

# Adobe Fireworks: Complete Guide to Web Design Essentials

Master the powerful design tool that revolutionized web graphics creation. This comprehensive guide will walk you through everything you need to know about Adobe Fireworks, from basic concepts to advanced techniques used by professional designers in multimedia production.

TIP

ฟล์กภาพชี้นมาแล้ว จากนั้นเลือกไปที่ Modify-->Canvas-->Image Size...  
Ctrl+J เพื่อปรับขนาดของภาพ

# What is Adobe Fireworks?

## Definition

Adobe Fireworks is a professional vector and raster graphics editor specifically designed for **web and screen design**. It combines the best features of both vector and bitmap editing in one application, making it the perfect tool for creating website mockups, user interfaces, icons, and interactive graphics.

## Key Characteristics

- Dual editing capability: vector and raster graphics in one place
- Optimized for web graphics with built-in export options
- Pixel-perfect design with precision tools
- Batch processing and automation features
- JavaScript integration for advanced workflows





# Understanding Vector vs. Raster Graphics

The foundation of Adobe Fireworks lies in understanding two fundamental types of digital graphics:

## Vector Graphics

Created using mathematical equations and paths. They can be scaled infinitely without losing quality. Perfect for logos, icons, and web elements.

**Advantages:** Small file sizes, infinitely scalable, crisp appearance at any size.

## Raster Graphics

Made of pixels arranged in a grid. Fixed resolution means scaling up causes quality loss. Ideal for photographs and complex imagery with many colors.

**Advantages:** Detailed color information, photorealistic quality, complex textures.

**Why Fireworks?** Fireworks is unique because it handles both types seamlessly within one document, eliminating the need to switch between applications.

# Getting Started: Interface & Workspace

When you first open Adobe Fireworks, you'll encounter several key areas. Understanding the workspace is essential for efficient design work.

## Main Workspace Components

- Canvas:** The central white area where you create your designs
- Toolbox:** Located on the left, contains selection, drawing, and text tools
- Properties Panel:** Right side displays settings for selected objects
- Layers Panel:** Organizes all design elements in your document
- Colors Panel:** For color selection and palette management

## Basic Setup Tips

Start with a new document sized for your target: 960px for desktop, 320px for mobile. Always work in RGB color mode for web graphics.

Save frequently and create layer groups to keep your work organized.



# Essential Drawing Tools & Shape Creation

Adobe Fireworks provides powerful tools for creating shapes and paths. These fundamental tools form the backbone of all design work in the application.

## 1 Rectangle & Ellipse Tools

The most basic shapes in web design. Hold Shift while dragging to create perfect squares or circles. Use these to create buttons, boxes, and circular elements. You can apply fills, strokes, and effects to customize their appearance.

## 2 Pen Tool (Bezier)

The precision tool for creating custom paths and complex shapes. Click to place anchor points, then drag to create curved segments. This tool requires practice but offers complete creative control for creating unique vector graphics.

## 3 Text Tool

Click on the canvas to place text and format typography. Fireworks offers full font control including size, color, weight, and spacing. Text can be converted to paths for more advanced manipulations.

# Working With Layers & Organization

Professional design requires proper organization. The Layers panel is your command center for managing complex documents with multiple elements.

