 This tool is like cling film! Draw loosely around a plan or object made of lines, and it shrinks to fit to give you the gross area. When editing a symbol, trace widely around complex shapes like cars with the Lasso mode. This will create a polyline shape. You can create a mask with fill in no time by sending the shape to the back.

Use the Eyedropper tool to match object properties

26 Double-click this tool to bring up its settings. Check, say, Plug-in Parameters and IFC to transfer those properties from one object by clicking to pick up, then hold Alt and click to apply them to another object. You can also pick up Render properties from viewports.

Master the Select Similar tool

27 The Select Similar tool is incredibly powerful (it supplements Custom Selection). Double-click on the tool to access its settings. Here you can select objects by a huge array of criteria in various combinations. Save the settings to record options for access from the drop-down.

Use the Visibility tool to quickly check classes

28 When you hold the cursor over objects with the Visibility tool (V key), classes or layers highlight, depending on the mode, and the name is displayed, making it easy to check if objects are drawn in the correct class. With the Mode set to Invisible, when you click objects of a class, that class is turned off — useful when you have just imported a survey file and are not sure what to turn off. Hold V again to see all invisible classes temporarily, then click on them in the drawing to make them visible. Layers can be managed in the same way using the Layer mode.

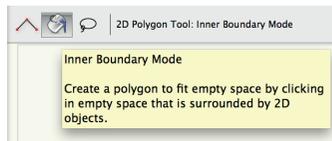
Use the Snap Loupe to increase accuracy and speed

29 Pressing Z at any time zooms the view in to the area around the cursor, to let you work accurately, then immediately zooms back out. Make sure you select the tool you want first, then press Z to zoom in as required.

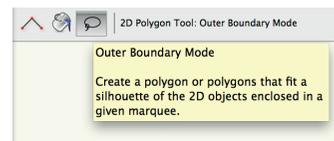
Use Sketch rendering at concept stage to present ideas

30 Vectorworks' built-in Sketch function works well for all drawings, as well as 3D renderings (especially used as foreground render). It helps clients feel ideas are not too rigid. Later, turn it off for brand new presentations!

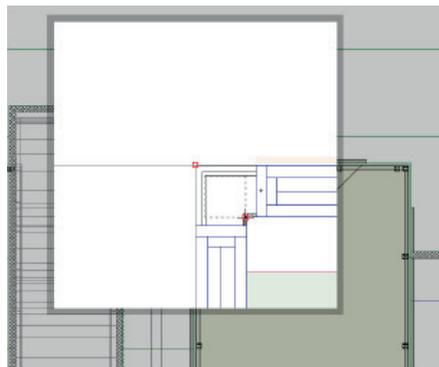
Tip 24
Quickly find shapes from lines with the Polygon Inner Boundary tool



Tip 25
Use the Outer Boundary mode to trace masks around complex symbols



Tip 29
Pressing Z with any tool active invokes the Snap Loupe, zooming in on the area around the cursor to let you work with accuracy and speed



Tip 27
Select Similar Preferences allow you to select objects by almost any combination of attributes

