

AmirasArtistry

ULTIMATE RESOURCE GUIDE FOR CREATIVES

E-Book for Artists, Designers, and Photographers



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Whether you are a student, professional, or simply someone who's passionate about culture, the following 100+ free resources are incredible sources of information. You'll find everything from inspirational images to books and practical tutorials broken down into [Art](#), [Design](#), and [Photography](#). Dive in and enjoy!

Quick guide to usage

It's always important to remember that just because something is online, it doesn't always mean it can be used without copyright. Check the terms of usage for each resource carefully to determine how it can be used. Some resources allow for commercial use, while others are under copyright and available for personal use only. Here's a quick list of the types of usage you may find:

Public Domain - A [public domain](#) work is freely available and has no copyright restrictions on usage, including commercially. [Read more](#) about public domain in different countries.

Creative Commons - In 2001, this American non-profit started issuing free licenses to help people share their work in a clear manner. See some of the [different licenses](#) you'll come upon, some of which require attribution to the original source or exclude the work from use in commercial products.

Art

Free Art Resources

[Art Institute of Chicago](#) - One of the largest and oldest museums in the United States has [digitized thousands of pieces](#) from their collection, many of which are in the public domain.

[Barnes Collection](#) - [Over 2,000 images](#) from Impressionist and

Post-Impressionist masters, as well as installation views, are among what's available from this private collection in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Biodiversity Heritage Library - This open access digital library focuses on bringing the natural world closer to people through access to writings and illustration. Thanks to the dedication of BHL staff and readers, over 100,000 images and photographs from the collection have been uploaded to their popular Flickr account since 2011.

British Museum 3D Models - The British Museum collaborates with Sketchfab to bring high resolution 3D models of their sculpture collection to the public, including the [Rosetta Stone](#).

Europeana - Over [3,000 European cultural institutions](#) and aggregators participate in this project. With more than 50 million artworks, books, videos, and photographs online, you could spend days immersed in the archive.

Getty Museum - Since 2013, the Los Angeles museum has made a concerted effort to digitize all art it believes to be in the public domain. Today, over 100,000 artworks are [available online for download](#) as part of their Open Content Program.

Guggenheim Collection - Spread across four venues in New York, Venice, Bilbao, and Abu Dhabi, the Guggenheim's permanent collection contains more than 7,000 pieces of modern art, including masterpieces by Picasso, Modigliani, and Pollock. Now, you can view over 1,700 artworks by more than 625 different artists from the New York, Venice, and Bilbao Guggenheim museums online.

LACMA - The Los Angeles County Museum of Art has uploaded 80,000 works on their website with both restricted and unrestricted use—a quarter of the art that's in their physical collection. There are 20,000 images available in the public domain, making them also free downloadable art for anyone.

Metropolitan Museum of Art - This New York institution is a leader in placing their collection online for public enjoyment. Their Open Access policy means that nearly 400,000 images from their collection are now in the public domain and can be found on their website and on the [Internet Archive](#).

MoMA - In addition to searching over 75,000 pieces of the museum's collection online, you can also view every exhibition since 1929 using their continually updated [exhibition search engine](#).

National Gallery of Art - More than 45,000 open access digital images (up to 4000 pixels each) are available free of charge for download and use.

Pharos - This online consortium of photo archives currently has more than [60,000 artworks](#) and 100,000 images online from museums around the world, giving you an in-depth look not only at the art, but also supplemental materials.

Scan the World - This free database contains 10,000+ 3D printable scanned sculptures from collections around the world, including [famous sculptures](#) like Venus de Milo and Bust of Nefertiti.

Ukiyo-e.org - This database of [Japanese woodblock prints](#) collates collections from 24 museums, libraries, auction houses, and art dealers around the world.

Van Gogh Museum - Learn more about Van Gogh's [love of Japanese art](#) and browse 500 images from his Japanese woodblock print collection.

Yale Center for British Art - The collection has placed all artworks it believes to be in the public domain online, allowing the public to use thousands of searchable images.

Free Art Books

Getty Publications Virtual Library - These 250+ free books not only include exhibition catalogs from the Getty Museum, but also conservation texts and scholarly writings from the Getty Conservation and Getty Research Institutes.

Getty Research Portal - Art history buffs can explore, share, and download the 100,000 freely available digitized art history texts from institutions around the world, which can be searched for directly, or filtered by creator, subject, language, source, or date range.

