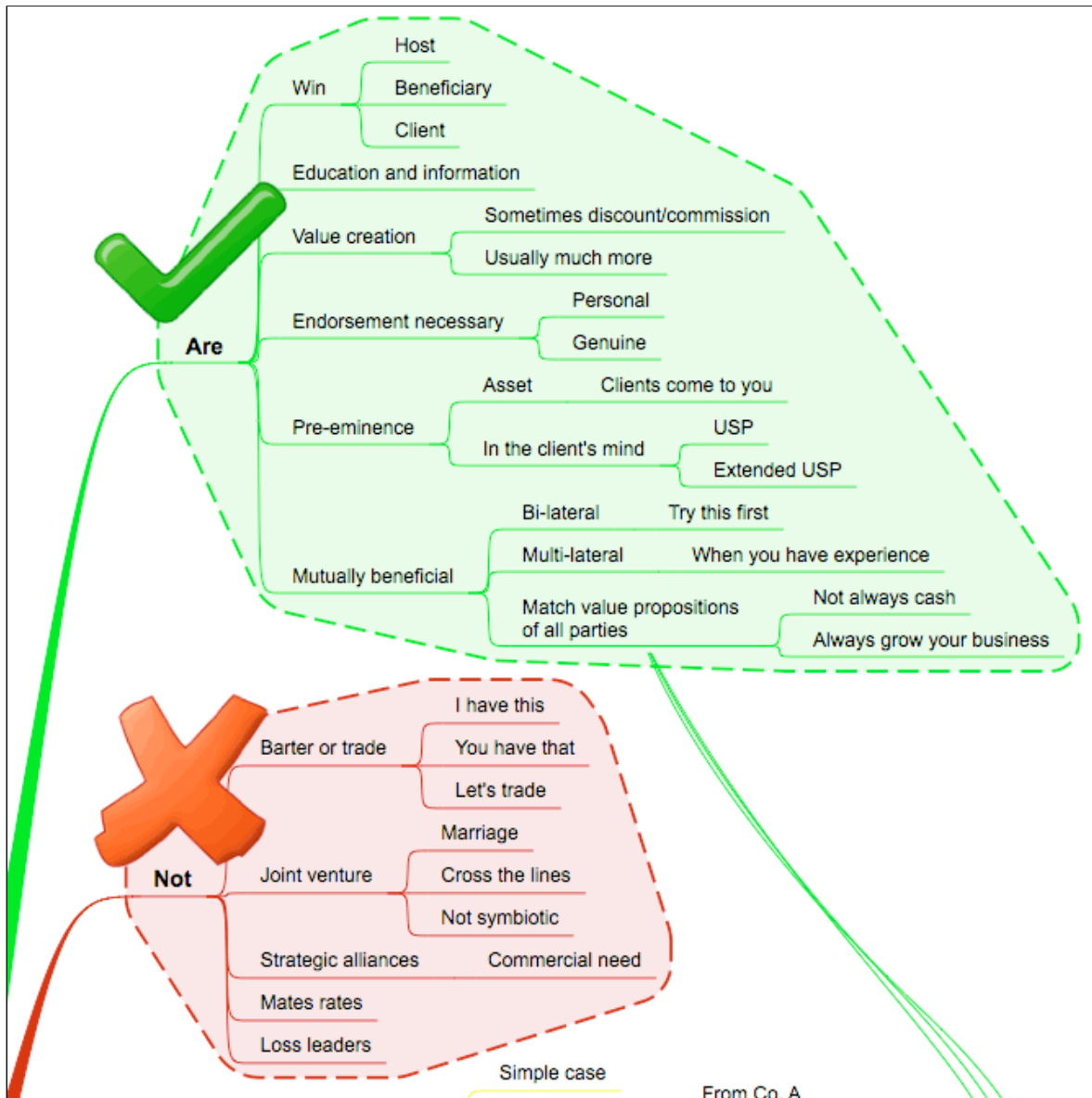




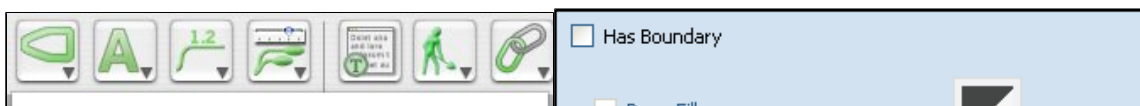
Hi Klaus,

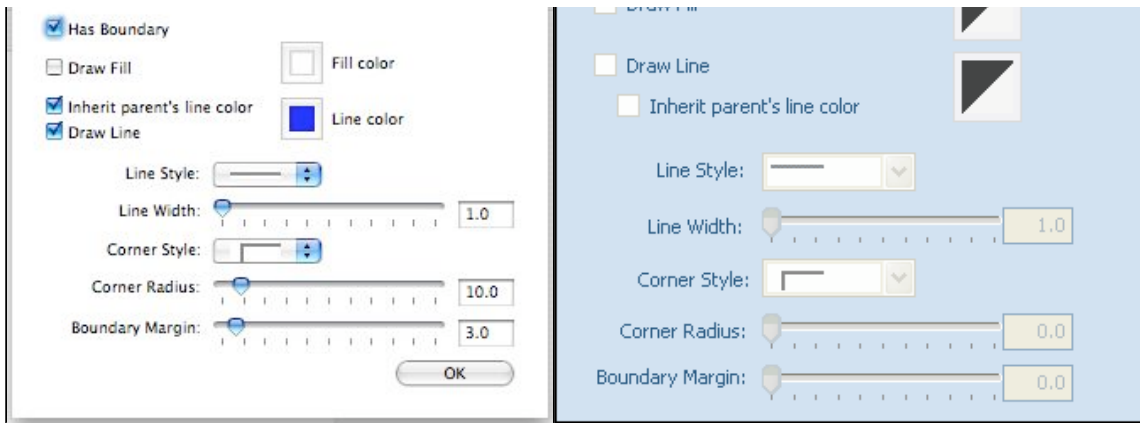
One feature of NovaMind is the ability to add boundaries to branches. Boundaries add visual grouping of branches, and can significantly improve the look and effectiveness of your Mind Maps.



Boundaries Highlight Groups of Branches

To create the boundaries, you would select the branch at the beginning of where you wanted the boundary to be (in this case, Are and Not), and then select the branch boundary from either the context menu or the branch tab of the toolbar.



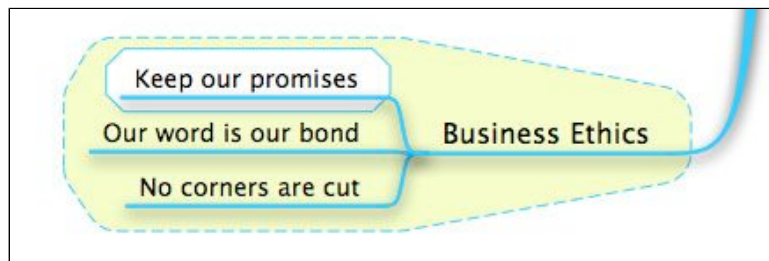


Branch Boundary Settings Panels - Mac OS X and Windows

Turn on the Has Boundary setting, and the Draw Fill checkbox. Click on the color well to bring up the color selection panel. To get good looking colors for the fill, click on the magnifying glass icon, and use it to select the branch color. Now decrease the opacity to about 10%-15% - this will make it a nice faded out version of the color which will look good. If you want a different color, I would recommend using the HSB sliders and just changing the Hue (color) while leaving the saturation and brightness where they are. This will ensure that you are working with a good looking intensity of color.

