

# Image

An **image** (from Latin: *imago*) is an artifact that depicts visual perception, for example, a photo or a two-dimensional picture, that has a similar appearance to some subject—usually a physical object or a person, thus providing a depiction of it. In context of image signal processing, an image is a distributed amplitude of color(s).<sup>[1]</sup>

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## Characteristics

Images may be two-dimensional, such as a photograph or screen display, or three-dimensional, such as a statue or hologram. They may be captured by optical devices – such as cameras, mirrors, lenses, telescopes, microscopes, etc. and natural objects and phenomena, such as the human eye or water.

The word 'image' is also used in the broader sense of any two-dimensional figure such as a map, a graph, a pie chart, or a painting. In this wider sense, images can also be *rendered* manually, such as by drawing, the art of painting, carving, rendered automatically by printing or computer graphics technology, or developed by a combination of methods, especially in a pseudo-photograph.

A volatile image is one that exists only for a short period of time. This may be a reflection of an object by a mirror, a projection of a camera obscura, or a scene displayed on a cathode ray tube. A fixed image, also called a hard copy, is one that has been recorded on a material object, such as paper or textile by photography or any other digital process.

A mental image exists in an individual's mind, as something one remembers or imagines. The subject of an image need not be real; it may be an abstract concept, such as a graph, function, or imaginary entity. For example, Sigmund Freud claimed to have dreamed purely in aural-images of dialogs.



The act of making an image with a mobile phone camera. The display of the mobile phone shows the image being made.

*Image*, (Lat.) an artificial resemblance either in Painting or Sculpture.  
*Imagery*, Painted or Carved Work of Images, Tapestry with Figures.

A scanned image of the definition of *image* and *imagery*, from Thomas Blount's *Glossographia Anglicana Nova*, 1707.

The development of synthetic acoustic technologies and the creation of sound art have led to a consideration of the possibilities of a sound-image made up of irreducible phonic substance beyond linguistic or musicological analysis.

## Still or moving

A *still image* is a single static image. This phrase is used in photography, visual media and the computer industry to emphasize that one is not talking about movies, or in very precise or pedantic technical writing such as a standard.

A *moving image* is typically a movie (film) or video, including digital video. It could also be an animated display such as a zoetrope.

A *still frame* is a still image derived from one frame of a moving one. In contrast, a film still is a photograph taken on the set of a movie or television program during production, used for promotional purposes.

## Imagery (literary term)

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In literature, imagery is a "mental picture" which appeals to the senses.<sup>[2]</sup> It can both be figurative and literal.<sup>[2]</sup>

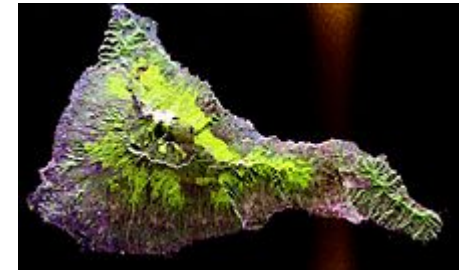
## See also

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- Aniconism
- Avatar (computing)
- Cinematography
- Computer animation
- Computer-generated imagery
- Digital image
- Digital imaging
- Fine art photography
- Graphics
- Image editing
- Pattern recognition
- Photograph

## References

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An SAR radar image acquired by the SIR-C/X-SAR radar on board the Space Shuttle Endeavour shows the Teide volcano. The city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife is visible as the purple and white area on the lower right edge of the island. Lava flows at the summit crater appear in shades of green and brown, while vegetation zones appear as areas of purple, green and yellow on the volcano's flanks

1. Pragnan Chakravorty, "What Is a Signal? [Lecture Notes],"IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, vol. 35, no. 5, pp. 175-177, Sept. 2018.  
<https://doi.org/10.1109/MSP.2018.2832195>
2. Chris Baldick (2008). *The Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=mp0s9GgrafUC&pg=PA165>). Oxford University Press. pp. 165–. ISBN 978-0-19-920827-2.

## External links

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-  Media related to Images at Wikimedia Commons
  -  Quotations related to Image at Wikiquote
  -  The dictionary definition of image at Wiktionary
  - The B-Z Reaction: The Moving or the Still Image? (<https://www.apple.com/science/insidetheimage/bzreaction/>)
  - Library of Congress – Format Descriptions for Still Images ([http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/still\\_fdd.shtml](http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/still_fdd.shtml))
  - Image Processing – Online Open Research Group (<http://www.iprg.co.in>)
  - Legal Issues Regarding Images (<http://www.lawyerscourt.com/copyrights/legal-issues-regarding-images/>)
  - Image Copyright Case (<http://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/01/12/obama-image-copyright-case-is-settled/>)
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