



FortiPlanner Quick Start Guide

for FortiPlanner v1.1

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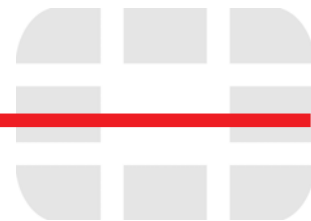
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for FortiPlanner v1.1

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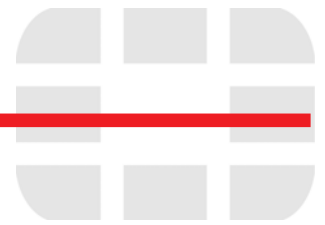
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Contents

Using the FortiPlanner Tool	5
Overview	5
Importing a floor plan	5
Setting the drawing scale	6
Drawing the walls and other structures	7
Selecting WiFi applications and AP type	8
Autoplacing APs	9
Making adjustments by moving APs (optional)	10
Viewing the Analysis	11
Generating site reports	12



Using the FortiPlanner Tool

FortiPlanner, Fortinet's WiFi Site Manager, is a tool that helps you to plan the placement of FortiAP wireless access points (AP) on your premises. By following the instructions in this guide, you will be able to complete a simple WiFi site plan for FortiAP access points in 10 minutes or less on average. Please note that to use the planning tool you are required to register the application with Fortinet. By registering, you will benefit from the full power of this free application and also receive automatic updates in the future.

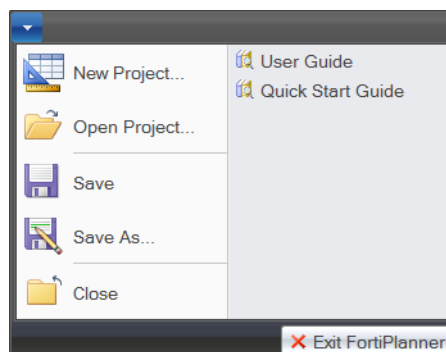
Overview

Starting with a floor plan of the area that you want to cover with your wireless network, the planning tool provides a color-shaded image predicting the expected signal strength throughout the coverage area. Using the FortiPlanner tool, you can try out different placements of wireless access points prior to installation on the premises. The FortiPlanner is designed around the following workflow:

- 1 Import a floor plan of your building that requires wireless coverage.
- 2 Set the drawing scale.
- 3 Draw the walls and other structures that may impede wireless signals.
- 4 Select WiFi applications and Access Point type.
- 5 Autoplace APs.
- 6 Make adjustments by moving APs, and adding additional APs manually (optional).
- 7 Run Analysis (optional).
- 8 Generate site report.

Importing a floor plan

From the menu in the upper left corner of the FortiPlanner window, you can start a new project or open an existing one that you have previously saved.

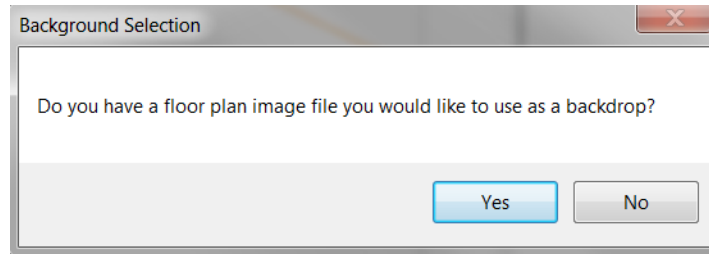


The floor plan shows not only the shape of the rooms in the coverage area, but also the materials from which they are constructed. Different materials absorb, refract, and reflect radio waves to different degrees. The planning tool takes this into account when predicting the coverage you can expect from a particular placement of wireless access points.

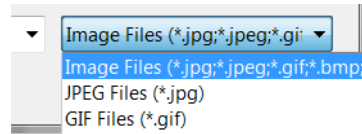
You can use the Floor Plan Form as a blank canvas to draw your plan, or you can import a line drawing image of a floor plan and use it as a guide as you draw walls, doors, windows, and so on, carefully selecting the material types from which they are constructed.

To import a floor plan

- 1 Select *New Project*.
- 2 Answer Yes to the following question:



- 3 You will then be prompted to select a file for import. File types that are supported are: jpg, gif, bmp, png, tif, tiff, wmf, emf.

