

Create layouts for displays with independently controlled zones directly from Layout Editor. Use the App to create layouts for multiple displays.

Create a Layout

To create a layout, follow these steps:

1. Go to the Layout Editor Landing. Refer to **Figure 1**.
2. Click **Add New**.
3. Click **New Layout**.
4. Type a descriptive name for the new layout. Then, select a size for the layout from the drop-down menu or enter the parameters for a custom size. Refer to **Figure 2**.
5. Click **Continue**. The layout opens with a blank workspace or canvas that represents the selected display size. Refer to **Figure 3**.

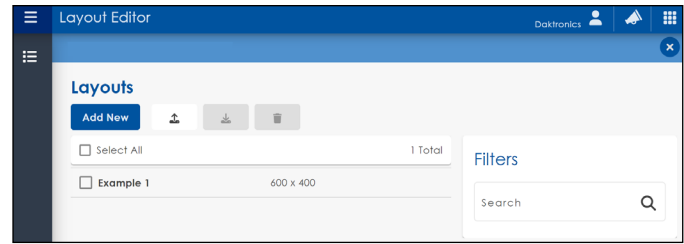


Figure 1: Layout Editor Landing

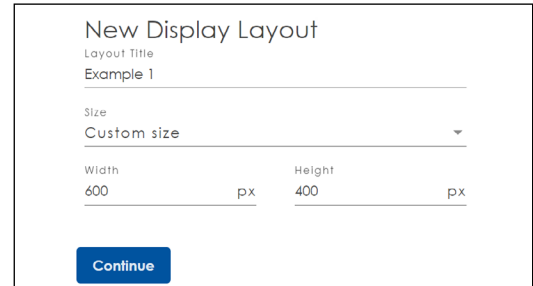


Figure 2: New Display Layout

Note: The **Properties** field contains several expandable/collapsible panels. Click the panel to show/hide information.

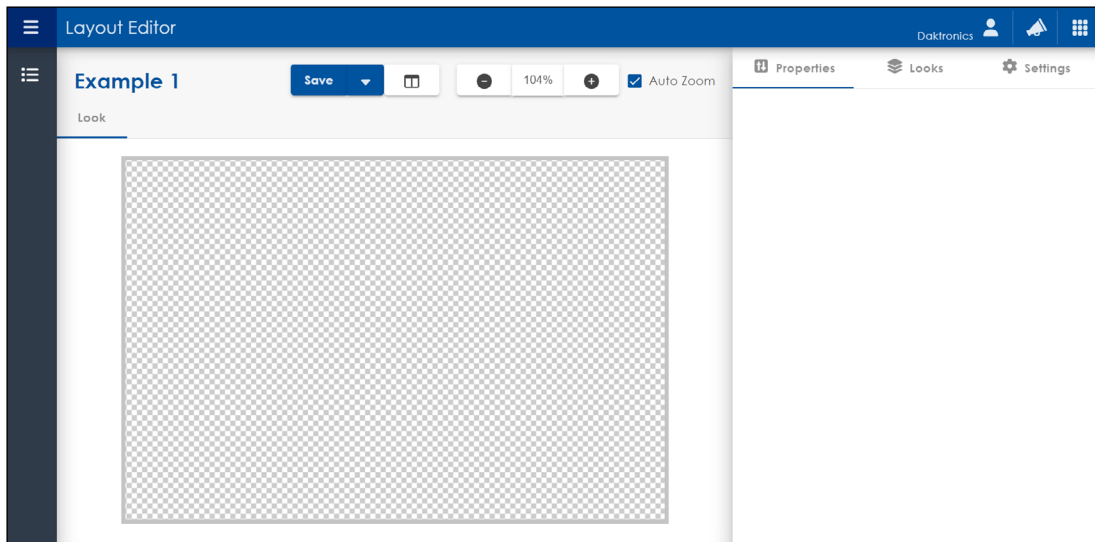



Figure 3: Layout Canvas

Add a Zone

1. Click **Add Zone**  at the top of the screen.
2. Configure the zone using the options within the **Properties** tab. Refer to **Figure 4**.