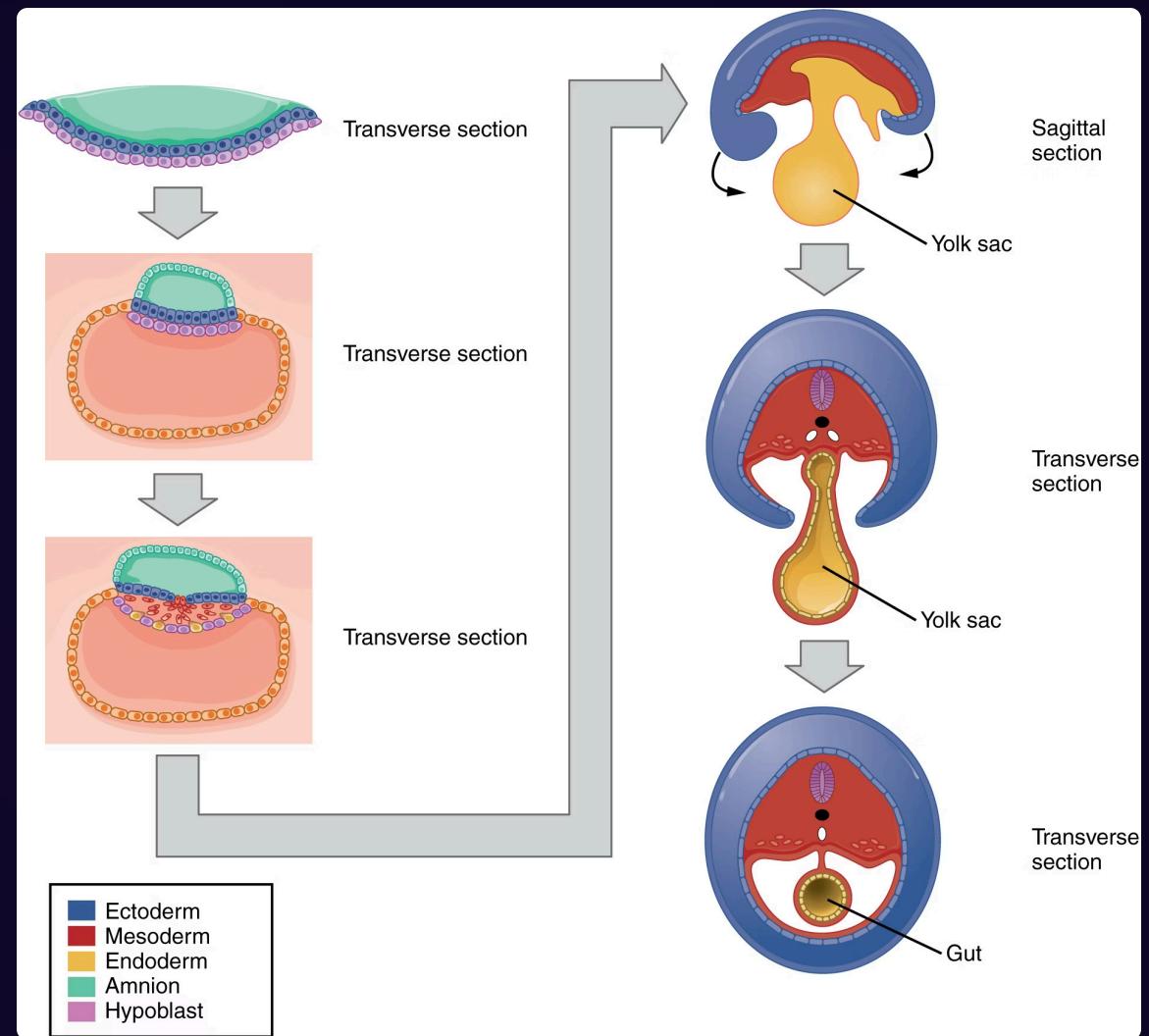
## Layer Best Practices

- Name layers descriptively (e.g., "Header Button" not "Shape 1")
- Group related elements together
- Lock layers you've finished to prevent accidental edits
- Use visibility toggles to hide elements while working
- Arrange layers logically from background to foreground

## Code Example

While Fireworks is visual, you can export layer information programmatically:

```
// JavaScript in Fireworks
var doc = fw.getDocumentDOM();
var layers = doc.layers;
for(var i=0; i<layers.length; i++) {
  alert(layers[i].name);
}
```



# Colors, Fills & Strokes: Styling Your Designs

Visual appeal comes from proper use of color and styling. Fireworks provides sophisticated tools for controlling how your graphics appear.

01

## Selecting Colors

Use the color picker in the toolbox or open the Colors panel. Web-safe colors are essential for consistency across browsers. You can sample colors directly from any element on your canvas.

03

## Adding Strokes

Strokes outline your shapes. Control width, color, style (solid, dashed, dotted), and position. Strokes help define shapes and create visual separation between elements.

02

## Applying Fills

Fills are the solid or gradient backgrounds inside shapes. Choose between solid colors, gradients, patterns, or no fill. Fireworks allows transparency control for overlay effects.

04

## Creating Gradients

Fireworks supports linear and radial gradients. Click the gradient indicator and adjust color stops. Gradients add depth and sophistication to your designs.

# Effects & Filters: Adding Polish to Your Designs

Adobe Fireworks includes a comprehensive library of effects that can transform basic shapes into sophisticated design elements. These filters add visual interest and professional polish.

## Common Effects

- **Drop Shadow:** Adds depth by creating shadow beneath objects
- **Blur:** Softens edges or creates background blur effects
- **Glow:** Makes elements appear to emit light
- **Bevel:** Creates 3D beveled edge appearance
- **Inner Shadow:** Creates inset shadow for embossed look

## Code Example

Apply effects programmatically:

```
// JavaScript in Fireworks
var selection = fw.selection[0];
var dropShadow = {
  name: "Drop Shadow",
  enabled: true,
  opacity: 50,
  blur: 4
};
```



# Exporting & Optimization for Web

Creating beautiful designs is only half the job. Proper export ensures your graphics display correctly across all devices and load quickly. Fireworks was specifically built with web export in mind.

