Paint Shop Pro Tips

1. Download Paint Shop Pro (Version 6.0 - psp60ev.exe) from:

<ftp://sol.ccsf.org/pub/Graphics>. When launched, Paint Shop Pro will look like the following:

2. Creating a thumbnail image:

A thumbnail image should be approximately 100 pixels in width and height (plus or minus a few pixels). It can be created in Paint Shop Pro quite easily by the following steps:

1. Open the larger image using the menu option, file/open.
2. Note the size of the width and height (in pixels) of the image by using the menu option, view/image.  
     
   For Example, the following shows that the image has a width=150 and a height=149 (in pixels). The file size of the image is shown as 65k.
3. Using the menu option image/resize, merely change the width to 100 pixels. The height should automatically change, as long as the option 'maintain aspect ratio of' is checked (which is the default). Then click ok and file/save as. That's all there is to it. Here is an example.

 Original   
 Thumbnail

1. Sometimes when you use the above steps to create a thumbnail image, the thumbnail image will appear blurry or unclear. You can then use the menu option image/sharpen to produce a clearer image. Then save.   
     
   When making a thumbnail image of a jpg file, it is sometimes a good idea to first convert the original jpg to a gif by using the menu option file/save as, and then saving it as a gif. Then you can proceed with the above steps to create a thumbnail gif that can be used as a link to the larger jpg file.

3. Cropping:

You can eliminate the unwanted outer portion of an image by using the selection icon on the left icon list. This is called cropping. The icon appears as a dotted rectangle and is normally the 6th icon from the top. Open up your image file and click this icon. Move the pointer to the upper left hand part of the image where you wish cropping to begin and drag the pointer over the image until you reach the lower right hand part of the image where cropping will end, thus forming a dotted rectangle when you release the mouse. Then click the menu option edit/copy and then edit/paste as new image. You can then save this cropped image.

4. Gamma Correction:

A background image file can be made lighter in contrast and brightness by using what is called gamma correction. This process gives the background image a 'washed-out' look, which is especially desirable for some web pages where you want the content of the web page to stand out more clearly. It can also help for attaining good color contrast and readability of your web page.  
  
Open up your image file and use the menu option colors/adjust/gamma correction. The original image will appear on the left and the gamma corrected image next to it on the right. By adjusting the red/blue/green lever, you can view the gamma corrected image on the right as it changes. When satisfied, click ok and then use file/save as, for the new gamma corrected image.  
  
Here is an example:  
  
  
  
Gamma correction in [Photoshop](http://fog.ccsf.edu/~srubin/GammaCorrect.rtf).

5. Paint Shop Pro Tutorials on the Web:

<http://www.grafx-design.com/psp_tut.html>  
  
<http://psptips.com/>