

## QGIS Application - Feature request #4895

### Add a default template

2012-01-26 07:19 AM - Paolo Cavallini

<b>Status:</b>	Open	<b>Resolution:</b> <b>Copied to github as #:</b> 14709
<b>Priority:</b>	Low	
<b>Assignee:</b>		
<b>Category:</b>	Map Composer/Printing	
<b>Pull Request or Patch supplied:</b>	No	
<b>Easy fix?:</b>	No	
<b>Description</b>		
<p>It would be useful to add a default template, as it was long ago with the quickprint plugin.</p> <p>I think the blank page is intimidating for newbies, and it is quite convenient to have something simple to start with.</p>		

### History

#### #1 - 2012-01-26 03:22 PM - Alister Hood

But:

- would that mean when someone wanted to start from a blank page they would need to select and delete everything?
- a single default template would only ever suit a small number of situations. What would it be? A4 landscape? A3 landscape? I guess it would need to be configurable. How much benefit would it really be?

Here is an alternative idea:

- (1) provide some default layouts in a standard location (initially there could just be one standard "style" of layout, but available for several of the most common page sizes, portrait and landscape), and
- (2) when opening a new composer layout, display a message, "Add some items to the layout, or use File>Load from template".

But (2) still isn't very user friendly, because when users choose to add items to the blank layout they should really select the right page size is selected, first, before putting everything on it.

The message could say, "Check the page size and then add some items to the layout, or use File>Load from template". But this is quite a lot of words, and I don't think it is the best solution...

I think the ideal approach would be something like this:

- (3) Instead of (2), before opening the new composer window, display a dialog for the user to choose from the templates in (1). There would be one set of templates which are blank pages in the different page sizes, portrait and landscape. There would be at least one set of standard templates distributed with QGIS which aren't blank.

People would of course also create their own standard sets of templates for use in their organisation, or on a particular project.

Ideally the dialog should also have an option to import a composer layout from another QGIS project. Is it possible to incorporate an additional option like this into the standard file open dialog? I have a feeling it may not be possible on some platforms...

#### #2 - 2012-01-26 10:31 PM - Nathan Woodrow

- *File Selection\_023.png* added

Currently the Composer Manager has room to handle templates, see attached. I think we just use that and add a new few default ones in there.

I would also think it would be a good idea to have the template location search three places

1. The QGIS install location
2. The .qgis folder. Maybe make a new folder called "templates"

3. The project directory

Bonus:

- It would also be nice to set a another directory e.g a network share, as the template location. For organisations that use QGIS and who want to have global templates.

**#3 - 2012-01-26 11:04 PM - Paolo Cavallini**

- *Tracker changed from Bug report to Feature request*

+1

**#4 - 2012-01-27 12:10 AM - Richard Duivenvoorde**

about setting search paths: please have a look at #4900

**#5 - 2012-04-15 10:21 AM - Giovanni Manghi**

- *Target version set to Version 2.0.0*

**#6 - 2012-10-06 02:24 AM - Pirmin Kalberer**

- *Target version changed from Version 2.0.0 to Future Release - Nice to have*

**#7 - 2014-04-06 06:03 AM - Jürgen Fischer**

- *Category changed from 33 to Map Composer/Printing*

**#8 - 2017-05-01 12:50 AM - Giovanni Manghi**

- *Easy fix? set to No*

**#9 - 2018-02-23 06:07 PM - Paolo Cavallini**

- *Description updated*

Still true in QGIS 3

## Files

---

Selection_023.png	11.9 KB	2012-01-26	Nathan Woodrow
-------------------	---------	------------	----------------