Internet Archive Virtual Library - This vast collection includes more than 200 modern art books from the Guggenheim Museum as well as a wide array of architecture books that can be downloaded as PDFs or read on your favorite eReader, free of charge.

Metropolitan Museum of Art - The museum's publishing division has over 1,600 art texts available for free download, as well as a wide array of paid publications.

Free Art Tutorials

Acrylic Painting Techniques - A wide array of tutorials on acrylic painting.

Alphonso Dunn - Tips, tricks, and techniques for drawing with pencil, pen, watercolor, and ink.

Circle Line Art School - Artist Tom McPherson releases new videos each Saturday on drawing landscapes, creating optical illusions, drawing with perspective, as well as figurative drawing tutorials.

Dan Beardshaw - Detailed pencil drawing tutorials, focusing on hyperrealism.

Daria Callie - Figurative oil painting tutorials and time-lapses.

Draw with Jazza - Wildly popular channel with over 2 million subscribers, focused on character illustration and digital animation.

Emmy Kalia - Tutorials and time-lapse videos of pencil drawings.

Fine Art Academy - Demonstrations and tutorials on charcoal drawing.

Kirsty Partridge Art - Young artist specializing in colored pencil drawings, as well as watercolor paintings.

Lena Danya - Oil painting time-lapses and tutorials, as well as videos on sketching and watercolor painting.

Mr. Otter Art Studio - A wide array of tutorials, from art history lessons to oil pastel and printmaking tutorials.

Proko - Drawing lessons for beginners and advanced artists.

Robin Clonts - This humorous channel not only includes lessons in painting, but also practical career advice about working as an artist.

Schaefer Art - Tutorials and lessons on drawing with charcoal and graphite, as well as oil painting.

The Art Sherpa - A acrylic painting tutorials for beginners.

The Drawing Database - A great set of drawing tutorials broken up into 6 playlists according to skill level.

The Mind of Watercolor - Run by a professional designer and illustrator, these videos focus on watercolor painting tips and techniques.

The Postman's Knock - Modern calligraphy tutorials by Lindsey Bugbee. She also sells printable practice worksheets to get you started.

Watercolor Misfit - Watercolor tips and tutorials for all levels.

Zin Lim - Demonstrations of painting and drawing techniques by art educator Zin Lim.

Design

Free Design Resources

365 PSD - Some of the free Photoshop resources on the site include vectors, patterns, shapes, and icons, as well as a wide selection of free and premium graphics.

Belle Epoque Posters - Get inspired by [great graphic design](#) of the past with the Minneapolis College of Art and Design's downloadable collection of over 200 posters from 1880-1918.

Brusheezy - Free Photoshop brushes, as well as Photoshop textures, patterns, and graphics.

Canva - This online graphic design software for beginners has a drag and drop format that makes it easy for anyone to create stunning visuals.

Colordot by Hailpixel - Aren't sure what color combination would work in your latest project? This fun website, which is also an [i Phone app](#), lets you quickly pull together colors in multiple combinations and share them.

Cooper Hewitt Design Museum - **Take inspiration** from the Smithsonian Design Museum's 200,000+ item online collection, which is also searchable by 117 CSS4 colors.

Design Bundles - Premium and free content, with giveaways mostly using a license that allows for commercial use. The selection includes SVGs, mockups, icons, templates, backgrounds, textures & royalty free images. There's even a crafting area with embroidery, monogram, and scrapbooking elements.

Designermill - Aside from free fonts and Photoshop goodies, you'll find free items for Illustrator, Sketch, XD, and Principle.

DesignWizard - Use over 10,000 free templates and 1.2 million images to bring the design of your dreams to life. Plus, their free account allows you to use all of their tools without having to pay a premium membership.

Dribbble - A great place to find a **job as a designer** and get inspiration for your next project. Dribbble also has a nice archive of free design elements.

Embroidery Pattern Maker - This site has a free pattern maker, which allows you to transform any image into an **embroidery pattern**.

Font Identifier - Upload any photo and this tool will identify fonts that match.

Fotor - This online photo editing and design tool has tons of templates and icons to choose from, as well as portrait retouching and HDR capabilities.

Freebiesbug - Specializes in free web design resources. They have everything from PSD files to help with app design and mockups to coding resources for developers.

Free Design Resources - Updated daily, Free Design Resources describes their extensive collection as "crafted with love from amazing artists and professional designers around the world." You can also sign up and get freebies sent to you via email twice a week.

Free Pik - Specializing in graphic resources, Free Pik has a large library of vectors, PSDs, icons, and stock photos.

