

# Creating a relationship

You can create the relationships between shapes in one of the following ways:

- [On the diagram pane](#)
- [In the Model Browser](#)
- [In the Specification window](#)

To create a relationship on the [diagram pane](#)

1. Click the desirable relationship on the [Diagram toolbar](#).
2. Select the source shape of the path in the diagram pane.
3. Drop the path to the target shape.



- When drawing a new path the optimal route is chosen automatically (path avoids other shapes).
- When drawing a path between two elements, those shapes are bordered with a red or blue rectangle. The red highlight indicates that the path can not be drawn between these shapes. The blue highlight allows a path to be drawn. You can disable this highlighting in the **Environment Options** dialog under the Diagram node by setting the **Show Manipulation Highlighting** property value to *false*. For more information, see [Customizing environment options](#).
- To draw a path faster use [smart manipulator toolbar](#).

To create a relationship in the [Model Browser](#)

1. Right-click the element in the Model Browser.
2. Choose **Create Relation > Outgoing/ Incoming** and select the desired relationship type.
3. In the **Create New <relation name> To/ From** dialog select an element to/ from which you want to create a relationship and click **OK**.
4. In the relationship's Specification window type its name or leave it unnamed.

To create a relationship in the [Specification window](#)

1. Open element's Specification window and select the **Relations** property group.
2. Click the **Create Outgoing** button or **Create Incoming** button and then select the desired relation type from the list.
3. In the **Create New <relation name> To/ From** dialog select an element to/ from which you want to create a relation and click **OK**.  
The relation appears in the **Relations** property group.

When the relationship is created, you can visually identify its direction (source and target elements) under the [Containment tree > Relations](#).



The arrow between source and target elements appears if the path is created using only directed relationships.

