GETTING GRAPHIC*

*A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO FREE ART TOOLS

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DESIGN TEMPLATES



High quality design suggests high quality content. Whether you're working on an inclass presentation or a brochure, use these programs to give it some flair with ease and efficiency.

DIFFICULTY: **

SUGGESTED TOOLS: [2]

Sketch: built for macOS **Vectr:** cross-platform and easy to jump into

TYPOGRAPHY

Make your logo or resume stand out with the right font! Typefaces are a subtly powerful way to communicate the vibe you bring to a potential customer or employer.

DIFFICULTY: *

SUGGESTED TOOLS

Adobe Color: easy to use, scheme-heavy W3 School: best with text and other options

SUGGESTED TOOLS:

Canva: beginner-friendly and collaborative Adobe Spark: interfaces with the Adobe suite

VECTOR IMAGING

Did you know there are images that don't get blurry when you make them bigger? Fewer programs can handle these vector image formats (svg, cgm, eps, xml) but these two can get you started.

DIFFICULTY: **

SUGGESTED TOOLS: AAT

Adobe Fonts: to use with the Adobe suite Google Fonts: good for websites & Drive files

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COLOR MINI

Color affects our psyche in a way we don't quite understand. Experiment with different schemes and saturations before you commit to them with these tools.

DIFFICULTY: *

ANIMATION

Been dreaming up a stellar animated short? Bring to life in two or three dimensions with these free animation tools.

DIFFICULTY: ***

SUGGESTED TOOLS:

Open Toonz: a digital 2D animator **Blender:** a comprehensive 3D animator

SUGGESTED TOOLS:



Inkscape: features to fit your experience level Krita: more resources, steeper learning curve

DIGITAL CANVAS

Are you an in-class doodle-r or a weekend painter? Try sketching in the digital world with these free tools to make art you can easily change or distribute.

DIFFICULTY: ***

PROTOTYPING

Have a clear idea of what an app or website will look like in your head, but get stuck explaining it to someone else? Build a mock-up with these tools to demonstrate to someone that your concept is worth building out for-real.

DIFFICULTY: **

SUGGESTED TOOLS:



Figma: offline features also available Adobe XD: integrate with Adobe suite

IMAGE RESOURCES

Sick of cheesy stock photos? Browse these banks of photos and illustrations to speed things along and produce a better end result.

DIFFICULTY:

SUGGESTED TOOLS:

FreePik: images, illustrations, and templates Ouch: emphasis on illustrations