Free Printable Stencils - This site has both stencils and borders to print and use in your projects.

Free Stencil Gallery - This site has a large variety of stencils to browse and download. From animals to games to music to people, they are all free to save and use.

Free Stencil Maker - This tool generates your own **custom stencil**. Simply type in the word you want to stencil, pick the font, and download it. They also have a tool that generates a stencil from a photograph.

Graphics Fuel - Not just a place for free design resources, Graphics Fuel also has a large section of Photoshop tutorials and offers a premium membership for extended design elements.

Gravit - A free vector design app that allows you easily create illustrations, icons, screen designs, presentations, and much more.

Piktochart - An easy infographic maker. With tons of free icons, fonts, and templates it's easy to customize your own infographic and share it with the world.

Pixeden - Free and premium design resources for print and web design—from pizza box or magazine mockups to retro vector illustrations.

Pixel Buddha - Includes freebies ranging from icons and animations to sketches, effects, and textures. It also has a section of tutorials and interviews to keep you up to date on the latest design trends.

Snappa - An easy graphic design tool to help you create sharp-looking social media posts, banners, or display ads. More graphics than photography focused in its design, Snappa's strength is its enormous library of visual assets.

Subtle Patterns - It's exactly what it sounds like, a library of free patterns for

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your graphic design needs. All patterns are under a Creative Commons license that allows for commercial usage.

The Noun Project - With over 1 million royalty-free icons, The Noun Project will almost certainly have something to suit your needs. All icons are available, free of charge, to download in either PNG or SVG formats.

Theme Forest - If you are working in WordPress, Theme Forest is a great place to find the perfectly designed theme to enhance your website. And each month, several of their premium themes are free of charge, so keep checking back to see if one suits your needs.

Yarnspirations - Browse tons of [free crochet](#) and knit patterns from this online resource for yarn.

Free Fonts

The following websites specialize in [free fonts](#) you can use in your next design project.

1001 Fonts - With over 9,000 fonts using tags like “grunge” and “futuristic” and “messy,” you don’t need to have a deep knowledge of typography to pick something that you like.

Be Fonts - Has a limited selection, but there are many, many different styles to choose from.

Font Bundles - This site doesn’t have the volume of freeware that other sites might have, but their tightly curated bunch offers a wide array of styles.

Font Space - This site has almost 33,000 fonts, focusing on quality to help you pick the perfect font for your next project.

Font Spring - Includes well-known families like Franklin Gothic and Museo with the opportunity to try one of their typefaces for free. If you love it, you can buy the license for a discounted rate.

Font Squirrel - They have a lot to choose from, but don't let that overwhelm you—with classifications and tags, you can easily find a font you'll want to use.

Google Fonts - Did you know Google has a library of fonts? For years, they've maintained Google Fonts that currently has 847 font families available for desktop and web use. And in typical Google style, you can sort them via Trending or Popular.

Lost Type Co-op - A pay-what-you-want type foundry. While you could elect to pay nothing, a small donation goes a long way to paying the designer for their work. In return, you get a selection of designer fonts, many of which have a retro-inspired aesthetic.

Free Design Tutorials

2-Minute Tool School - This 14-video YouTube playlist from Creativ Blog tackles the basics of different Photoshop tools with a streamlined, effective approach.

Alison - Combining elements of science into their courses, Alison offers certificates and diplomas in classes like **Design Research and Analysis** and **Introduction to Design Thinking**. If you're interested in prototyping and UX design, check out Alison.

Creative Pro - If you have experience, get into the nitty gritty of design (like glyph positioning and baseline shift) in these easy-to-follow articles and tutorials.

Envato Tuts+ - Once you understand the basics of programs like Photoshop and Illustrator, you can try some of the fun tutorials on Envato Tuts+. But if you need a refresher, they have that too.

GCFLearnFree - If you're a complete design newbie, this is the place to start. Ranging in topics from typography to color to brand identity, you'll get acquainted with methodologies and terms used in the graphic design field.

Tasty Tuts - Freelance designer Gareth David has an excellent basic Photoshop course on his YouTube channel Tasty Tuts. Spread across 33 video lessons, the free Photoshop tutorials take you through the basics.

The Simple Designers - Illustrator tutorials that take you through simple design and illustration projects, like icons and banners.

Udemy - E-learning site Udemy features 23 minutes of on-demand videos for beginners that answer some of the most asked questions, including what is—and is not—design.

