Urban Spaces, a visualization tool for urban design, transforms raster-based geographical information system (GIS) maps of urban spaces into three-dimensional Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML) images to be viewed and shared on the Web.

The designer selects a category of urban feature-for example, road, water, open space or building blocks-from the legend palette, and draws it onto the map. On demand, the program will generate a three-dimensional view of the urban design, replacing the simple raster map with three-dimensional objects. This tool provides a quick 3D feedback from 2D maps of urban areas.