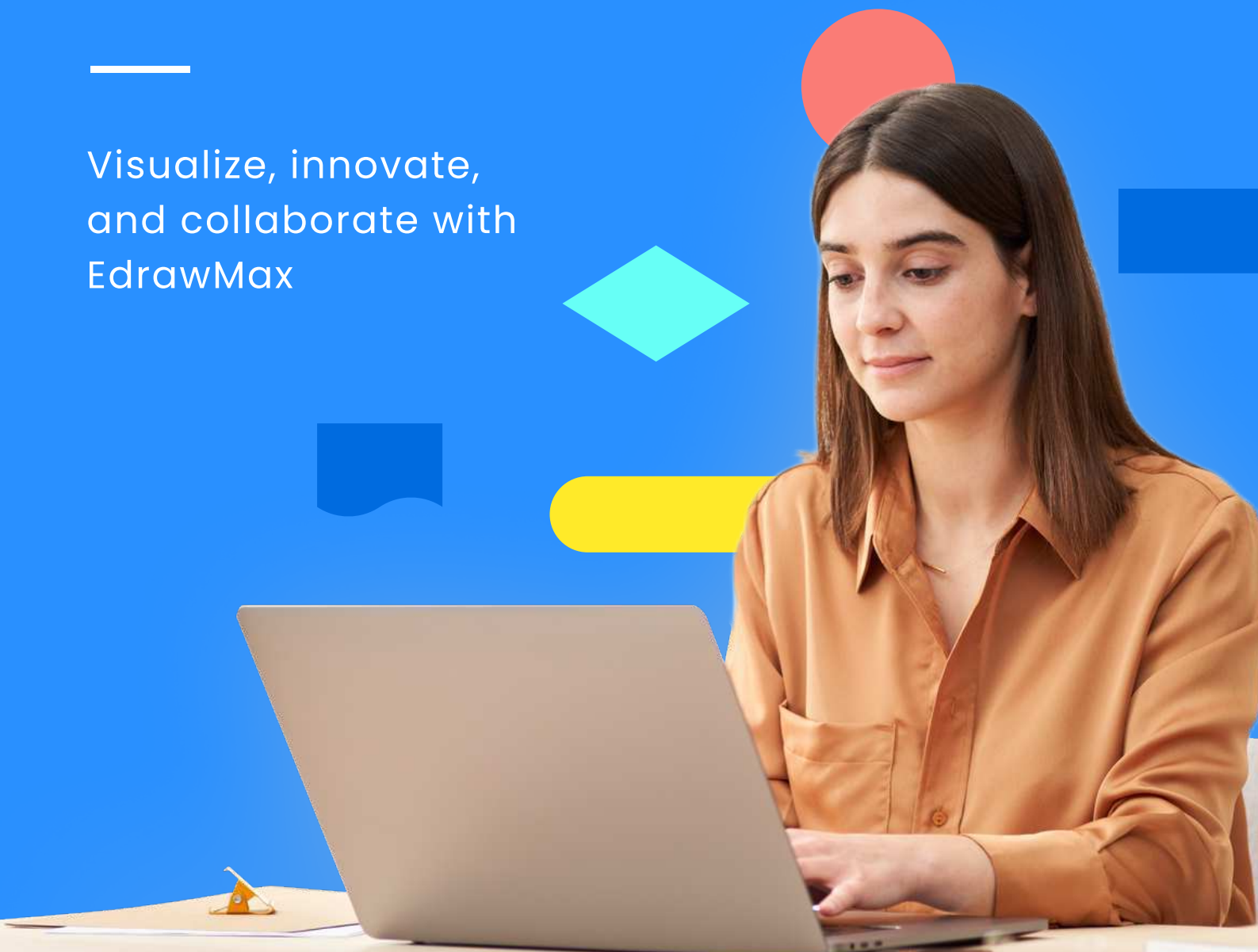


BPMN Symbols and Meanings

Diagram For All




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BPMN Symbols and Meanings

1. Flow Objects in a BPMN Diagram

1.1 BPMN Event Symbols





	Start Event	It represents the starting of the business process and is depicted by a plain circle.
	Intermediate Event	It represents any event that comes in between the start and the end events and is depicted by a circle with double borders.
	End Event	It represents the final stage of a business process model and is depicted by a circle with a solid border.

Start Events		Intermediate Events		End Events	
	Message Start This depicts that a process would be started after getting a message.		Message Intermediate This indicates that the event can either send or receive a message.		Message End This means that a message is sent when the process comes to an end.
	Timer Start This indicates that a process starts after a specific time.		Timer Intermediate It depicts a waiting time in between processes, and it would be resumed once the timer is over.		
	Conditional Start		Conditional Intermediate		



	A process is started only when a certain condition is met.		The next event would be considered after meeting a specific condition.		
	<p>Signal Start</p> <p>A process is started after getting a specific signal.</p>		<p>Signal Intermediate</p> <p>The incoming or outgoing process depends on a specific signal.</p>		<p>Signal End</p> <p>When a process is completed, a signal is generated by the system.</p>
	<p>Multiple Start</p> <p>Depicts that there are multiple ways to start a process.</p>		<p>Multiple Intermediate</p> <p>It depicts that there can be multiple triggers for the process.</p>		<p>Multiple End</p> <p>There can be multiple instances at the end of the process.</p>
			<p>Cancel Intermediate</p> <p>This depicts that an alternative flow can be made when a transitional step is canceled.</p>		<p>Cancel End</p> <p>It is used when a transitional sub-process needs to be canceled.</p>
	<p>Error Start</p> <p>This indicates that an error happened at the starting process.</p>		<p>Error Intermediate</p> <p>Represents an error at any intermediate process.</p>		<p>Error End</p> <p>When the process ends, an error occurs.</p>
			<p>Compensation Intermediate</p> <p>It is used to handle compensation at any immediate process</p>		<p>Compensation End</p> <p>It depicts that when the process ends, compensation must be handled.</p>
			<p>Link Intermediate</p>		






