



FOR DESIGNERS

This handout provides you with an overview of free and open source (FOSS) software useful for you – the designer. The software described here costs **nothing** and can be redistributed **freely**.

GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) - <http://www.gimp.org/>

GIMP is a mature raster image (photo) editing tool, which rivals Adobe Photoshop in terms of features. It can be used by the novice or the photographic professional alike. The GIMP is available for Linux, Windows and Macintosh platforms and is supported by dozens of tutorials.

Inkscape - <http://www.inkscape.org/>

FreeMind is a free mind-mapping application that allows you to graphically brainstorm concepts, lists and ideas. It is an excellent tool for studying and planning. FreeMind is available for Linux, Windows and Macintosh platforms, and is based on Java.

Scribus - <http://www.scribus.net/>

Scribus is a professional desktop publishing package, available for Linux, Windows and Mac. It is an alternative to programs such as QuarkXPress and Adobe InDesign, boasting features such as CMYK separation, ICC colour management and PDF creation.

PDFCreator - <http://www.pdfforge.org/>

For Windows only, PDFCreator is able to produce portable document format (PDF) files from just about any application. That's not all! You can easily convert PDFs into other formats, and export your documents into a wide variety of file types such as TIFF/EPS.

Blender - <http://www.blender.org/>

Blender, available for Linux, Windows and Mac, is a free and open source 3D content creation suite. Among its features are advanced modelling and sequencing tools, allowing you to produce 3D images and movies – perfect for character animation!

Audacity - <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

Available for Linux, Windows and Mac, Audacity is a free audio recording and editing suite, suitable for converting audio file formats or for digitising analog recordings. It has a number of audio editing features such as tempo and pitch adjustment.

