

Graphic Design Resources

Resource list by Diana K. Wakimoto, California State University, East Bay
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Design Tools

Method Draw

<http://editor.method.ac/>

- Free, online tool to create vector drawings

GIMP

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

- Free alternative to Photoshop

Build Your Own Adobe Creative Suite with Free and Cheap Software

<http://lifehacker.com/5976725/build-your-own-adobe-creative-suite-with-free-and-cheap-software>

- Lifehacker article with alternatives to Adobe Creative Suite

Adobe Creative Cloud

<http://www.adobe.com/creativecloud.html>

- Link to the products in Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop

Canva

<https://www.canva.com/>

- Online site to create drag-and-drop graphics
- Some free and some paid options for creating designs

Microsoft Office (Publisher and PowerPoint)

<https://products.office.com/en-US/>

- Useful software that many people have access to at their workplace
- Publisher used often to create flyers, bookmarks, and brochures
- PowerPoint used often to create posters, in addition to presentations

Design Resources

A Stylistic Survey of Graphic Design

<http://popchartlab.com/products/a-stylistic-survey-of-graphic-design>

- Poster showing out 63 different styles of design

Librarian Design Share

<http://librariandesignshare.org/>

- Blog of inspiration and examples of graphic design in libraries

Before & After

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

- Authors of *How to Design Cool Stuff*, a number of free articles & videos, plus their email list sends out really good tips on actual design projects

Smashing Magazine

<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/> and [@smashingmag](https://twitter.com/smashingmag)

- Another great source for design ideas, resources, and inspiration

Graphic Design Theory: 50 Resources & Articles

<http://www.noupe.com/design/graphic-design-theory-50-resources-and-articles.html>

- Great list of resources for understanding more about design theory

Lynda.com

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

- Source of lots of video design tutorials and courses (paid subscription)
- Currently (summer 2015) offering a free weekly video series on graphic design by John Wade of Before & After

Accessibility

The Accessible Icon Project

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

- Updated Accessible Icon and information

GSA 508 Tutorials, Guidance, Checklists

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103565>

- Great resources for more information on creating accessible materials

Section 508

<http://www.section508.gov/>

- Learn all about Section 508 and what you can do to ensure accessibility

Colorblind Webpage Filter

<http://colorfilter.wickline.org/>

- Check how your webpage is seen by people with various types of color blindness

Vischeck

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

- See how images and webpages are seen by people with various types of color blindness

Color Oracle

<http://colororacle.org/index.html>

- Free software to simulate color blindness for art you design

Typography

Web Safe Fonts

http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_websafe_fonts.asp

- If you are choosing fonts for the web, it is a good idea to add in some CSS for “fallback” fonts.

I Love Typography

<http://ilovetypography.com/>

- Great blog for typeface and font news, along with type history and other bits of interesting typography news

Fantastic Fonts and Where to Find Them

<http://platowebdesign.com/articles/fonts/>

- Nice infographic with alternatives to commonly used typefaces

The Rather Difficult Font Game

<http://fontgame.ilovetypography.com/>

- For when you want to test your typeface/font knowledge

Kern Type: The Kerning Game

<http://type.method.ac/#>

- Practice your kerning; it’s really fun!

Font Sources

dafont.com

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

- Great resource for free fonts

Google fonts

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

- Free, web-optimized fonts

Font Squirrel

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

- Free fonts that can be used commercially

Metaflop

<http://www.metaflop.com/modulator>

- Design your own font

Get Images

Flickr Commons

<https://www.flickr.com/commons>

- Free images from cultural institutions

freeimages

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

- Free stock photos

65+ sites for public domain images via Shae Baxter blog

<http://shaebaxter.com/public-domain-images/>

Color Tools

Coolors

<http://coolors.co/>

- Tool to quickly create color schemes with five colors

Design Seeds

<http://design-seeds.com/>

- Inspiration for color palettes

Books I Find Inspiring and Useful

Before & After: How to Design Cool Stuff by John McWade

- A design book for everyone, great resource for design basics and easy-to-follow examples

Presentation Zen: Simple Ideas on Presentation Design and Delivery by Garr Reynolds

- Great design tips for designing better presentations

Best Practices for Graphic Designers: Grids and Page Layouts by Amy Graver & Ben Jura

- Excellent introduction to using grids for design work and the importance of planning before you dive into creation

Graphic Design School: The Principles and Practice of Graphic Design by David Dabner

- Great examples and lessons to improve your awareness of design and design skills

The Typographic Desk Reference by Theodore Rosendorf

- Amazing reference source for anyone interested in learning more about typography, plus it is an incredibly designed book

Design Articles

Effective Logo Design Smashing Magazine

- Part 1: Symbols, Metaphors and the Power of Intuition
<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2015/06/05/effective-logo-design-symbols-metaphors-intuition/>
- Part 2: Using Nature's Patterns in Logo Design
<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2015/06/12/effective-logo-design-nature-pattern/>
- Part 3: How Geometry Influences Logo Design
<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2015/06/23/effective-logo-design-geometry/>

Images Used in ALA Poster Presentation

All Images from freeimages (<http://www.freeimages.com/>), except as noted below. Images not listed below were created by Diana K. Wakimoto

Poster 1:

metal type from letterpress 1 by typofi

computer monitor, tablet and mobile by Mocho1

color wheel by thestylenote.files.wordpress.com

School-2 by nkzs

The Accessible Icon Project by the Accessible Icon Project <http://www.accessibleicon.org/>

Poster 2:

metal type from letter press 4 by typofi

Poster 3:

Old brochure from CSU East Bay University Libraries