			This is used to link two different sections of an intermediate process.		
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1.2 BPMN Activity Symbols



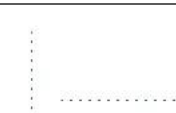
Symbol	Name	Description
	Task	This depicts any task that an event can perform. It is the simplest activity that can't be broken down further.
	Collapsed Sub-process	This symbol represents a group of tasks (that are known as sub-processes) that are combined in one place.
	Transaction	This is a special identity of a sub-process that would involve a payment or a transaction.
	Call Activity	A Call Activity is a global sub-process that you can take as a reference anywhere in the diagram.

1.3 BPMN Gateway Symbols

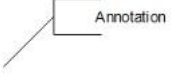






Symbol	Name	Description
	Exclusive	Once the process is evaluated, it would break the flow into two or more paths that are mutually exclusive to each other.
	Event-based	An event-based gateway is also associated with a single path, but it evaluates if an event has occurred to meet the requirements.

	Exclusive event-based	In this, a new event is started when each (exclusive) condition of the flow is met for the pre-defined event.
	Parallel	The parallel gateway can represent two or more concurrent tasks that are not dependent on each other.
	Parallel event-based	In this gateway, multiple tasks are allowed to be processed, but they are dependent on the occurrence of a specific event.
	Inclusive	This gateway breaks the overall flow of the process into multiple flows that can have dedicated triggering events.
	Complex	It is used to describe a complex flow in our business process. For instance, when a business gateway has multiple flows with different factors.

2. Connecting Objects in BPMN Diagrams

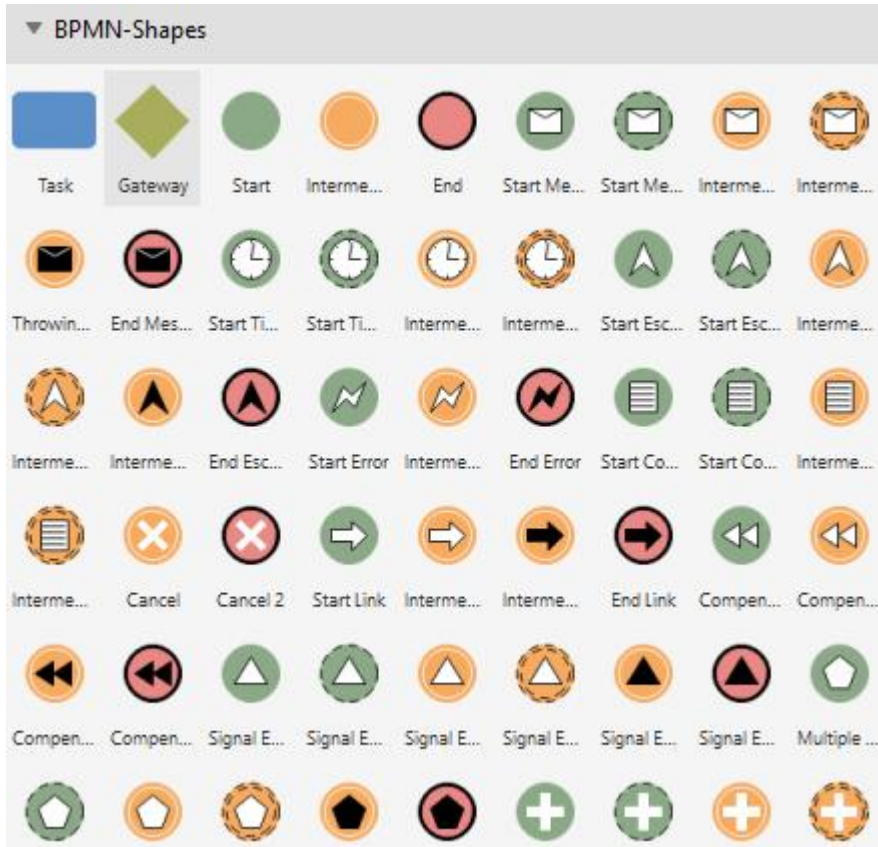
Symbol	Name	Description
	Sequence Flow Symbol	It is used to depict the flow in a process that is in sequential order. It is represented by a solid line with directional arrows.
	Message Flow Symbol	It simply represents how a message is shared across a process and is depicted by dotted lines with directional arrows.
	Associate Symbol	It depicts any kind of association or relationship between artifacts and other objects (represented by a dotted line).

3. Artifacts in BPMN Diagrams

Symbol	Name	Description
	Annotations	Annotations are special BPMN symbols that are used for commenting. They are represented by a line and a square (with a comment inside).
	Groups	Groups are used as an organizational tool to represent common tasks in one place.
	Data	It simply represents any piece of information that exists in the system.
	Incoming Data	It depicts any incoming data that is required by a specific task in the system.
	Outgoing Data	It represents any piece of information that is produced by a task or an event in the system.
	Data Collection	It simply signifies a collective piece of information that is produced by the system.
	Data Storage	It represents an entity that is responsible for storing data in the system.

4. How to Use BPMN Symbols?

Try to use a professional BPMN diagram maker like [EdrawMax](http://www.edrawmax.com). Here you can access [EdrawMax Online](http://www.edrawmax.com) directly. And from its BPMN Shapes Library, you can get all the needed symbols and icons for creating flowcharts and bpmn diagrams..





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