

Unit 4.3: Graphics files format

Graphics Interchange Format (GIF)

As you may know, GIF is the most widely supported web image graphic formats. GIF allows you to have a high-quality and high-resolution graphics.

GIF was first introduced by CompuServe in 1987. The original version of the GIF format was called 87a.

It has since come into widespread usage on the World Wide Web due to its wide and portability.

GIF also provides support for animation. GIF can only save 256 colours. GIF file has a higher quality and smaller size image compared to JPEG.

GIFs are suitable for sharp-edged line art (such as logos) with a limited number of colors.

Joint Photography Expert Group (JPEG)

The term "JPEG" is an acronym for the Joint Photographic Experts Group, the group who created the standard. Choose JPEGs if you want to save the images of photograph or scene.

JPEG is a commonly used method of compression for digital images, particularly for those images produced by digital photography.

It is the best for picture of paintings or for your portraits. However, its size is larger than GIF images.

This is due to its compression method that performs badly on these types of images, for which the PNG and GIF formats are more commonly used.

JPEG can save information on more than 16 million different colours.

Use JPEG if you want to have the sharp-edged graphic element or line art such as logos.

Tagged Image File Format (TIFF)

TIFF is a popular format for high colour depth images created by Aldus. This format is widely supported by image manipulation tools such as Photoshop.

TIFF is used for storing raster graphics images, popular among graphic artists, the publishing industry.

TIFF format is standard in document imaging. You can use the TIFF format to store multiple images in one file such as for FAX images.

TIFF format is widely supported by image-manipulation applications, by publishing and page layout applications, by scanning and by faxing.

Portable Network Graphics (PNG)

Portable Network Graphics (PNG) is a bitmap image format that was created to improve the GIF format. PNG have transparency options but it does not support animation.

This format was developed in 1995 to support modern web browsers. PNG format is the optimal choice for exporting small images for the web such as icons. Designers need the ability to incorporate low-resolution images that load quickly but look great, too.