## PNG Export

The standard for web graphics with transparency support. PNG preserves quality and is compatible with all modern browsers. Use PNG for graphics with transparency or complex colors.

## JPEG Export

Best for photographs and images with many colors. Highly compressible with adjustable quality settings. Reduces file size significantly compared to PNG.

## GIF & Animated GIF

Limited color palette but useful for animations and simple graphics. Fireworks makes creating frame-based animations straightforward through its layers panel.

## SVG Export

Modern vector format perfect for icons and scalable graphics. SVG files are small, infinitely scalable, and can be animated with CSS. Future-proof choice for web design.

## Optimization Tips

Always optimize file sizes: use "Export" dialog to select appropriate format, adjust compression settings, and preview file size. Minimize colors in limited-palette images. For web use, aim for 100KB or less for optimal loading.

Features													
File system	Hard links	Symbolic links	Block journaling	Metadata-only journaling	Case-sensitive	Case-preserving	File Change Log	Internal snapshotting / branching	XIP	Filesystem-level encryption	Murders your wife		
DEClape	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Level-D	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
RT-11	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
V6FS	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
V7FS	Yes	No <sup>[52]</sup>	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
FAT12	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
FAT16	No	No	No	No	No	No	Partial	No	No	No	No	No	No
FAT32	No	No	No	No	No	No	Partial	No	No	No	No	No	No
GFS	Yes	Yes <sup>[53]</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>[54]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HPFS	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	?	No	No	No	No
NTFS	Yes	Yes <sup>[55]</sup>	No <sup>[56]</sup>	Yes <sup>[56]</sup>	Yes <sup>[57]</sup>	Yes <sup>[57]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Partial <sup>[58]</sup>	?	Yes	No	No
HFS Plus	Partial	Yes	No	Yes <sup>[59]</sup>	Partial <sup>[60]</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>[61]</sup>	No	No	No	No <sup>[62]</sup>	No	No
FFS	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
UFS1	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
UFS2	Yes	Yes	No	No <sup>[63]</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	?	No	No	No	No
LFS	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[64]</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
ext2	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes <sup>[65]</sup>	No	No	No
ext3	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[66]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
ext4	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[66]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Lustre	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[66]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
NILFS	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[64]</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
ReiserFS	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[67]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	?	?	No	Yes <sup>[68]</sup>	Yes
Reiser4	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	?	?	Yes <sup>[68]</sup>	Yes	No	No
OCFS	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
OCFS2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
XFS	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes <sup>[69]</sup>	Yes	Yes	?	?	No	No	No	No
JFS	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes <sup>[70]</sup>	Yes	No	?	?	No	No	No	No
QFS	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Be File System	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	?	?	?	No	No	No	No
NSS	Yes	Yes	?	Yes	Yes <sup>[71]</sup>	Yes <sup>[71]</sup>	Yes <sup>[72]</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
NWFS	Yes <sup>[73]</sup>	Yes <sup>[73]</sup>	No	No	Yes <sup>[74]</sup>	Yes <sup>[74]</sup>	Yes <sup>[72]</sup>	?	No	No	No	No	No
ODS-2	Yes	Yes <sup>[74]</sup>	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
ODS-5	Yes	Yes <sup>[74]</sup>	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	?	No	No
UDF	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[64]</sup>	Yes <sup>[64]</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
YxFS	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>[75]</sup>	?	No	No

# Building Your First Project: Website Button Design

Let's apply everything you've learned by creating a professional website button. This practical exercise demonstrates the core Fireworks workflow and reinforces essential concepts.

## Set Up Your Document

Create a new document at 1024x768 pixels, RGB color mode. This gives you space to work and matches standard web dimensions. Name your layers as you create them.

## Create the Button Shape

Use the Rectangle tool to draw a 150x50 pixel rounded rectangle. Apply a gradient fill from light purple (#876cd4ff) to darker purple. Add a subtle stroke for definition. This is your button base.

## Add Text & Effects

Insert text "Click Here" using the Text tool, centered on the button. Apply a drop shadow (2px blur, 50% opacity) to create depth. Add a subtle inner shadow for sophistication.

## Create Hover State

Duplicate your button and darken the gradient slightly. This becomes your hover state. Keep both versions in your file to show designers the interactive behavior.

## Export for Web

Select your button design and export as PNG with transparency. Use "Export" dialog to optimize: set quality to 100%, enable transparency, and verify the file is under 50KB for optimal web performance.

**Congratulations!** You've created your first professional web graphic. You now understand the core workflow of Adobe Fireworks and have built a foundation for more complex designs.