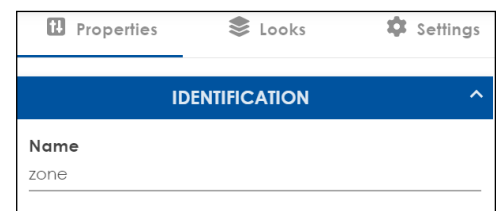


Figure 4: Add Zones

Zone Properties

1. Select the desired zone.
2. Navigate to the **Properties** tab. Refer to **Figure 5**.
3. Under the Identification property, name the zone using the **Name** field.
4. Select the preview color using the **Preview Color** drop-down menu, type a specific RGB value, select from the pallet, or allow the layout editor to automatically select a color. Preview colors help to distinguish the zones from each other.
5. Configure the zone using the options under the **Position** property. Refer to **Figure 5**.
 - a. Adjust the size of the zone in the **Width** and **Height** text boxes or use the mouse to drag the zone frame on the display canvas.
 - b. Specify the pixel position under the **Top** and **Left** text boxes, move the zone, or use the keyboard arrow keys to position the zone on the layout canvas.
 - c. To prevent the zone from losing its aspect ratio, select **Lock Aspect Ratio**. Altering a zone will now maintain its locked ratio.
 - d. To prevent gaps or overlaps between zones, select **Snap Elements**. Now clicking a zone or a corner and dragging it near the edge of another zone will snap the edges together.
 - e. Select the type of transition the zone will use with the Transition drop-down menu.
 - f. Select how the transition will ease using the Easing drop-down menu.
 - g. Determine when the animation begins using the **Delay** and the length of animation with **Duration**. Enter the desired values in the respective fields.
6. Select a fit mode under the **Content** property by using the Fit Mode drop-down menu to adjust media that does not match the zone size. Refer to **Figure 5**.
 - **Best Fit:** The content shrinks to fit in the zone and maintains aspect ratio.
 - **Scale to Fill:** One dimension of the content scales to fill the available space; extra content in the other dimension is cropped and maintains aspect ratio.
 - **Stretch:** The content fills the entire zone and ignores aspect ratio.
 - **Area Specific:** Top Left, Top Right, Bottom Left, Bottom Right, Top, Bottom, Left, Right, and Center will set the focus of the content in the respective area.

The screenshot shows the 'Properties' panel for a zone, organized into several sections:

- IDENTIFICATION:** Includes a 'Name' field (containing 'zone') and a 'Preview Color' dropdown menu.
- POSITION:** Contains fields for 'Width' (600 px), 'Height' (400 px), 'Left' (0 px), and 'Top' (0 px). It also has checkboxes for 'Lock aspect ratio' (unchecked) and 'Snap elements' (checked). Below are transition settings: 'Transition' set to 'Reposition' and 'Easing' set to 'Ease In/Out', with 'Delay' (0 ms) and 'Duration' (500 ms) fields.
- CONTENT:** Features a 'Fit Mode' dropdown menu currently set to 'Stretch'.
- OPACITY:** Includes an 'Opacity' field (100 %) and transition settings: 'Easing' set to 'Ease In/Out', 'Delay' (0 ms), and 'Duration' (500 ms).
- PLAYER:** Contains a 'PAUSE/RESUME' section with radio buttons for 'Pause', 'Resume' (selected), and 'Blank', along with a 'Delay' field (0ms).
- PROCESSOR:** Includes an 'ENABLE/DISABLE' section with radio buttons for 'Enable' (selected) and 'Disable'. It also has two transition settings, both set to 'Cut', with 'Delay' fields (0 ms).

Figure 5: Properties

7. Using the **Opacity** property, set the **Opacity** by entering the desired value, determining the animation by selecting from the **Easing** drop-down menu, and entering the desired **Delay** and **Duration**. These values will create an on screen effect where opacity is the desired outcome, the animation is how it will happen, and the duration is how long the process will take.
8. Use the **Processor** property to enable or disable the selected zone. The **Delay** and **Duration** will animate the enable/disable process. This can happen as either a cut or a fade. Refer to **Figure 5**.
9. Use the **Video Source** subsection of the **Processor** property to select a video source for a zone or switch sources from one to another. The video source can also be set up with a **Delay** and a **Duration** to animate the transition from one source to another. Refer to **Figure 5**.

Note: The video source transition only works if dynamic is selected for the resource processor.

Creating a Zone View

The zone view provides a way to show the same content in multiple locations without the need to create multiple independent zones. With zone views, users only need to schedule to one zone in a **Layout** rather than to multiple zones.

To create a zone view, follow these steps:

1. Add a zone if no zones are in the layout. Refer to **Add a Zone** (above) for more information.
2. Select the desired zone.
3. Navigate to the Looks Tab. Refer to **Figure 6**.
4. Click **+** under the **Looks** Tab for the zone. This creates a read-only view with the zone name and number in brackets. Refer to **Figure 6**. The content of this view depends on the zone during playlist creation. Views always share the width and height of the zone. If the zone parameters are changed, the view parameters are also changed.