Change the line style to be a dashed line, increase the line width, choose rounded corners, and increase the radius to the maximum to get a nice curved line.

Note that you can have a boundary around branches within an existing boundary, as shown below. This boundary is set on the "Keep our promises" branch, and it has a white background and chamfered corners.

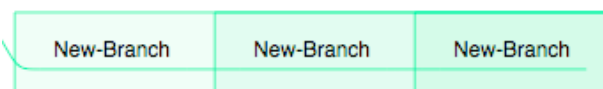


Branch Boundary within a Branch Boundary

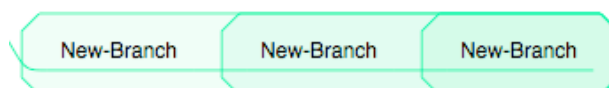
What else can I do with boundaries?

There are many creative ways you can use boundaries to bring attention to the branches - here are a dozen ideas to get you started.

Select all three branches and create the boundaries with a semi-translucent color, and you will see a darkening of the colors as you have more and more boundaries overlaid on top of each other.



The same as above, but with chamfered corners.



Useful links

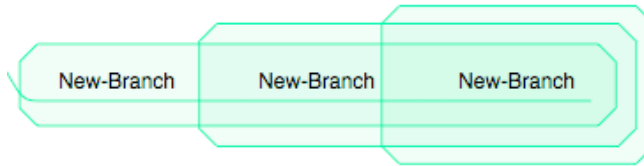


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Support

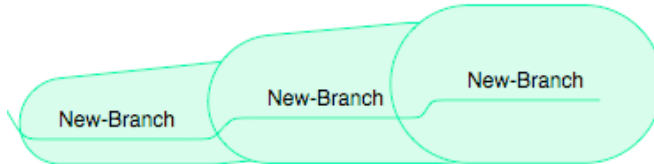
The second and third branches have increased boundary margins.



