

## Working with Digital Images – Tutorials by Robert Berdan

The images below are examples of different types of image file types that can be used on the world wide web. You can copy any image or animation on the PC by clicking your right mouse button and holding it down over the image, then from the drop down menu that appears on your screen, choose save image as and choose the location where you want to save the file. If you own a Mac, just position the pointer over the image and click on your mouse button and then save image. You can save background images from websites in the same way.

**CAUTION** not all images on the Internet are FREE! If the images are copyrighted you might still be able to use the images for personal use, but may not be able to use them for commercial purposes. For instance most of the images on this web site are free for non-commercial use only. Always read the copyright information on the web site or contact the web master and ask before using the images. Some images (e.g. Playboy) may be readily available on some websites and advertised as free - but beware they are not!

You will need to use the following two HTML tags for inserting images into your web pages.

1. Image source tag for inserting an image into a web page.

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**Note:** inserting the height and width attributes will make your image load more quickly and including the alt attribute will permit folks to read what the image is if they have graphics mode turned off. Also vision impaired individuals may have a voice reader that will tell them what the image is of - so this is an attribute that should always be included with your images.

2. Background image tag for inserting an image as a background tile:

**<Body background="file.ext">**

Images used for backgrounds are usually small 200 x 200 pixels or less and low in contrast so that text can be seen against the background. Simple low contrast backgrounds often work best.



Copy one or more of the above background images and insert them as backgrounds into your HTML web page by using the **<Body background="file.ext">** where file file.ext is the name of the image file e.g. Back13.gif. Remember file names are case sensitive and must be typed exactly as they appear.

You can also create a tiled background using an image strip like the two below. These images when used with the background tag will tile to form a single red or blue stripe down the left side of

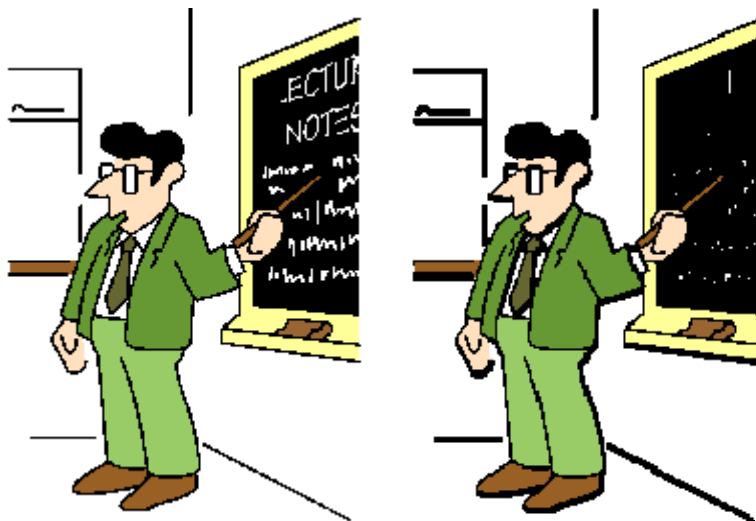
your web page. The dimensions of the stripes have been reduced here so it is easier for you to copy them. You can create your own in an image editor. Choose the dimensions 5-10 pixels in height and 1300 pixels in width. You can also create a gradient background this way as well by applying a gradient to a narrow strip then tile the strip on your background.



[bluebar.jpg](#)

## GIF IMAGES

**Gif** (pronounced JIFF) files are used frequently for inserting cartoons, fancy text, animations and images that are transparent. Transparent images allow a background image or color to show through parts of the image. GIF stands for Graphics interchange format and there are two basic types GIF87a and GIF89. GIF87 was introduced in 1987 and GIF89 in 1989. The Gif89 file format supports transparency and interlacing but can only display 256 colors (8 bit graphics). Insert the images below into your web page with and without one of the background tiles above. If you can see the background through the white areas



[lecture.gif](#)  
none transparent

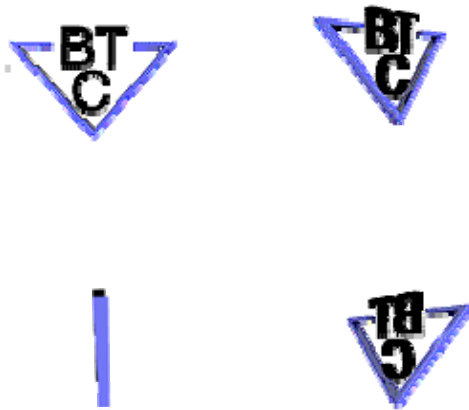
[lectran.gif](#)  
transparent gif

## ANIMATION

Gif files can also be used to create simple "flip book" animations on your web site. To create a simple animation you will need an animation program e.g. Gif construction Set or Gif builder. There are many available for free or as shareware on the Internet. One place you can search for animation programs is at [www.tucows.com](http://www.tucows.com).

You will also need 3 or more images that you can use to create an animation. Below are 4 images that you can use to create a rotating 3D logo. Each image must be exactly the same size and it's a good idea to name the images followed by a number so that you know what sequence

each image should be in. Copy each image to a file and with the assistance of your instructor download a Gif animation program, create the animation and insert it into a web page.



## JPEG IMAGES

JPEG stands for Joint Photographic Experts Group. JPEG images support 16.7 million colors (24 bit graphics) and generally used for displaying photographs of people, places or products. JPEG images are more realistic looking than GIF images. JPEG images are also compressed so that the file sizes are smaller and load more quickly. The quality of the images depends on how much compression the images are given when saved. As a general guideline compress images their maximum amount initially and then view them in your web page to see if they are acceptable. The importance of the image will also dictate how much quality is required. I usually compress images of people less than other type of images. You will find lots of images you can play with in of the photo galleries on this web site. JPEG images can not be used to create "flip book" animations, however they can be animated by creating a movie.

JPEG images saved as progressive images using Adobe Photoshop are similar to interlaced Gif images in that a low resolution file appears first and the image gradually gets sharper. Beware that some HTML editors such as Adobe PageMill 3.0 do not support Progressive JPEG images and will not appear in the editor.

## IMAGE MAPS

An image map is an image which contains areas that contain "hot links" or "hot spots" that when clicked over will link to another web page, web site, e-mail address or file. Image maps can be created easily using a program like Dreamweaver. With your instructors assistance copy the image below and create an image which includes links to: another web site, another web page, and an e-mail address. The image below is actually one image with 4 buttons that you can use to create links i.e. an image map. Alternatively you can find a map of canada to make hot spots on.

[IBM](#)

[Page 2](#)

[Home](#)

[E-Mail](#)