

# Graphic Arts Vocabulary – 130 Intermediate Desktop Publishing

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## **Actions**

A series of commands that you play back on a single file or a batch of files.

## **Additive color**

Color as projected light. The additive color system is based on the additive primaries of red, green and blue (RGB).

## **Adjustment layers**

Applies color and tonal adjustments to your image without permanently changing pixel values.

## **Alpha Channels**

An alpha channel is a special type of channel used in graphics software for saving selections.

## **Anti-aliasing (or font smoothing)**

The optical smoothing of the jagged edges of a character on a computer screen accomplished by analyzing the outlines of the glyph and then turning on strategically placed pixels in various shades of gray along its edges

## **Bézier curves**

Mathematically defined rounded shapes created by setting endpoints (or anchor points) and then reshaped by moving control points (or handles)

## **Bitmap**

Images made up of a grid of dots known as pixels. Technically called raster images.

## **Blending Mode**

Controls how pixels in the image are affected by a painting or editing tool

## **Brushes**

Custom and preset features that determine many characteristics of the resulting stroke when using the brush tool.

## **Burn**

Used to increase the exposure to darken areas on a print (burning). Based on a traditional photographer's technique for regulating exposure on specific areas of a print.

## **Channels**

Channels are grayscale images that store different types of information about an image. The image's color mode determines the number of color channels created.

## **Clipping Mask**

An object whose shape masks other artwork so that only areas that lie within the shape are visible

## **Clone**

A Photoshop tool that takes a sample of an image, which you can then apply over another image or part of the same image. Useful for duplicating an object or removing a defect in an image.

## **CMYK**

Color system widely used in the graphic arts industry and related software as a means of designating four-color process.

## **Compound Path**

contains two or more paths that are painted so that holes appear where paths overlap.

## **Compression**

minimizing the size in bytes of a graphics file without degrading the quality of the image to an unacceptable level.

## **Continuous tone image**

Photograph or illustration that's comprised of a series of gray or color tones with gradations from one tone or color to the next.

## **Contrast**

1. a difference among compared elements; 2. to exhibit dissimilar qualities when compared; 3. to compare differences; and 4. in type, the variation between a character's thickest and thinnest stroke weights

## **Contrast**

The relative difference between light and dark areas of an image.

## **Crop**

The process of removing portions of an image to create focus or strengthen the composition.

## **Desaturation**

Converts a color image to grayscale values, but leaves the image in the same color mode.

## **Digital Negative**

A file format that contains the raw image data from a digital camera and metadata that defines what the data means.

**Distort**

Changing the original shape of an object.

**Dodge**

Used to hold back light to lighten an area on the print (dodging). Based on a traditional photographer's technique for regulating exposure on specific areas of a print.

**EPS**

Encapsulated PostScript (EPS) language file format can contain both vector and bitmap graphics and is supported by virtually all graphics, illustration, and page-layout programs. EPS format is used to transfer PostScript artwork between applications.

**Four-color system, four-color process**

Method of printing that uses cyan, magenta, yellow, and black to reproduce full-color images. Also called CMYK.

**Gamut**

The range of colors that a color system can display or print.

**GIF**

Graphics Interchange Format (GIF) is the file format commonly used to display indexed-color graphics and images in Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) documents over the World Wide Web and other online services. GIF is an LZW-compressed format designed to minimize file size and electronic transfer time.

**Gradient**

Specifies a range of position-dependent colors, generally as an alternative to specifying a single color.

**Grayscale image**

A continuous tone black-and-white image.

**Halftone reproduction**

Reproducing a continuous-tone image by photographing it through a fine screen to convert the image into a series of dots.

**High-key**

Light in value.

**Histogram**

illustrates how pixels in an image are distributed by graphing the number of pixels at each color intensity level.

**Hue**

The wavelength of light of a particular color in its purest state (without adding white or black). The main attribute of a color that distinguishes it from other colors.

**Image Resolution**

The number of pixels per unit of length in an image is called the image resolution, usually measured in pixels per inch (ppi).