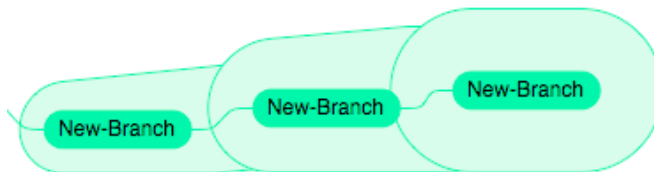
The same, but with opaque colors.



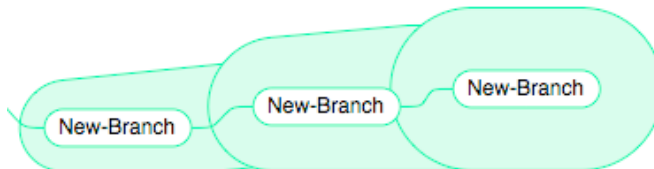
Rounded corners, and with the branches arranged so the bottom of the boundaries are aligned.



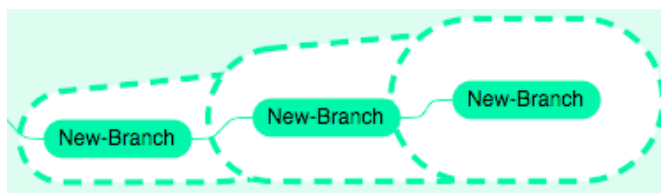
Branch shapes changed to rectangles with rounded corners to match with the boundaries.



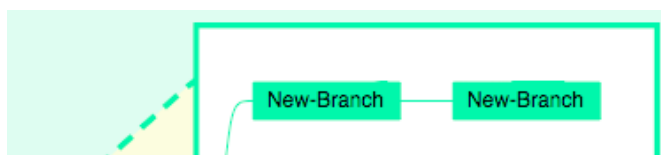
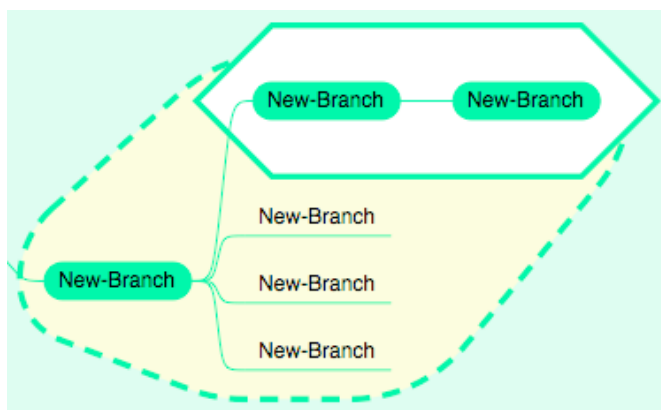
Branches filled with white for contrast.



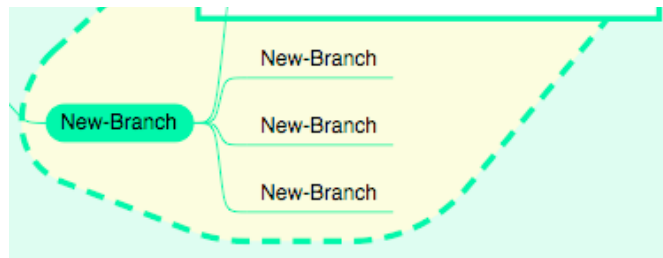
The background color of the Mind Map has been changed, and the boundary fill color has been changed to white, the line set to be dotted and thick.



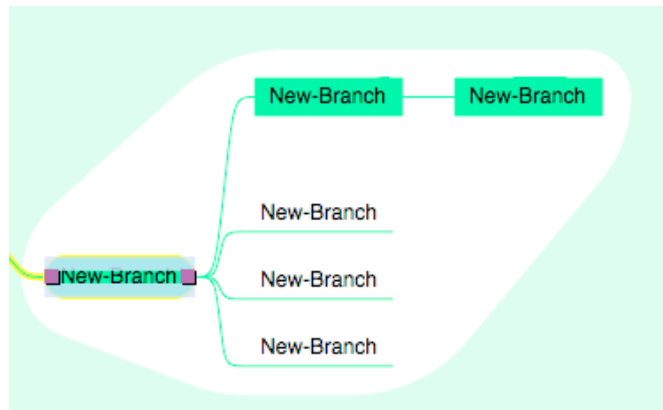
Now we have a branch with a rounded corner boundary with a dotted line, and a pale yellow fill and another branch with a white-filled chamfered corner boundary with the corner radius setting turned right up, and the boundary margin set bigger than its parent.



This is the same thing with square corners.



And here is one with the boundary area white on a colored background.



And of course there are many more things you can do by adjusting the settings, but we'll leave that up to your creativity and imagination.

Homework Exercise

Reproduce the boundary styles yourself, and come up with two other, different looks using the boundaries.

What next?

Our next email will help you turn your presentations into compelling, well structured talks which people love listening to.

Gideon King, CEO
NovaMind Software
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