

Toolbars and Menus

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Introduction

All major commands can be issued using the menu bar which is displayed at the top of the Natural development environment. Like all available toolbars, the menu bar is dockable and floatable and therefore can be placed in a different position.

The menus offered in the menu bar vary depending on the active window. The selection of commands from the menu bar is performed just like all graphic-based applications. Another way of issuing commands is using a context menu by clicking the right mouse button on the corresponding node.

Toolbar buttons provide an alternative to menu commands for the most commonly used functions such as saving, checking, running, and stowing objects. For example, to open a library, you can click the "Open selected object" toolbar button instead of opening a menu and choosing a command.

Each toolbar button is self-documenting: just place the mouse pointer on the toolbar button, and read the text in the status line. Additionally a tool tip is provided for the command (when the corresponding option is switched on in the 'Customize' dialog).

The toolbar is context sensitive and displays only the buttons that apply to the active window. In general, each editor has its own toolbar.

The first time Natural is started, the default toolbars that are provided for each window are displayed. However, new buttons can be added, existing ones can be removed or rearranged and even new toolbars can be created using the 'Customize' dialog.



Creating a Toolbar

▶ To create a new toolbar

1. From the "Tools" menu, select "Customize", then click on the "Toolbars" tab.
The "toolbar" dialog box appears. Click "New" to create a new toolbar.
2. In the "toolbar Name" field, enter the name of the new toolbar. Close the dialog box.
3. The new toolbar will be added to the existing toolbars.
4. Proceed as described in "Editing a toolbar" below.

Editing a Toolbar

▶ To edit a toolbar

1. From the "Main" menu field, select "Customize"
The "Commands" dialog box appears.
2. Select a category. Select a command and using "Drag and Drop", place the icons needed into the new toolbar at the top of the screen.
3. Close the dialog box.

Adding User-Defined Commands to a Toolbar

You can define commands which contain a series of Natural commands. These user-defined commands can be added to any toolbar.

▶ To define a user-defined command

From the "Tools" menu, select "Customize", then click on the "User Commands" tab.

From the "User Command" list box, select the user command to be defined.

In the "Natural Command(s)" field, enter the Natural command(s). Separate multiple Natural commands by a semicolon.

Click on "Assign" to assign the Natural command(s) to the user command.

▶ To add the user command to an existing toolbar

- Proceed as described in Editing a toolbar.

Removing Commands from a Toolbar

1. From the "Main" menu open the customize dialog box.
2. Select the "command icon" to be removed from the "Toolbar".
3. Click the "right mouse button". Select "Delete" to remove the command icon.

Rearranging Commands in the Toolbar

1. From the "Main Menu" open the customize dialog box.
2. Choose the command icon in the toolbar to be rearranged.
3. Using "Drag and Drop", place the icon into the selected toolbar.

Selecting a Toolbar

To select a toolbar

1. From the "Main" menu, choose "Customize" > "Toolbars".
The "toolbar" dialog box appears.
2. From the "toolbar" drop-down combo box, choose the toolbar to be selected.
3. Choose "Close".
The dialog box closes and the selected toolbar is displayed in the Natural desktop.

Removing a Toolbar

To remove a toolbar

1. From the "Main" menu, choose "Customize" > "Toolbars".
The "toolbar" dialog box appears.
2. From the " toolbars" list box, click on the user defined toolbar to be removed.
Click on the delete button and the selected toolbar will be removed from the Natural desktop.

Hiding a Toolbar

You can hide your toolbar when you are not using it.

To hide your toolbar

1. Click with the right mouse button on any toolbar.
2. Then from the context menu, select the toolbar to be hidden. If the check mark is not visible, the toolbar is hidden.

Positioning a Toolbar

The toolbar is located by default at the top of your desktop just below the menu bar, but you can dock it by "Drag and Drop" along any other edge of your desktop.

To position your toolbar on the desktop

1. Select the "toolbar" to be repositioned at its far left. Press and hold the left mouse button.
2. Using "Drag and Drop", place the toolbar into position.