
How to draw a Interaction Overview Diagram in UML

[Interaction overview diagram](#) is a kind of [UML diagram](#). It is the variant of [UML activity diagram](#) that shows specifically the flow of interaction diagrams like sequence diagrams.

Creating interaction overview diagram

Perform the steps below to create an UML interaction overview diagram in Visual Paradigm.

1. Select **Diagram > New** from the application toolbar.
2. In the **New Diagram** window, select **Interaction Overview Diagram**.
3. Click **Next**.
4. Enter the diagram name and description. The **Location** field enables you to select a model to store the diagram.
5. Click **OK**.

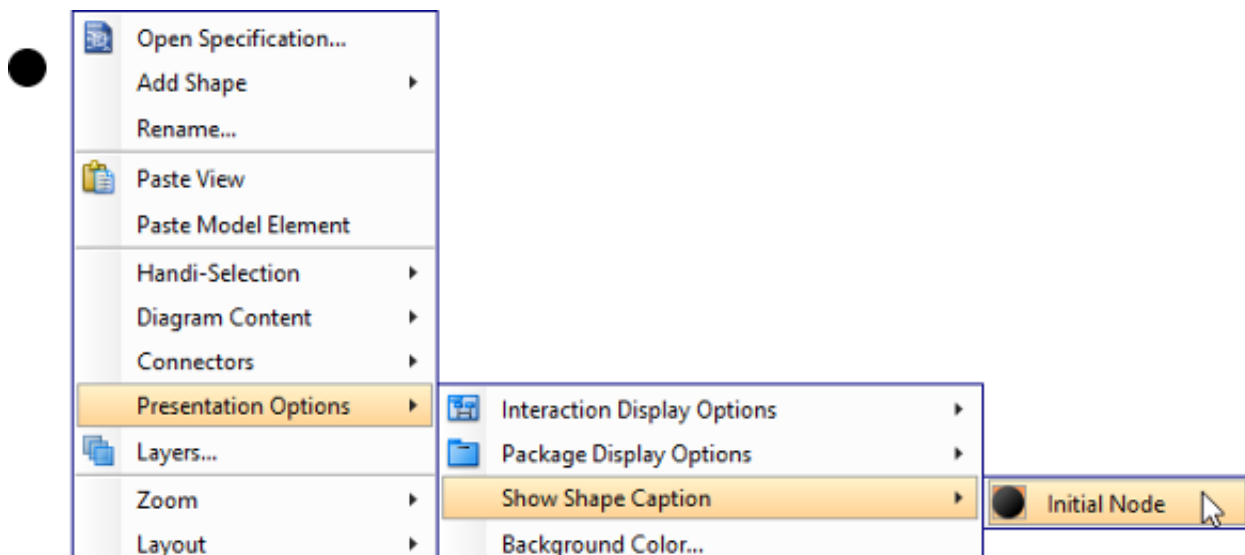
Creating initial node

Initial node is the beginning of a control flow. To create initial node in interaction overview diagram, click **Initial Node** on the diagram toolbar and then click on the diagram.



Initial Node - a control node at which flow starts when the activity is invoked (B)

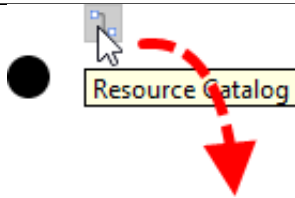
An initial node is created. The caption of initial node is hidden by default, to show it, right-click on the diagram and select **Presentation Options > Show Shape Caption > Initial Node** from the pop-up menu.



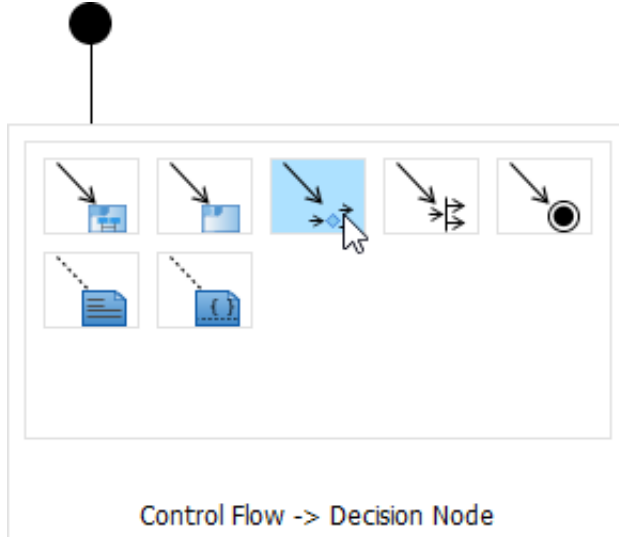
Creating decision node

To create a decision node from an initial node:

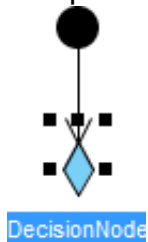
1. Move your mouse pointer over the initial node.
2. Press on the **Resource Catalog** button and drag it out.



