

asta | easyplan



PLANNING SOFTWARE FOR SMALL PROJECTS

What's New In Asta Easyplan

Find out about all the latest features

PROFESSIONAL PROJECT PLANNING MADE EASY

The easiest project planning tool for smaller construction projects now offers a range of intuitive features that enable your plans to be more accurate in reflecting the way you actually work.

Making project planning easy still remains a key principle to the development of Asta Easyplan and many of the new features show this. Now Asta Easyplan is more intelligent and provides greater visibility and control over the way you plan, track and deliver your projects.

With Asta Easyplan taking control over your project planning you can concentrate on ensuring the project is delivered on time and to budget.

HIGHLIGHTS

▶ INTUITIVE LINKING

Now it's easier to move your links by simply clicking and dragging the links to where you want them.

▶ REALISTIC PROJECT SCHEDULES

Plan more accurately by constraining tasks so that they start on a new day.

▶ IMPROVED PROJECT NAVIGATION

Bring specific bars and tasks into view using the new Go To Selection tool.

▶ GREATER PROJECT VISIBILITY

View your projects more smartly using the new variable dates tool. Examples of variable dates are 'Today', 'Month start' and 'Year End'.

▶ IMPROVED DATA EXCHANGE

This latest version of Asta Easyplan can now open Asta Powerproject version 10 projects.

NEW FEATURES

1. Move Links In Just One Step

With Asta Easyplan's new intuitive features you can move links from one task to another in one quick step. To move the start or end of a link from one task to another simply select the link and drag either end of it to a different task or to a different position on the same task.

2. Accurately Create And Edit Links

You can now create, edit and delete links using the Predecessors and Successors columns when they are displayed in the spreadsheet. The Predecessors column displays the tasks at the start of the links that end at a task; the Successors column displays the tasks at the end of the links that start at a task. With Asta Easyplan you can now edit the text in these columns directly to create new links and to edit or delete existing links.

3. Realistic Project Schedules

You can now constrain tasks so that they start on a new day, rather than immediately after their latest predecessor task finishes. Constraining tasks to start on a new day often reflects more accurately the way in which tasks are worked on in real life.

Depending on the type of task, it may be very unlikely that someone would start work on a task midway through an afternoon; it may be much more likely that they would start work on the task at the beginning of the next day.



4. Improved Project Navigation

With Asta Easyplan you can now bring specific bars and tasks into view using the new Go To Selection button. This new feature provides greater flexibility in moving around the bar chart, which is extremely useful in larger project plans. By scrolling around the bar chart you may lose sight of your selected task; simply clicking the Go To Selection button brings it immediately back into view.

5. Greater Visibility Of Your Code Library

This is one of the new features that improve the visibility you have over your projects. You can choose to display the appearance of code library entries in the project view - and in the Object Edit toolbar - making it easier for you to ensure you are assigning the correct codes to items in the bar chart. This also makes it easier to differentiate between similarly named codes in the project view.

6. Improved Data Exchange

This latest version of Asta Easyplan can now open Asta Powerproject version 10 projects. The result is improved data exchange facilities between those who are using different versions of the software. Asta Easyplan can still open projects created in MS Project (MPX or XML files) and Primavera (XER or P3B files) as well as being able to save projects in these same formats.

7. Easily Identify Different Groups Or Phases Of Tasks

Quickly identify different groups or phases of tasks in your printouts by highlighting the bars that contain summary tasks. Simply select the corresponding summary group icon in the project view and apply a background colour to it. You can choose whether to apply these settings to the spreadsheet, to the bar chart or to both.

8. Make Sure No Information Goes Unseen

You now have the option to word-wrap any text you place in one or more spreadsheet cells. When you choose to word-wrap text, the height of the spreadsheet rows is adjusted automatically so that all of the text in a cell is visible. This handy new tool ensures nothing goes unread, regardless of how much text the cell contains.

9. Smarter Project Views With Variable Dates

In a number of fields throughout Asta Easyplan, you can specify variable dates rather than a specific date. Examples of variable dates are 'Today', 'Month start' and 'Year End'. These dates are converted into actual dates each time you open a project. This feature is particularly useful if you want to display a vertical gridline in the bar chart that always appears on today's date or wish to highlight the current quarter in the bar chart.

10. Improved Visibility And Control Over Time Periods

You can configure dates to display the number of elapsed units since 'date zero'. This means you can show time periods such as elapsed days, elapsed weeks, elapsed months or elapsed quarters as a number of units instead of the date.

11. Easily Edit Code Library Entries

This latest release of Asta Easyplan introduces the new Code Library Entry Properties dialog, which makes it easier to edit the name, appearance and sort order of your code library entries.

12. Easily Specify Order Of Code Library Sorts

Specifying a sort order against each code library entry enables you to sort them alphabetically or numerically. This makes it easier to arrange tasks in the project as they are done so according to the discipline that has been assigned to them.

13. Improved Spreadsheet Copying And Pasting

Asta Easyplan will now paste as much information as possible into the cells that you select, even if the number of cells that you select to paste into does not match the number of cells that you have copied or if the selected cells are of a different type.

14. Embed Border Files Into Projects

You can now embed border files into a project so they can always be used during printing, even if the original border file itself is not distributed with a project. Once a border has been embedded into a project, it can be deleted subsequently.

15. Easily Identify Periods Of Over-Allocation

The histogram 'Show Tasks' view now includes a copy of the original histogram. Now when choosing to show the tasks that contribute to a histogram graph at a particular point, you won't lose sight of the histogram when the new bar chart window appears. As a result, you can easily identify and correct periods of over-allocation.

16. Contract Folders For Easier Navigation

Asta Easyplan makes it easier to navigate your way round your project view by enabling you to contract folders that are currently expanded and any subfolders in the hierarchy that are contained within them.

17. Keep Your Projects Tidy

You can return the font settings of formatted spreadsheet cells back to their default settings with the new Use Default check box. This is particularly useful in tidying up a spreadsheet that has had too many individual font settings applied to it.

18. Improved Formatting Tools

A new Project View Font command has been added to the Format menu. You can use this menu command to access the Format Font dialog and easily change the font in the project view.



ASTA DEVELOPMENT PLC

Kingston House, Goodsons Mews, Wellington Street
Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3BX, United Kingdom

E: enquiries@astadev.com T: +44 (0)1844 261700 F: +44 (0)1844 261314