

# The Video and Graphics Directory

*A Host of Tried, Tested and FREE Resources to  
Make Life a Whole Lot Easier*

Version 1.1

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### **Welcome!**

**Welcome to the Video and Graphics Directory.**

**Here you will find a whole host of tried and tested online resources that will make the job of creating videos and images a whole lot easier.**

**And best of all, they are all free.**

**The resources are listed in alphabetical order within broad categories for convenience. Note that some of the resources may apply to more than one category.**

**Please note that Internet websites (especially free ones) come and go all of the time and so we cannot guarantee that the resources listed will still be there and/or in the same form when you visit.**

**Also note that you must always do your own due diligence regarding licence terms for any work or resource that you use. Licence terms may change without notice and it is your responsibility to ensure you are compliant.**

**I hope you will find this directory very useful. Without further ado, let's dive in!**

### Stock Footage

#### Archive.org

[https://archive.org/details/stock\\_footage](https://archive.org/details/stock_footage)

Archive.org has been a digital repository for all sorts of digital media since the mid-1990's. In particular, it houses more than 2,000 films from the 'Prelinger Archive'. This collection is full of Americana, including commercials, home movies and even complete B-movies. Many of the films are in the public domain and so free to use however you want, but do check the licence terms before you use them.

#### Detonation Films

[http://www.detonationfilms.com/Stock\\_Directory.html](http://www.detonationfilms.com/Stock_Directory.html)

If you are looking for video clips of all sorts of explosions, fireballs, muzzle flashes and gun effects, this is the place to come. Most of the videos are 4x3 (standard definition) but they could easily be integrated into a HD frame. The terms of use are that you can do pretty much anything with these clips short of reselling them in any form as clips.

#### iMovies Archive

<http://imovies.blogspot.co.uk/>

iMovies pulls into one place a number of the most iconic public domain films for you to download. There are some real classics here from a variety of genres, including Metropolis, Nosferatu and House on Haunted Hill.

#### Movie Tools

<http://www.movietools.info/>

Movie Tools offers a whole host of free background, intro and closing video loops covering all sorts of genres.

#### Videvo

<http://www.videvo.net/>

Videvo is a great resource for free HD stock video and motion graphics. It's updated with new content every day and all of its videos are full HD and free for both personal and commercial use.

### **Wikimedia**

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Videos>

This is similar to Archive.org, with an online library of open source sounds, videos, photos and other media. The site has a large selection of video clips covering a wide range of subject matter but the search function is somewhat limited so you may have to dig a bit to find what you are after.

### **X Stock Video**

<http://www.xstockvideo.com/#>

X Stock Video offers a wealth of HD clips for a free site. The downside is that it is fairly poorly organised so use the search facility to find what you are looking for. Also read the licence terms. Broadly, you are allowed to use clips in any way, including on YouTube, so long as ads are not being shown at the same time.

### 3D Creation

#### Blender

<http://www.blender.org/download/>

If you're serious about 3D but struggling to afford software, then you're in luck. Blender is a free, open source 3D content creation suite, available for all major operating systems. Blender is now largest open source tool for 3D creation. Its makers are constantly working on its development, but you can pretty much do anything 3D related with this software, including modelling, texturing, animation, rendering and compositing.

#### Daz Studio

<http://www.daz3d.com/products/daz-studio/daz-studio-what-is-daz-studio>

Daz Studio is a 3D-figure customisation, posing and animation tool that enables artists of all skill levels to creating digital art using virtual people, animals, props, vehicles, accessories and environments. With Daz Studio, you can create custom 3D characters and avatars, design virtual environments, produce graphic design elements and much more. The latest version of Daz Studio 4.5 normally retails at \$249 but is currently available to download free of charge.