**JPEG**

Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) format is commonly used to display photographs and other continuous-tone images in hypertext markup language (HTML) documents over the World Wide Web and other online services. JPEG format supports CMYK, RGB, and Grayscale color modes, and does not support alpha channels.

A higher level of compression results in lower image quality, and a lower level of compression results in better image quality. In most cases, the Maximum quality option produces a result indistinguishable from the original.

**Knockout**

Text that is not actually printed, but instead is cut out from a solid area of printed color; the shapes of the letters are formed by the printed negative spaces that surround the letterforms, but the text itself remains the color of the paper

**Lab**

Lab color is the intermediate color model Photoshop uses when converting from one color mode to another.

**Layer Style**

Effects that can be applied quickly to change the appearance of a layer's contents without harming the original layer. Layer effects are linked to the layer contents. When you move or edit the contents of the layer, the effects are modified correspondingly.

**Levels**

A correction of the tonal range and color balance of an image by adjustment of the intensity levels of image shadows, midtones, and highlights.

**Line art**

A black-and-white image that does not have continuous tones. Also called Bitmap.

**Low-key**

Dark in value.

**Noise**

Random pixels in an image that simulate the effect of shooting pictures on high-speed film.

**Opacity**

A layer's opacity determines to what degree it obscures or reveals the layer beneath it.

**OpenType**

A font format that accommodates extra character set, multilingual typesetting, hinting and kerning capabilities. Coding for OpenType is based on Unicode format.

**Optimization**

Compression of a file for web and online media with control for quality of the image.

**Output Resolution**

Output or printer resolution is measured by the number of ink dots per inch (dpi) produced by all laser printers, including imagesetters. Inkjet printers produce a microscopic spray of ink rather than dots and have an approximate resolution of 240 to 720 dpi.

**Path**

A vector shape that is a curved or straight line segment drawn using the Pen tool or similar tool.

**PDF**

Portable Document Format (PDF) is a flexible, cross-platform, cross-application file format. Based on the PostScript imaging model, PDF files accurately display and preserve fonts, page layouts, and both vector and bitmap graphics.

**Perspective**

A tool that allows the manipulation of a two-dimensional surface so as to change the height, width, depth, and position when viewed from a particular point

**Pixels**

The smallest grid units of graphical information that can be manipulated to display a specific color or value on a CRT computer monitor

**Process color**

Inks used in four-color process printing: cyan, magenta, yellow, and black.

**PSD**

Photoshop format (PSD) is the default file format and the only format, besides the Large Document Format (PSB), that supports most Photoshop features.

**Rasterize**

To convert an outline font to a bitmapped image, at a selected size

**Reflect**

Flipping an object on an invisible vertical or horizontal axis.

**Rotate**

Turning an object around a designated point of origin.

**Saturation**

The intensity of a particular hue. The extent to which a color is made purely of a selected hue rather than of white.

**Scale**

Enlarging or reducing an object horizontally (along the x axis) and vertically (along the y axis) relative to a fixed point of origin.

**Shades**

The mix of black with a color.

**Shear**

Slanting or skewing the sides of an object along a specified axis.

**Subtractive color**

Color as mixed pigment. The subtractive color system is based on the subtractive primaries of red, blue and yellow.

**TIFF**

Tagged-Image File Format (TIFF, TIF) is used to exchange files between applications and computer platforms. TIFF is a flexible bitmap image format supported by virtually all paint, image-editing, and page-layout applications. TIFF is a lossless compression format.

**Tint**

The mix of white with a color.

**Tonal Range**

The levels of gray throughout an image from 0 to 255.

**Transform**

Manipulating an object by rotating, scaling, skewing, distorting, or changing perspective.

**Transparency**

The effect of reducing the opacity of an object or layer to expose the objects on layers beneath.

**Vanishing Point**

A Photoshop feature that lets you make perspective-correct edits in images that contain perspective planes

**Vector Graphic**

Made up of mathematically defined lines and curves called vectors. You can move, resize, or change the color of a line without losing the quality of the graphic.

**Work Path**

A temporary path that appears in the Paths palette and defines the outline of a shape.