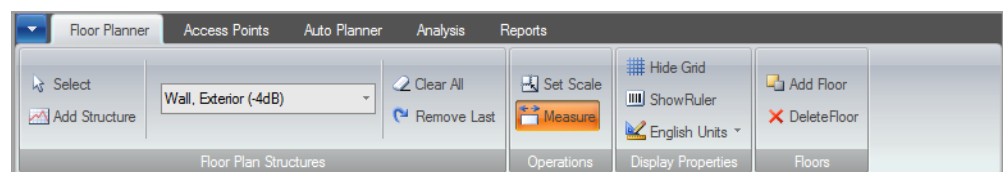


If you have a floor plan in the PDF format, you may use a variety of ways to convert it to one of the supported images. A free online tool is available at <http://www.convertpdfimage.com/>.

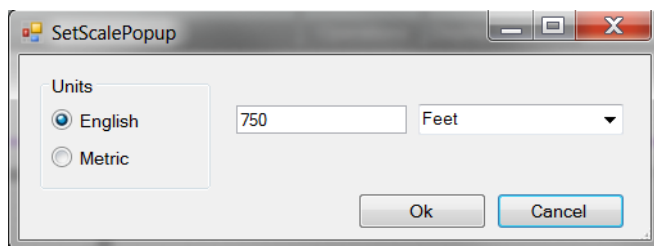
To use this tool, you need to upload the PDF file using the browser window. The converted file can be saved to your computer for use with FortiPlanner. Multi-page PDF files will generate one image file per page that you can save individually.

Setting the drawing scale

On the *Floor Planner* tab, you can set the scale and measure a particular area. Before you set the scale, determine the measurement units. You can choose either English or Metric units.



After selecting the measurement unit in *Display Properties*, select *Set Scale* in *Operations* and use the mouse to mark the beginning and end of a line to use as a reference. Specify the length of the line in the *SetScalePopup* box that opens on the screen.

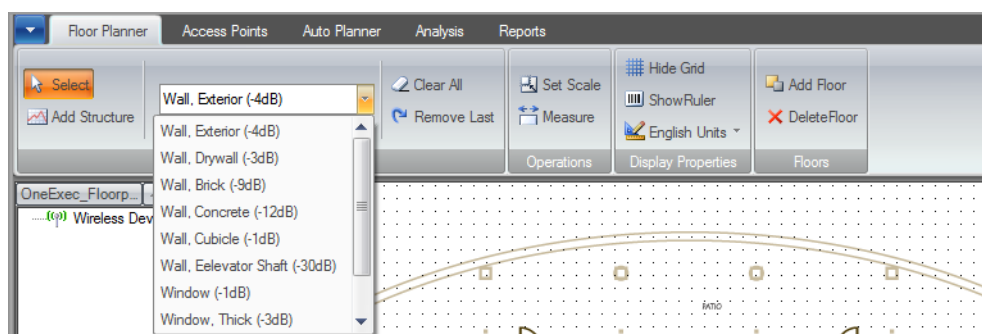


Drawing the walls and other structures

With a floor plan imported and the drawing scale set, you are ready to draw the walls and other structures that may impede wireless signals.

