

# This Week's Wisdom:

## How to use the Set Target tool to create doughnuts

The Set Target command is a powerful and yet simple tool that everyone can master! It allows you to erase a portion of your map using a polygon as the eraser.

### 1. Create your shapes!

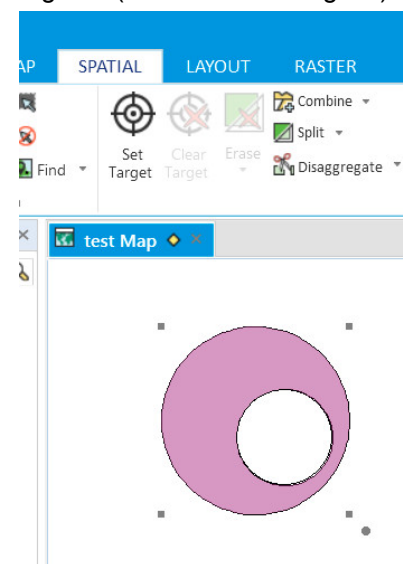
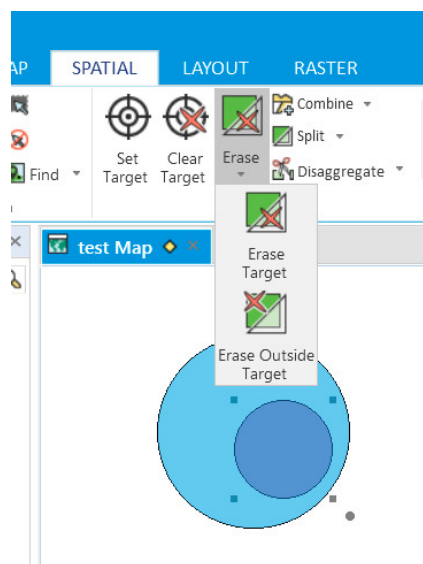
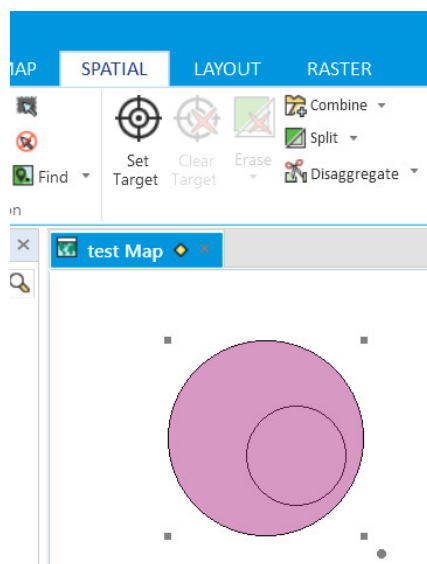
For this example, we've used a large and small circle to create a doughnut but you can use any polygon or region for this.

### 2. Set Target

Select the outer circle and click Set Target. This defines which shape you want MapInfo to take the scissors to!

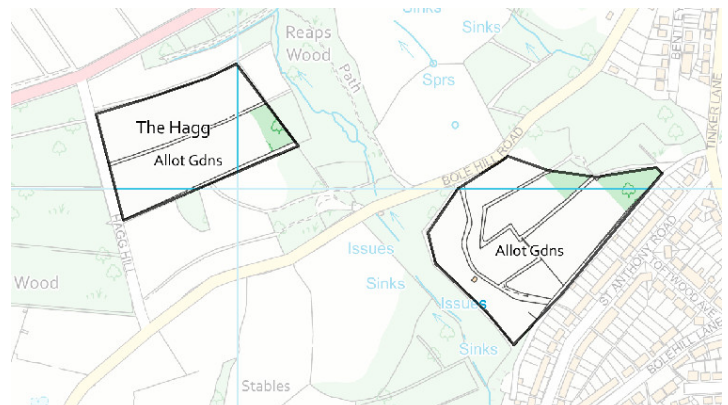
### 3. Erase Target

Select the smaller circle and click Erase > Erase Target. This erases the shape of the smaller circle from the larger circle leaving you with a doughnut (as well as the original).



### You're only limited by your imagination!

The Set Target command can be used for all sorts of map outputs, not just doughnuts (buffers!). Below left shows the area of grass on Limb Lane Sports Field that needs cutting by the council. The large box is grass used and cut by the local football club. The small region is a new tree planting scheme. Set Target proves invaluable in calculating the total area that needs cutting. Below right shows the two allotment gardens accessible from Bole Hill Road. The Set Target tool is used to create a translucent background to the rest of the map, highlighting only the areas of interest.



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