

SHARING & SELLING

PICARTO (STREAMING)

Picarto is a streaming service dedicated to artists who share their art creations live. It allows viewers to chat with the artist as they work.

TWITCH (STREAMING)

Twitch is a popular streaming service primarily for gamers though it does have the “IRL” category with “Art” and “Makers & Crafting” subcategories.

DEVIANTART (GALLERY)

DeviantArt is a gallery-based art hosting website where artists have been sharing their art for decades. It’s free to use and even has a print selling option for artists who wish to sell their work.

ARTSTATION (GALLERY)

ArtStation is a competitor to DeviantArt and appeals to the more professional side of the industry. For those looking to use it as a portfolio, ArtStation is arguably the better option of the two.

PATREON (BUSINESS)

Patreon offers creatives the opportunity to have patrons who fund their endeavors with a monthly income.

LEARNING

LINKEDIN LEARNING

All library customers at L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library have access to LinkedIn Learning, an online resource for classes of all kinds. Digital art classes can be taken online and at your own pace.

YOUTUBE

Youtube has an abundance of tutorials for all of the software listed here. Here’s a list of a few well-known Youtubers who have quality videos.

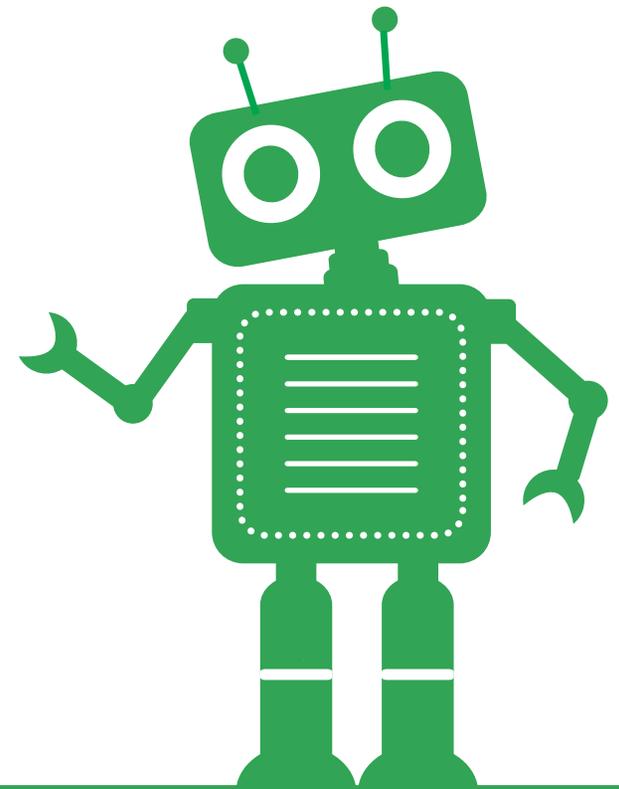
- Sara Tepes
- GDQuest
- Ctrl+Paint
- David Revoy
- Logos by Nick
- shmoggo



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DABBLE BOX

BASICS

Digital Art

WHAT IS DIGITAL ART?

Digital art is a broad term that includes everything from professional work seen in movies, video games, illustrations, and advertising, to personal endeavors such as digital drawing/painting, 3D modeling, etc. It's a constantly growing and changing field.

This brochure should help guide you to available library resources as well as some free and low-cost software to help you begin exploring the world of digital art. These applications update frequently and are always prone to changes from what you may read here, including both price and feature changes.

RASTER VS. VECTOR

Graphics can be categorized as vector or raster graphics. The most common graphic format is raster like photos or paintings. Raster uses colored pixels to display an image with a specific resolution. Vector graphics use mathematics instead of pixels and are useful in advertising and applications where resizing is required, but are limited to simpler graphics like logos or text.

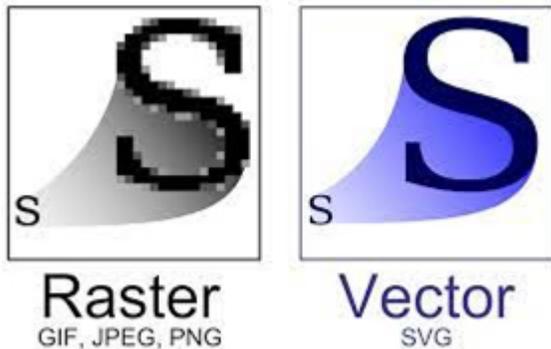


Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

For 3D modeling and printing resources and tips, see Dabble Box Basics: 3D Modeling & Printing.

FREE DIGITAL ART SOFTWARE

In the complicated world of digital art there are many free applications in which the budding artist can dip their toes. You can try any of the following titles for free and for both personal or commercial use. All of the software listed here works well with most digital drawing pads and pen pressure.

KRITA (RASTER)

Krita is one of the more powerful open-source tools available for artists. It requires a decent computer for a smooth experience. Krita is versatile for most forms of digital art.

GIMP (RASTER)

Gimp is an open-source alternative to Photoshop. It is primarily for photo editing but has many add-ons that provide various brushes and tools for painting and drawing. Pen pressure must be turned on in the brush settings and it can be finicky.

INKSCAPE (VECTOR)

Inkscape is the premier, really the only, open-source vector graphic alternative to Adobe Illustrator. It's able to open the .ai Illustrator files and provides near equal functionality.

MEDIBANG PAINT PRO (RASTER)

Unlike the previous open-source options, MediBang is freeware rather than open source. MediBang has a convenient feature that provides users with access to an account where their work may be saved online and accessed from other devices. MediBang also allows users to sell their work, primarily manga, through their store, ARTstreet.

ARTWEAVER 7 (RASTER) – BASIC FREE, PLUS \$40

Artweaver 7 is a commercial software that provides a free version with most of its features available without cost. For extended file format support, PSD, or a wider selection of brushes, you will need to upgrade to the pro version.

LOST-COST SOFTWARE

These options are not free but are significantly lower in cost than the industry standards which generally run hundreds of dollars per license, like Adobe Photoshop or Corel Painter.

CLIP STUDIO PAINT (RASTER) – \$50

Clip Studio Paint is a popular software used primarily for comic and manga drawing. There is a plethora of tutorials to teach how to use it available online.

PAINT TOOL SAI 2 (RASTER) – ~\$51

Paint Tool SAI has been around for decades. It has low system requirements and will run on nearly anything. It provides artists with a high quality experience, easy-to-navigate menus, and plenty of brushes and tools.

ARTRAGE (RASTER) – \$80

ArtRage is a little different than the rest of the options listed because it's more of a simulator than anything. For example, you can take a digital canvas, paint on it with a simulated watercolor brush and see the effects of it soaking in and even drying.

AFFINITY DESIGNER (VECTOR) – \$50

AFFINITY PHOTO (RASTER) – \$50

Affinity has low-cost alternatives to Adobe's products: Affinity Designer for Adobe Illustrator, and Affinity Photo for Adobe Photoshop.

PAINTSTORM STUDIO (RASTER) – \$19

Very cost effective software with some interesting features. One feature that stands out is the palette mixing dock that allows the manual mixing of colors to simulate a realistic paint palette.

REBELLE 5 (RASTER) – \$90

Escape Motions offers a few different applications for digital art including Flame Painter for amazing flame effects. Rebelle 5 is "hyper-realistic painting software" that simulates real paint effects including watercolors, oils, drying, diffusion, and varying canvas and paper effects.