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Science Publishing Network

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Publishing Home ⬅ Toolboxes ⬅ Graphics Toolbox

Graphics Toolbox

The list below contains resources for preparing graphics and illustrations for use in USGS information products.

Guidance

- **Quick Guides**
  - Export Formats for Graphic Software
  - ArcMap to Adobe Illustrator Condensed Instructions
- **General Guidance**
  - Crediting Photographs and Other Images in USGS Series Information Products
  - Preparing Graphics for Publishing
  - Use of Online-Sourced Map Bases in Static Maps
  - Use and Documentation of Horizontal and Vertical Datums in USGS Publication Series Information Products (FSP Web page)

Standards and Templates

- Author's Guide to Standards for U.S. Geological Survey Page-Size Illustrations, Version 2.0, October 2015
  - Standards Guide (160-page PDF, 59 MB) — Version 2.0 Additions and Updates
  - Standards Fonts (Zip File)
  - Standards Package (Manual and Fonts) (Zip File)
- Adobe Illustrator Map Templates and Word Map Manuscript Templates
  - Adobe Illustrator Map Templates and Style Guides
  - Microsoft Word Map Manuscript Templates
  - Microsoft Word Map Pamphlet Templates for Open-File Reports
- ArcMap Templates
  - Using Page-Size Templates in ArcMap (PDF, 2 MB)
  - MXD Templates for ArcMap (ZIP, 154 KB)
- FGDC Digital Cartographic Standard for Geologic Map Symbolization Memo | Standard | Symbol

Fonts, Swatches, and Color

- USGS Visual Identity System (VIS) Typography
- Geologic Age Symbol Font (FGDCGeoAge)
  - OpenType version (Mac and Win/UNIX)
  - Legacy versions (TrueType and Type 1) Mac [118 kb], Win/UNIX [182 kb]
  - For additional information, see Appendix A, section 32, in FGDC Digital Cartographic Standard for Map Symbolization
- USGS Hydro Font
- Zip file of Adobe Illustrator swatch files from the FGDC Digital Cartographic Standard for Geologic Map Symbolization
- Suggestions for color ramps or schemes for maps—ColorBrewer (external Web site)
- VIS: Suggested Color Palette

USGS and Other Image Collections

- USGS Multimedia Gallery
  - USGS Image Gallery Uploader Log In
- VIS: USGS Identifier Downloads
- Marli Miller geology photographs—credit as "Photograph by Marli Miller, University of Oregon."
- Pond5—The Public Domain Project (thousands of historic media files for your creative projects; completely free)
- PLiXS (Free images and photos with Creative Commons or Public Domain licensing)
- University of Maryland (Free photos, images, and other resources)
- Unsplash (A free resource for high resolution images)
- Texturemate (A resource for free Photoshop textures and brushes)

Additional Information and Resources

- Graphics Checklist (This is used to record information about the graphic files prepared.)
- Images in Print and on the Web (Poster describing image characteristics for typical input and output devices.) [100k PDF]
- Publication workflow for USGS series information products
- Samples of SPN video animations

U.S. Geological Survey Intranet
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