

Introduction to GimpShop

1. We will start by learning the basics of working with GimpShop.
2. First find a picture from the Internet that you would like to work with. Try to find a picture that is rather large. Once you find the picture you want to work with, right-click on it and choose *Save picture as....* Navigate to the TA folder on the C: drive as save it there.
3. Open the GimpShop program.
4. Click on *File* and *Open*. Navigate to where you saved your picture from the Internet. Select it and click **Open**.
5. The first thing that you might notice is that GimpShop opens the image at a logical size for viewing. So, if your image is really big it will display it zoomed out until it fits nicely. You can tell if the program has done this by the percentage number under the picture.
6. Look at in the title bar and notice the mode. Images come in different kinds and serve different purposes. Sometimes, a small size is important (for web sites) and at other times, retaining a high color depth (a family portrait to be printed) is what you want. You can change modes by clicking on *Image* and *Mode*.
7. The two most frequently used modes are RGB and Grayscale. RGB is used for high quality rich color images. Grayscale is often used when you want to convert a color image to something that's black and white (with a lot of shades of grey).
8. The first thing we are going to do is change the size of the image.
9. Click on *Image*, then *Image Size...* This will bring up the **Image Size** dialog box.
10. Change your picture width to 400 pixels by typing 400 in the **Width** box. Click **Scale** and the image size will change.
11. We can also scale the image to a certain printed size. Let's say we want our picture to be 4 inches wide. Go back to the **Image Size** box and choose *Inches* from the drop-down box next to Height. The values will change depending on the size of your picture. Type 4 in the **Width** box and click **Scale**.
12. Let's save a copy of the picture. Save the picture by clicking on *File*, then *Save as...* Name the picture "demo1.jpg". Make sure you are saving it in the correct folder!! Not in My Pictures! Click **Ok** on the **Save As Jpeg** box.
13. Now we will crop an image. Close anything you currently have open and open your original picture again. There are many reasons to crop an image. They include changing the shape of your image and cutting out extra background stuff to bring out the subject better.
14. To get to the crop tool push the button that looks like this: . It is the last tool in the second row in the toolbox. This will change the cursor and allow you to click and drag a rectangular shape. Click on the upper left corner of the area you want to keep and drag to the lower right corner. A **Crop & Resize** dialog will pop up. If it is in the way, click on the title bar and drag it out of the way so you can see your picture to work with it. As you drag to select the area you want to keep, you should notice that the selected area is brighter in color and the unselected area is darkened.
15. Once you have selected the area you want, click **Crop**.

16. Anytime when you are working in the program and you make a mistake or want to undo what you just did, simply click *Edit* and *Undo*. This can be very handy!
17. Undo your first cropping and crop your image again. Then save it as “demo2.jpg”.
18. Sometimes you might need to find out specific information about a picture you are working with. Click on *View* and *Info Window* to see the information about the image you are currently working with. Notice that it tells you the size of the picture in pixels as well as the physical size in inches if it were printed. It also tells the file size, which is good to know if you are posting your pictures to a website.
19. Another basic task we can perform with GimpShop is flipping a picture. Close any images you currently have open and then reopen your original picture.
20. Click on the Flip Tool in the toolbox. It looks like this:  It is the second from the right in the third row. Below the toolbox you will see some options for the flip tool. Click on **Horizontal** then click on your picture. It should flip horizontally. Save this as “demo3.jpg”.
21. Reopen your original picture and flip it vertically. Save this as “demo4.jpg”.
22. Another important thing we can do with pictures is rotate them. To rotate an image click on the first button in the third row of the toolbox. This is the rotate tool.
23. Click on your picture. This will bring up a **Rotate** dialog box. Drag the slider under the Angle box to rotate the picture any number of degrees from -180° to 180° . You will notice the picture changing as you drag the slider from left to right. You can also simply type in an angle into the box to rotate the picture.
24. Rotate your picture 45° and click **Rotate**. Notice that the corners of the picture are cut off because they fall outside the original dimensions of the picture. Save this as “demo5.jpg”
25. Open the files demo1.jpg, demo2.jpg, demo3.jpg, demo4.jpg, and demo5.jpg. You can open more than one picture at a time by holding down the Ctrl key while clicking on each one of them in the **Open...** dialog box.
26. Call me over to check out what you have done so far.
27. After I’ve checked your five pictures, explore the other tools in the toolbox. Try them out and see what they do. Don’t be afraid to play around! Try anything!! Remember...Edit, Undo if you don’t like how things turned out!
28. Next we’ll work with pictures of people. Here are a few hints for awesome people pictures...
 - a. Get close
 - b. Take candid, not posed pictures
 - c. Watch out for shadows!
 - d. Use the camera’s self-timer to get in your shots!
 - e. Have fun!!