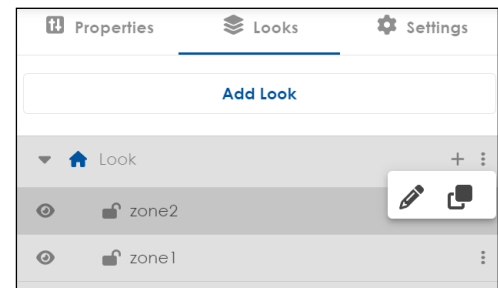


Figure 6: Layout Editor Looks Tab

Note: A zone view is not the same as a zone duplicate. A zone view is dependent on a zone while a duplicated zone is independent of the original zone. Refer to **Duplicate a Zone** below for more information.

Manage Zone Order

The zone order for the current layout is listed under the **Looks** Tab. Zone order determines if a zone appears in front or back of another zone. It starts at the top (front) and works its way down to the bottom (back) of the list. Drag and drop the zones, views, and looks into the desired order.

As a new zone is added to the layout, it is listed at the top of the **Zone Order**. Rearrange the zones in the list to reorder the zones in the layout. Refer to the example in **Figure 7**.

Note: The default look is always marked with and can be altered by selecting a different look and clicking .

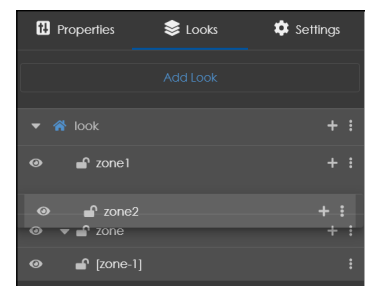




Figure 7: Zone Order


Duplicate a Zone

To reduce the amount of time required to create a layout with similar zones, follow these steps:

1. Click **Duplicate**  by the zone listed in the Looks Tab.
2. Modify the duplicated zone as needed.

Note: Duplicate any zone as needed to maintain properties. Rename the duplicated zones with a unique name before saving the layout by clicking .

Deleting a Look, Zone, or View

1. Navigate to the Looks Tab.
2. Select the desired Look or Zone.
3. Click **Delete** .

Edit and Save a Layout

1. Click the desired layout from the Layouts List on the Layouts Landing Page. Refer to **Figure 1**.
2. Make any necessary or desired edits. For example, click the layout name and type the new name in the text box to edit the name of a layout.
3. Click **Save** or **Save As** from the **Save** drop-down list. Refer to **Figure 8**.

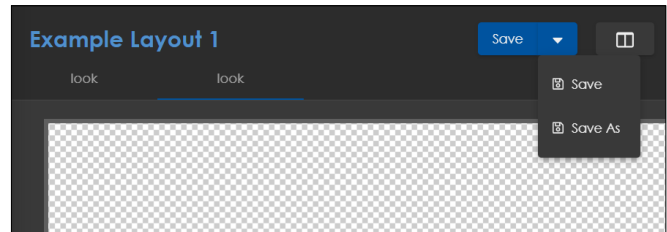




Figure 8: Save a Layout


Import a Layout

1. Navigate to Layouts Landing Page. Refer to **Figure 1**.
2. Click .
3. Select the applicable file from the explorer.
4. The playlist will populate the landing page.

Export a Layout

1. Navigate to Layouts Landing Page. Refer to **Figure 1**.
2. Select the desired Layout(s) from the list.
3. Click .
4. The playlist(s) will export as a .zip file.

Delete a Layout

1. Navigate to the Layouts Landing Page.
2. Select the desired playlist(s).
3. Click .

Monitor a Zone

The zone monitor provides a view of a zone associated with a display from the **Dashboard**. This feature is available only after creating a layout and associating it with a display.

- **Monitor a zone:** Select a zone to monitor from the display tile. The display tile shows content playing in that zone. Refer to **Figure 9**.

Note: If a display does not have a layout, this option is not available.

- **Monitor multiple zones:** Open another Venus® Control Suite browser tab/window, and then select the zone to monitor. Each display tile shows content playing in each zone.
- **Monitor Emergency Alerts on zoned displays:** When an Emergency Alert is active, the alert becomes the active view on the display tile with the content of the alert showing.

Note: When the **Dashboard** contains more than 10 displays, AMBER Alerts do not show unless the **Dashboard** is filtered down to 10 or fewer.

Manage a Layout

Create a Layout describes how to associate a layout with a display from the **Display** menu before using it in a playlist.

Note: Users cannot delete a layout that is associated with a display or unassociate a layout if content is scheduled to that layout.

Manage Displays/Zones in a Playlist describes how these layouts are accessible from any associated display under **Playlists** and can be targeted from the playlist.

Note: Users cannot rename a zone that is already associated with a playlist.



Figure 9: Zone Monitor—AMBER Alerts