MicroStation and Element templates

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What’s an Element template?

Element templates define properties of elements

Element > Element Templates
When adding properties to a template you can select them from the following categories:

- General
- Closed linear
- Text styles and text style overrides
- Cells
  - Points
- Patterns/Hatch
  To use these properties with templates, patterning and hatching must be applied to a parent shape that is associated with a template.
- Multi-line styles
- Dimension styles
- Elevation Callout styles
- Section Callout styles
- Detail Callout styles
- Title Text styles
- Drawing Title styles
- Materials
- Terrain Model
How to use Element Templates

Active Element Template icon

Or

A customized tool
Active Element Template icon lock

If the Active Element Template icon is locked, the placed element will be associated with the template. The element will also pass the Standards Checker's tests of Element Templates.

Not Locked

Locked
Where do I define the Element Templates?

It’s a good idea to store the Element templates in a DGN library. *Variable: MS_DGNLIBLIST.*

However you can also define Element Templates in your active (local) file.

Element > Element Templates
How to define an Element Template

New Template Group

New Template

Reset to add properties
Multiple instances of the same property

You can add multiple instances of the same property to a template, each with a different setting. (In the image below the template has multiple color and line weight properties). If there are multiple instances of the same property, the first one in the list will be the default that is used when the template is activated. If there are multiple instances of the same property and you do not want to use the default property, before drawing the element use the appropriate toolboxes to select “secondary” properties that match those in the template. (In the case below you would use the Attributes toolbox to select a secondary color and/or line weight.)
Remove a property

Reset to remove property
Element Templates and Closed Linear

Determine before you place your element if it the fill setting should be None, opaque or outlined. Or you can change your elements depending on the Element Template applied.
Element Templates and Hatch

Use the hatch attributes to either set the settings in the hatch/pattern tools

Or

When an Element template with hatch properties is applied to an element, then it will be visible when creating sections
Select Elements by Element template

![Element Selection](image-url)
Live demo and examples
Thanks!