Photography

Free Photography Resources

Eastman Museum Digitized Collection - A quarter-million images from the iconic photography collection—located on the estate of Kodak founder George Eastman—have been digitized and placed online.

Free Lightroom Presets - A collection of over 30 Lightroom presets available for free download. If you like what you see, they also have limited edition premium presets created by well-known photographers for sale.

LIFE Photo Archive - Google hosts millions of images from the iconic LIFE magazine photo archive, including works by photographers Alfred Eisenstaedt and Margaret Bourke-White, which are available for personal non-commercial use.

Library of Congress - The Library of Congress has [millions of pieces of data online](#), including incredible photography by Ansel Adams and Dorothea Lange.

You can even search the archive by [thematic collections](#).

[Photonify](#) - This digital marketplace for photographers offers a selection of free Lightroom presets to test.

[Pixlr](#) - Pixlr is a powerful online photo editor that is similar to Photoshop, but is intuitive enough that users of all levels will find it helpful. If you just need to make a few quick tweaks to an image, this in-browser editor is a great solution.

[Preset Love](#) - With almost 250 free presets for Lightroom, as well as free Photoshop brushes, you'll have plenty of styles to select from.

Free Stock Photography

Looking for free stock images? Here's our list of free stock photography websites, most of which allow for commercial use.

Burst - Shopify's stock photography site has thousands of images that can be used in commercial projects without attribution.

Foodies Feed - The name says it all. If you need food photos, this site's for you.

Free Stock Photos - New, fresh royalty-free photos are available daily across a wide range of categories.

Gratisography - In addition to offering a wide selection, Gratisography is filled with whimsical, humorous images.

ISO Republic - This site lets you sort by category and is known for the wide array of photographers who submit their work.

Life of Pix - New photos are added weekly to this beautifully curated site, with all images in the public domain. They also have a sister site—**Life of Vids**—for stock video clips.

Magdeleine - A new high-resolution photograph is added daily and it's possible to search images by color.

MMT - Highly curated, artistic photographs that are available for commercial usage.

Pexels - Pexels gives the ability to search by popular photos and categories and adds 5 new images to the site every day.

Picography - Great source for lifestyle and travel photography, with all images registered under the CC0 license.

Pixabay - More than 1 million photos, vectors, and illustrations available. You'll have to wade through to find the highest quality, but there are some good finds if you're willing to look.

Reshot - Looking for free stock photos that show diversity? Reshot is devoted to providing users with fresh and authentic, culturally diverse stock images in a market where minorities are rarely seen.

Startup Stocks - Business and office-related photography. Unfortunately the site isn't searchable, so you'll need to scroll through the feed to pull out what you need.

StockSnap - This huge search engine of stock sites adds hundreds of high-resolution images every week.

Superfamous - The selection isn't vast, but the site's abstract nature images make up for it.

Unsplash - A huge range of photographs that are also searchable by collection. If you're looking for evocative, filter-heavy imagery, this site's for you.

Free Photography Tutorials

Adobe Learn - Whether you're trying to understand Photoshop, Lightroom, or even After Effects, Adobe Learn has tutorials where you can study the basics of their powerful programs. It's ideal for beginners, but if you're more advanced, there's plenty of content for you, too.

Alison - For those interested in digital photography, this [Introduction to Digital Photography](#) course will acquaint you with the basic features of digital cameras. It uses non-technical language that anyone can understand.

B&H Photo YouTube Channel - B&H Photo is a great shop for equipment, and they also have helpful seminars and tutorials on their YouTube channel—such as how to shoot images at night.

Cambridge of Colour - For those that prefer to read tutorials rather than watching videos, check out this site. They have detailed explanations about portrait lighting, camera lenses, and much more.

Irene Rudnyk - This Canadian photographer's YouTube channel is filled with behind-the-scenes videos, like [how to use Christmas lights](#) to light portraits.

Nathaniel Dodson - Also known as Tutvid, Dodson's YouTube channel contains Photoshop tutorials, Photography videos, and video editing tutorials for all levels.

PHLEARN - Boasting 490 free tutorials, PHLEARN is a well organized site that divides its learning into categories like exposure, lighting, focus, and more.

Shaw Academy - The Shaw Academy offers a free photography course that is a foundation for the medium. The concepts covered include motion capture, depth of field, and perfecting exposure.

Udemy - Offers a free course called [Using a Photographic Light Meter](#), where you can learn how to use a handheld light meter for digital photography. It's specifically geared towards beginning photographers.