To draw walls and other structures

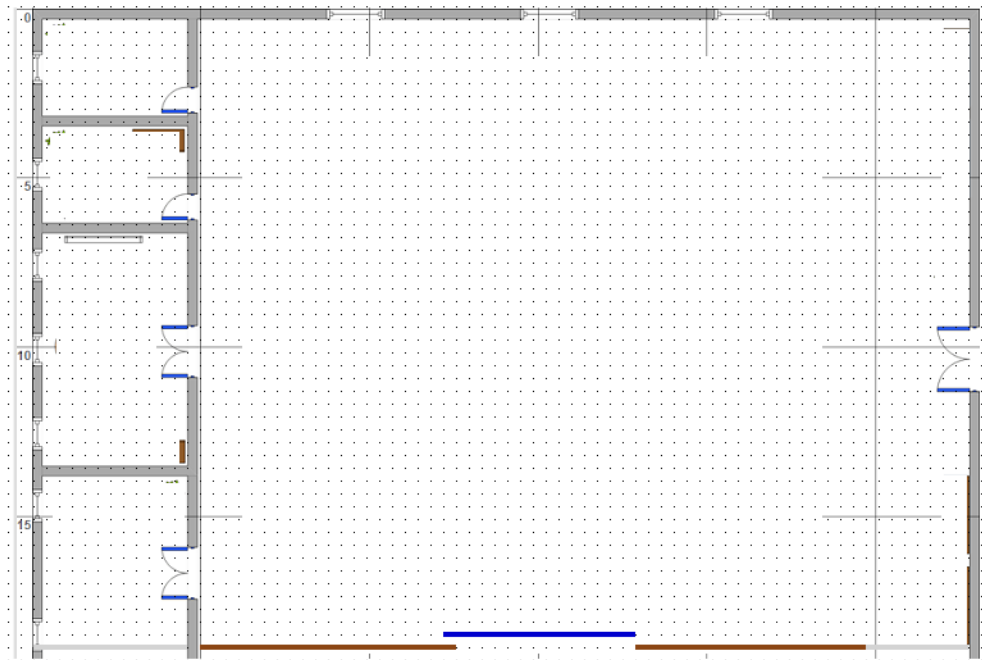
- 1 Select *Add Structure* to create a new, blank floor plan.
- 2 Select the material type for walls, windows and doors



- 3 Place the cursor, drag the mouse and release the button to draw a straight line segment, such as a wall.
- 4 Repeat the last step until you have drawn or retraced all the structural elements of the floor plan with the appropriate building materials.

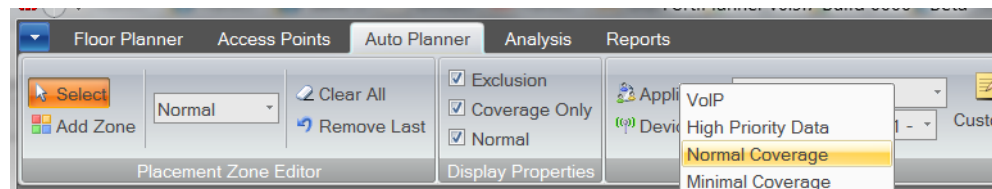
Once the drawing is completed, you will be able to use the data to predict WiFi coverage. If you make a mistake in the process, select *Remove Last* to return to the previous state. Select *Save* from menu in the upper left corner of the FortiPlanner window to archive this plan.

Figure 1: Example of a floor plan with walls and doors added

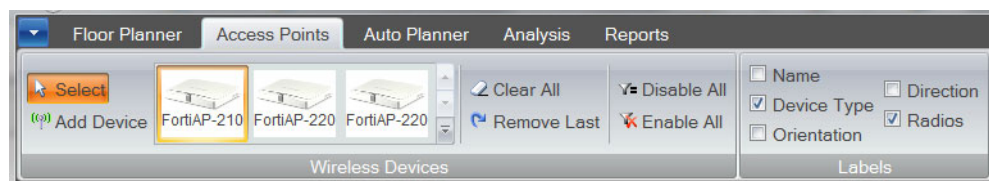


Selecting WiFi applications and AP type

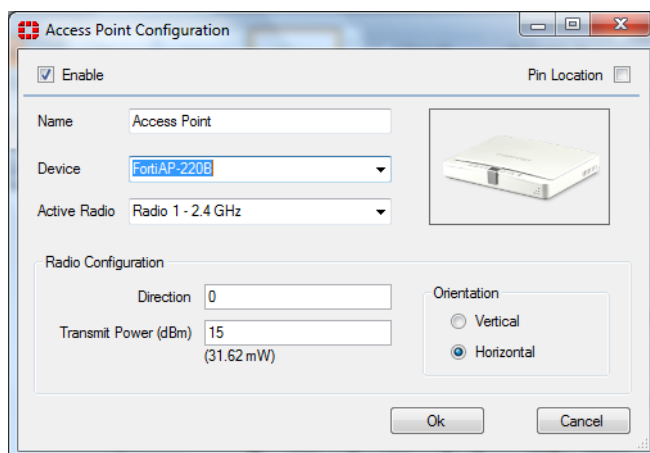
- 1 On the *Auto Planner* tab, select the application type for your WiFi network.



- 2 On the *Access Points* tab, select the AP model that is suitable for your deployment and intended application.