#### Houdini Apprentice

[http://www.sidefx.com/index.php?option=com\\_download&task=apprentice&Itemid=208](http://www.sidefx.com/index.php?option=com_download&task=apprentice&Itemid=208)

Houdini is a 3D animation and visual effects tool, used widely throughout the media industry for film, broadcast, entertainment and visualisation. And its cheapest version costs just a little under \$2,000. However, they offer an Apprentice version for free. With this you can access all of the features of the full version in order to develop your skills in the software and work on personal projects. The programme is purely for use non-commercial and learning purposes.

#### Sculptris

<http://www.pixologic.com/sculptris/>

If you're interested in the art of digital sculpting, check out 3D software Sculptris, from Pixologic. Perfect for all skill levels, the software is a great starting point for users new to the discipline and more experienced CG artists will find the software a quick and easy way to realise concepts.

### Photography

#### Darktable

<http://www.darktable.org/>

Darktable is open source photography workflow software with a virtual light table and darkroom, non-destructive editing, crop and rotate, base curve, exposure controls, highlight reconstruction, white balance, temperature and more. If you're looking for an outstanding tool to bring professional quality to your photos, Darktable is what you need.



### Vector Art

#### Designious

<http://www.designious.com/>

Lots of vector images, Photoshop brushes, T-shirt designs, etc including some good free vectors for personal and commercial use.

#### SVG-Edit

<http://svg-edit.googlecode.com/svn/branches/2.5.1/editor/svg-editor.html>

SVG is the file extension used to denote vector graphics files.

If you're looking to quickly output SVG, or edit an existing SVG file, this is a good option. The standard, albeit basic, tool set of every vector-image editor is here and although it's limited to the SVG format it's surprisingly capable.

#### VectorFinder

<http://www.vectorfinder.com/>

Need a particular vector image? Use this web page to search the most popular stock sites from one central location.

### Infographics & Charts

#### Easel.ly

<http://www.easel.ly/>

This free web-based infographic tool offers you a dozen free templates to start you off, which are easily customisable. You get access to a library of things like arrows, shapes and connector lines and you can customise the text with range of fonts, colours, text styles and sizes. The tool also lets you upload your graphics and position them with one touch.

#### Google Charts

<https://developers.google.com/chart/>

Google chart tools are powerful, simple to use and free. You can choose from a variety of charts and configure an extensive set of options to get exactly the look and feel that you want. In short, Google Charts is an excellent infographic generator.

#### Infogr.am

<http://infogr.am/>

Infogr.am is a great free tool that offers access to a wide variety of graphs, charts and maps as well as the ability to upload pictures and videos to create infographics. It has an intuitive Excel-like interface.

#### Vizual.ly

<http://visual.ly/>

Visual.ly is a community platform for data visualisation and infographics. It allows you both to create infographics and share them on social media. The website also offers a matchmaking service between clients and designers.

### Web Design

#### Expression Web 4

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=36179>

Expression Web is a full-featured professional tool for designing, developing, and publishing compelling, feature-rich websites that conform to web standards.

If you're a PC user, you can download the software free of charge. There's no tech support available for free downloads but it's a pretty powerful alternative web design package to the likes of Dreamweaver that won't cost you a penny.

### Fonts

#### Fontforge

<http://fontforge.org/>

Fontforge is an outline font editor that lets you create fonts. You can even edit existing fonts and convert fonts from one format to another.

#### Google Fonts

<http://www.google.com/fonts/>

Google Fonts recently did a deal with font service Monotype to make its free fonts available for desktop use. Monotype's SkyFonts software is normally used to rent commercial fonts for short-term use. The deal means you can access desktop versions of hundreds of Google Fonts previously only available for use as web fonts.

### Graphic Design

#### **GIMP**

<http://www.gimp.org/>

Open-source free graphic design software that debuted on Unix-based platforms, GIMP stands for GNU Image Manipulation Program. Today it's available in versions for Linux, Windows, and Mac.

GIMP's interface differs somewhat from Photoshop, but a version of GIMP is available that mimics Adobe's look and feel. The full suite of tools is available here including painting tools, colour correction, cloning, selection, and enhancement.

