

Multimedia resources

EDT 546

These websites were selected as resources that would be useful to developers of multimedia presentations.

These links were all active as of July 2004.

Name: Classroom Clipart

URL: <http://classroomclipart.com/>

Intended Audience: Creators of newsletters, websites, multimedia presentations.

Description: Over 30,000 free clipart images, photographs, and illustrations for newsletters, webpages, etc. Browse by category (700+). Many are black and white.

Name: Photoshop Crash Course

URL: <http://hotwired.lycos.com/webmonkey/design/graphics/tutorials/tutorial1.html>

Intended Audience: Users of Photoshop 4.0 and above.

Description: Six lessons on Photoshop, covering cropping, changing mode, resizing, file formats, selection and text tools, filters, layers, the rule of 51, merging graphics, the path tool, faking images, and making illustrations.

Name: CoolText.com - Where YOU make the image!!

URL: <http://www.cooltext.com/>

Intended Audience: Anyone needing logos and buttons for presentations, websites, etc.

Description: Free online graphics generator for web pages and anywhere else you might need a button or logo. A variety of fonts, sizes, and colors are available. Be sure to download the image once you have created it, as there are no options for storing it on the website.

Name: Classical Music Midi

URL: <http://www.classicalarchives.com/>

Intended Audience: Multimedia presentation creators, music teachers.

Description: Non-registered users are limited to 5 unprotected downloads a day. You have the option of paying \$25 a year for access to 1000 files per month.

Name: Freeplay Music

URL: <http://www.freeplaymusic.com/>

Intended Audience: Anyone in need of music snippets for presentations.

Description: Free music (read terms of use) to use in presentations, etc. Online music library can be searched by the keywords feeling, style, and tempo. Music selections are available in segments of 10 to 60 seconds and more. Educational, non-commercial use is limited to school grounds and classroom – non-broadcast.

Name: Animal Sound Clips

URL: http://sunsite.sut.ac.jp/multimed/sounds/sound_effects/

<http://sunsite.sut.ac.jp/multimed/sounds/birds/>

http://sunsite.sut.ac.jp/multimed/sounds/sound_effects/shorty/

http://sunsite.sut.ac.jp/multimed/sounds/sound_effects/animals/

Intended Audience: Educators and students who are looking for sounds to enhance presentations, web pages, etc.

Description: This is an excellent collection of sound files for use in multimedia projects. Featured are birds, cats, and various animals. Teachers may want to preview all the files before allowing students to access the site, since some sounds may be deemed unsuitable for classroom presentations.

Name: Free Pictures and Photos

URL: http://www.trainingreference.co.uk/free_pictures/index.html

Intended Audience: Creators of multimedia presentations, web pages.

Description: This site offers original, royalty-free pictures and photos for use in training materials, presentations and websites. The images are generally small (ca. 80k). Be sure to read their terms of use.

Name: Brainy Betty

URL: <http://www.brainybetty.com/educatorstemplatessandplans.htm>

Intended Audience: Educators, users of Microsoft PowerPoint.

Description: Dozens of free PowerPoint templates, backgrounds, graphics, tips and tricks for using the presentation program. Many files are zipped, but will decompress for Mac users with Stuffit Expander. This site is well worth a visit!

Name: Presentation Slide Backgrounds

URL: <http://www.btinternet.com/~fireballxl5/presentation/>

Intended Audience: Users of Microsoft PowerPoint.

Description: Free images for use as backgrounds in computer presentations. All the slides are 1024x768, in jpeg format. The author of the site warns that some images may need to be converted or scaled into another format before use.

Name: Absolute Background Textures

URL: <http://www.grsites.com/textures/>

Intended Audience: Creators of multimedia presentations, web pages.

Description: This site purports to have the largest collection of free background textures on the Internet. Can be used in presentation programs, websites, and as desktop backgrounds. Be sure to read the disclaimer at the bottom of the main page.

Name: Graphics

URL: <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/graphics.htm>

Intended Audience: Educators, but useful for designers of web pages and multimedia presentations.

Description: This page is part of a series entitled Helping Teachers Use the Internet Effectively. A veritable bonanza of clip art, photos and other graphic links, including tutorials and search engines.

Name: Scoring Power Points

URL: <http://optin.iserver.net/fromnow/sept00/powerpoints.html>

Intended Audience: Designers of PowerPoint presentations.

Description: The ever-interesting and prolific Jamie McKenzie gives suggestions for avoiding Power Pointlessness as well as antidotes for PowerPoint Poisoning, all with impacting student learning in mind.

Name: Avoiding Seven Deadly Multimedia Design and Presentation Sins

URL: <http://www.youthspecialties.com/articles/topics/advice/multimedia.php>

Intended Audience: Creators of multimedia presentations (including overheads).

Description: The site lists seven common presentation sins and how to avoid them.

Name: Beyond the Blackboard

URL: <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2004/03/01/1078117355624.html?oneclick=true>

Intended Audience: Educators, home schoolers

Description: This article, from Technology/Opinion, describes how one teacher in Australia uses PowerPoint in interesting and innovative ways. He claims it can boost test scores by up to 30%.

Name: Making the Right Colour Choices for your Presentations

URL: <http://www.magma.ca/~daoust/colourchoices-presentation.html>

Intended Audience: Business users, but useful for anyone interested in designing multimedia presentations.

Description: Although geared to the business user, this interesting article is worth reading by anyone interested in designing effective multimedia presentations. The author discusses the fact that more than one component goes into making an effective template design. Topics covered are background color selection, background template designs, good and bad layout choices, and color schemes, which are the colors selected for the various elements on the slides. A small selection of free background templates is available on the website.