

By the end of this task I should know how to...

- 1) add new nodes to change regular shapes
- 2) create curves using the node tool
- 3) change the shape of letters using nodes.


Adding Nodes to Shapes

All shapes in DrawPlus have nodes (points on the edges) when they are first drawn. For example a rectangle has four nodes.



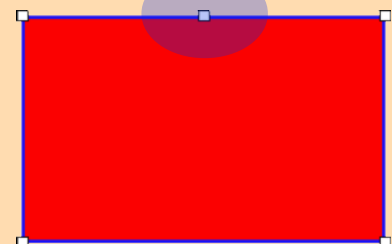
Step 1 Open a new A4, portrait drawing.

Step 2 Draw a rectangle.
Select *Convert to Curves* from the *Tools* menu.

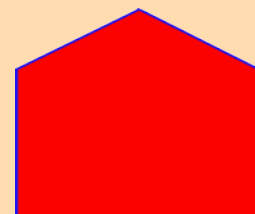
Step 3 If we add more nodes to the rectangle we can manipulate it into any shape we wish.
Click on the *node tool*  and then click in the middle of the rectangle.

Now use the node tool to click on the middle of the top line of the rectangle.

This creates an extra node.



Step 4 Use the node tool to drag the new node upwards to make a house shape.





Try - Use the node tool to add more nodes to the roof of your house. Drag the nodes to make a chimney.

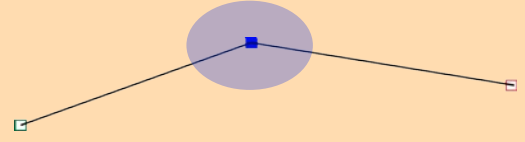
Try - Delete nodes by selecting them and pressing the delete key. Practice this with a few different shapes.



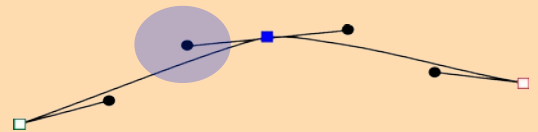
Creating Curves using the node Tool

Step 1 Use the *line tool*  to draw a straight line across the page.

Step 2 Use the *node tool*  to add an extra node half way across the line.
Pull the middle node as shown in the diagram.



Step 3 To create a curve, click on the middle node and then click on the *smart corner* icon.



The curve can be adjusted by pulling the small dots.

Try - Add more nodes to the line to create a wave.



Try - Draw some other shapes and experiment with using nodes and the corner icons on the shapes.

Using Nodes with Text

An interesting use of nodes is with text.



Step 1 Draw a large letter A (around 120pt in size)

Step 2 Select the letter with the pointer and choose *Convert to Curves* from the *Tools* menu.

Step 3 The node tool can now be used to pull the nodes around creating a different shape. You can select a group of nodes by drawing a box around them with the node tool.

Try - Create personalised initials from your first name and surname.