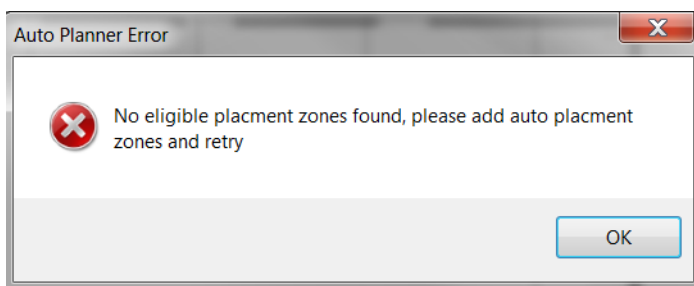


- 3 You can specify the AP's orientation and radio types by selecting *Edit Device*.

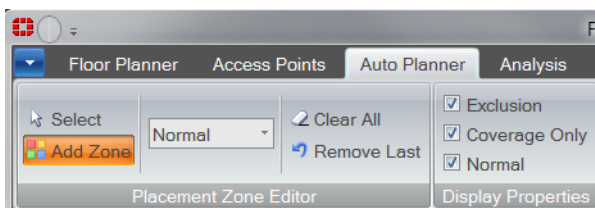


Autoplacing APs

Before you can place the access points, you need to define the coverage zone. If you have not done so, you will receive the following popup message:

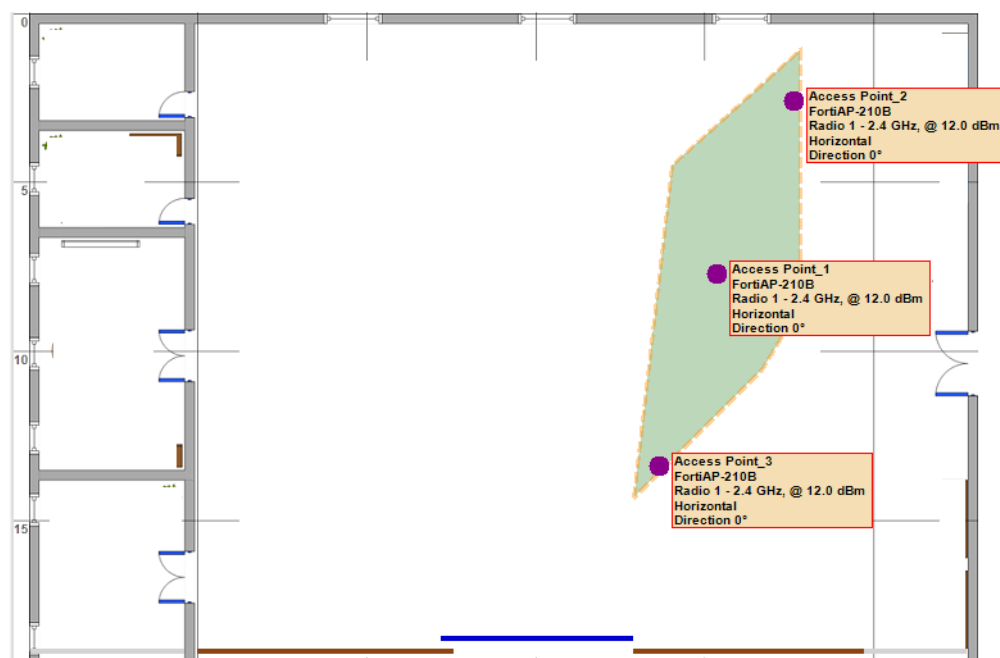


Select *Add Zone* and use your mouse to specify WiFi coverage areas. Click when you want to change the direction of the line. When you have defined a closed area, right-click to stop drawing.

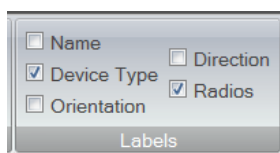


You can now select *Place Access Points!* on the *Auto Planner* tab to generate the AP deployment map.