3. Release the mouse button at the place where you want the decision node to be created.
4. Select **Control Flow -> Decision Node** from Resource Catalog.



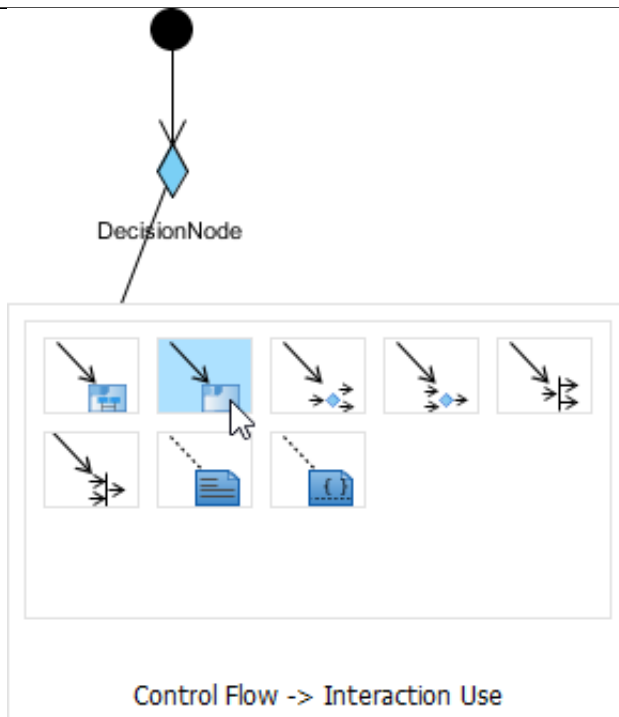
5. A new decision node will be created and is connected to the initial node. Enter its name and press **Enter** to confirm editing.



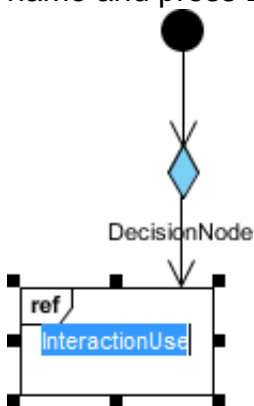
Creating interaction use

To create an interaction use:

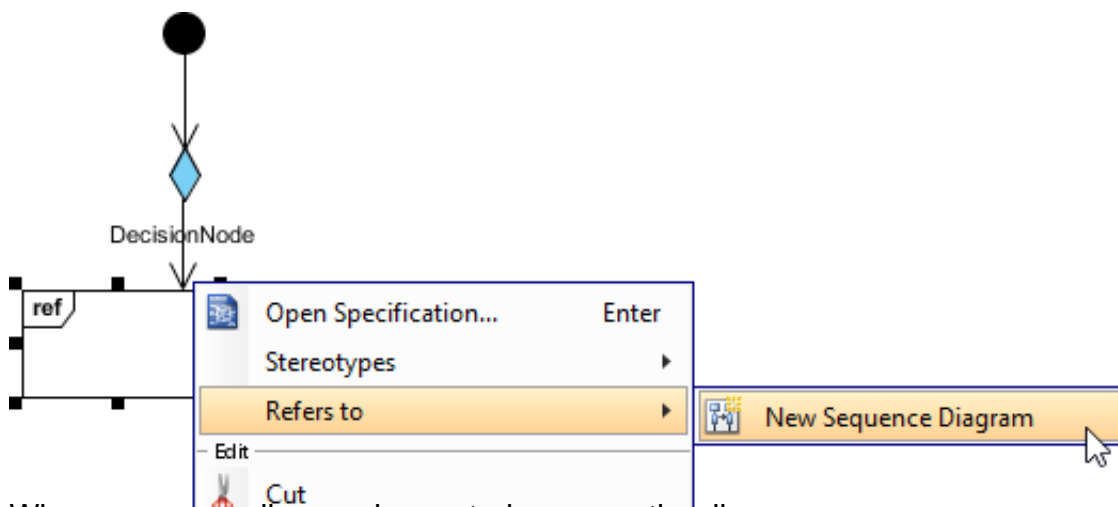
1. Move your mouse pointer over the source shape.
2. Press on the **Resource Catalog** button and drag it out.
3. Release the mouse button at the place where you want the interaction use to be created.
4. Select **Control Flow -> Interaction Use** from Resource Catalog.



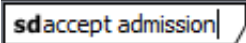
5. A new interaction use will be created and is connected to the source node. Enter its name and press **Enter** to confirm editing.



You can make the interaction use refers to a diagram by right clicking on it and select **Refers to > New Sequence Diagram** from the pop-up menu.



When sequence diagram is created, rename the diagram.

A rectangular box with a tab on the top-left corner containing the text "sdaccept admission". A mouse cursor is pointing at the bottom-right corner of the box.

sdaccept admission

When you return to the interaction overview diagram, you can see the interaction use caption shows the diagram it refers to.