#### **Inkscape**

<http://inkscape.org/en/>

As with many of the free options available, Inkscape focuses on the SVG format as its primary file format. This highly capable editor has a very good SVG integration.

This is a viable alternative to Illustrator for both print and web design, and although the interface is somewhat simpler than Illustrator, it's still possible to achieve extremely sophisticated artwork.

#### **Paint.net**

<http://www.getpaint.net/>

Paint.net is a Windows-based alternative to the Paint editor that Microsoft shipped with versions of Windows. Don't let that put you off, though, as it's surprisingly capable, useful and free graphics design software.

The focus is on ease of use, and there's a definite tendency towards photo editing rather than artistic creation. That said, there are a range of special effects available, allowing you to easily create fake perspective, blend and push pixels around the canvas, tile and repeat selections, and so on.

#### **Phatch**

<http://photobatch.stani.be/>

Phatch does batch editing on digital images. But it's much more than that. You can create a set of actions to run on a folder of images, including colour to alpha, contour, desaturate, crop, grid, invert, mask, mirror, perspective and much more).

### **Pixlr**

<http://pixlr.com/>

Pixlr claims to be "the most popular online photo editor in the world", which may have something to do with the fact that it's free graphic design software. However, it boasts more than 600 effects, overlays and borders and lets you do all the main things you'd expect from a photo editor, from cropping and re-sizing to removing red-eye and whitening teeth. The interface is very similar to Photoshop.

### **Serif DrawPlus Starter Edition**

<http://www.serif.com/free-graphic-design-software/>

The free version of DrawPlus is surprisingly capable, with much of the functionality of Illustrator. Especially noteworthy are its 3D capabilities, which are easier to use than Adobe's.

### **Sumopaint**

<http://www.sumopaint.com/www/>

Sumopaint is a highly capable browser-based image editor. All the standard features you'd expect from a desktop tool are present and correct (and by buying the Pro version for \$19 you can install a desktop version of the app if you prefer).

The standard range of tools and adjustments you'd expect are all included. Brushes, pencils, shapes, text, cloning, gradients, etc are all quickly accessed from the floating toolbar. It can also open saved documents from your hard drive, making Sumopaint a perfectly viable option for editing and reediting.

### Image & Video Capture

#### Jing

<http://www.techsmith.com/jing.html>

Jing is an online service that lets you capture basic video, animation and still images and share them on the web.

Jing allows you to capture what you see on your computer screen. You simply select any region that you want to capture and Jing creates and image of it.

You can also select a region of the screen and have Jing record everything that happens in that area, up to 5 minutes.

### Presentation Software

#### Prezi

<http://prezi.com/>

Prezi is a stylish online presentation creation tool that lets you use images, videos, objects or simple text and animate them using a wide range of effects. It supports all the major mobile and desktop platforms and allows you to run your presentations as executable files as well.



### Music

#### Incompetech

<http://www.Incompetech.com>

This is an excellent source of free music from composer Kevin MacLeod. The tracks are conveniently split into categories according to genre or 'mood'. So, if you want, for example, a comedy track, it's easy to find.

You can use the music for any purpose, including commercial, but you do have to include a credit in the form shown in the FAQ section of the site.

### Miscellaneous

#### Google Colour Scheme Generator

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wano.schemer>

If you need to develop a solid colour scheme, this is a useful tool. It works by scanning an image and then generating a colour scheme to match the pallet of the image.

#### Gpick

<https://code.google.com/p/gpick/>

Gpick from Google is there when you simply need to know various values of a colour. If you're looking for a tool that will help you pick a colour (and see its various values), Gpick is an outstanding choice.

#### Online Convert

<http://www.online-convert.com/>

This is a great free website for converting all sorts of files from one format to another.

There are options to convert audio, video, images, documents and ebooks. You simply select the format you want to convert too, upload your file and click 'Convert File'.