Figure 2: Example result of AP autoplacement



You can select the types of information displayed for each AP in *Labels* on the *Access Points* tab:



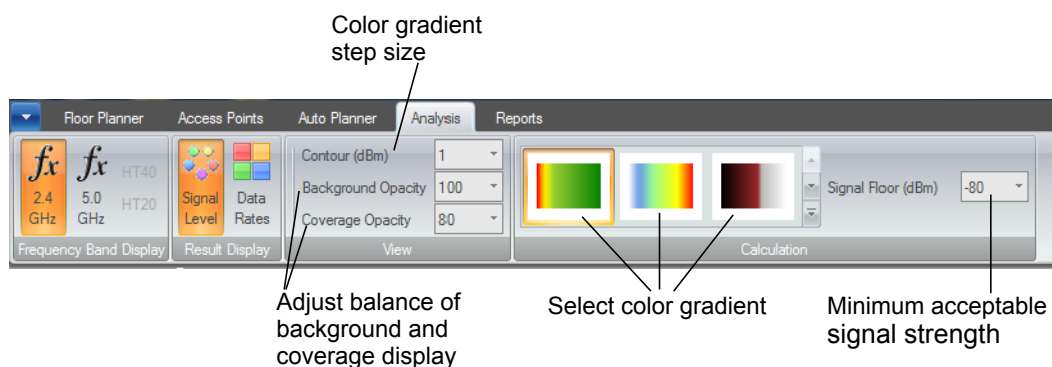
Making adjustments by moving APs (optional)

Whether you used auto placement or manual placement of APs, you can drag APs to change their position. The analysis automatically updates to show the effect of the change.

When you have decided the final position for an AP, you can select *Pin Location* in the AP's configuration to prevent the AP from being moved again.

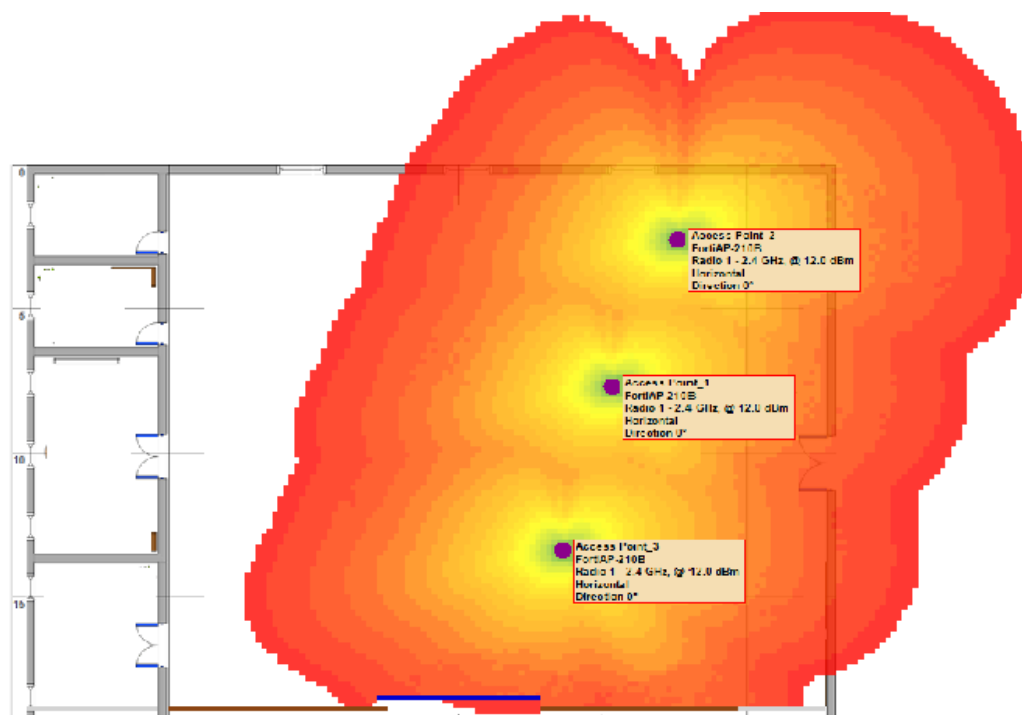
Viewing the Analysis

On the Analysis tab, you are able to see the impact of variable changes such as signal strength on WiFi coverage.



The color gradient provides a visual indication of varying signal strength or data rate over the coverage area. You can click anywhere on the analysis plot to show the predicted signal strength or data rate at that specific location.

Figure 3: Example propagation analysis result



Generating site reports

Under the Reports category, you can generate detailed reports based on your floor plan, AP placement and WiFi coverage.

