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File Formats Lesson

Objective – Students will identify raster, vector and raster/vector file formats, native file formats, their extensions and uses.

Lecture:

Raster images are made of pixels and have resolution. These files have certain extensions (the .jpg at the end of a file name)

Bitmap only formats are:

BMP – limited to bitmap file format. Will not work for the web or for printing.

GIF – compressed format mainly used for Internet graphics with solid colors and crisp lines– very small file size. Poor quality

JPEG/JPG – Compressed file format used for Internet graphics, particularly photos. A bit better quality. OK for smaller photos to be printed

TIFF – Uncompressed format for saving raster images. Most popular with artwork to print.

Vector and Bitmap Formats:

EPS – Flexible file format that can contain both bitmap and vector data, most vector images are saved in this format. Most software programs can read and open this format.

PICT – used on Mac computers. Can contain raster and vector data

SWF – Flash format, used a lot for web and hand held devices

SVG (scalable vector graphics) Vector format for creating scalable graphic for web and handheld devices (new)

Native file formats:

Native means belonging to a particular application

AI – Illustrator file

PSD – Photoshop file

IND – InDesign file

QXP – QuarkXpress File

DOC – Microsoft Word file

File type readable by almost all people – PDF.

FILE TYPES EXERCISE -

Student will use internet to find at least 3 images with each file format. PICT files extra credit. Files should be saved in a file types folder in their home directories.

ASSESSMENT – student will be assessed by observation by instructor. Instructor will observe files after collection. Multiple choice quiz.

Supplies, Text, technology needed – Computer, Internet, TEXT – Exploring Photoshop CS3, Wood pp. 35-42