

Showcase of Free Tools

This document provides a general overview of a few popular software applications and services that are available for free.

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP EXPRESS

- ❏ Photoshop Express by Adobe - <https://www.photoshop.com/express/> is a free online application for editing, organizing, and sharing pictures. You can sort, view, and organize your pictures easily in Photoshop Express using one or several of its features like file importing, slide shows, printing, and image sharing.
- ❏ A unique web link provided by Adobe, for every user, lets you easily access and share your pictures, while built-in tools let you share pictures with popular social networking sites.
- ❏ Photoshop Express makes picture sharing easy and secure. One of the prominent features in Photoshop Express is the way it presents your pictures to others. It uses Flash!
- ❏ Coming from Adobe, Photoshop Express has some great photo editing tools built into it. With editing tools like Saturation, Sketch, and Distort, Photoshop Express is definitely worth a try!



Windows Live SkyDrive

- ❏ Using multiple computers? Tired of having to transfer files from one computer to another? Now, with Windows SkyDrive - <http://skydrive.live.com/>, you can store and access your personal files from a central storage vault of 5GB size (yes, you read it right), anywhere online.
- ❏ Ever had to go through the trouble of sending the same content to different people, one by one? Now, sharing content is made easy by uploading content to a common folder, to which you can grant access to people you choose.
- ❏ Share your content with a selected lot or share it with the entire world, Microsoft's Windows SkyDrive lets you choose and assign permissions the way you like.



- ❏ Some call it 'The Highlight of the Microsoft Office 2007 Suite'; others term it as a way a team would work in the future. We are talking about the all new Microsoft Groove 2007.
- ❏ With Groove, access to information and collaborating with team members is easier than ever. Without the need for storing information on a central storage medium, like servers, everyone in the Groove workspace can access, view, revise, and publish data.
- ❏ Workspaces in Groove bring people, tools, and information together in one place, helping teams stay in synch. As team members work together in the workspace, Groove keeps their content and activities up to date automatically, even if they work for different organizations, work remotely, or work offline. Give Microsoft Groove a try, get Groovy!
- ❏ UIS faculty and staff can download Groove for free, as a part of the Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise suite, from UIS WebStore - <http://elms.e-academy.com/uis/>.



- ❏ Ever wanted to learn a new language and didn't know where to start? Ever dropped out half way through learning a new language? Hard pressed for time? Livemocha - <http://www.livemocha.com/> might just be the answer.
- ❏ You can learn a slew of different languages at your own pace, for free. Try Livemocha's audio, video playlists or the text-based dialogue learning tools. Learning has never been so simple and fun.
- ❏ With peers, you can always count on someone to review your progress and give feedback. Learn and make friends, all at the same time.
- ❏ Try one of their online courses if you want to get serious about learning a new language. With an incredible number of tutors and learners, Livemocha is bustling. Give it a go!



- ❏ Thirty thousand registered users, and counting! They are all running their computers on an operating system that is neither from Microsoft nor Apple. They are using Ubuntu - <http://www.ubuntu.com/>
- ❏ Be it any of the Microsoft operating systems or Apple's, they all put a dent in your wallet. Ubuntu comes for free. Yes, a free operating system!
- ❏ Not exactly fancy, definitely not on the same lines as flashy Vista or Leopard, but Ubuntu gets the job done, with no frills or blue screens.
- ❏ Developed with Linux (an open source operating system, in other words: free), Ubuntu is tipped to be the next big thing in the world of open source applications. With more and more people embracing it, Ubuntu keeps getting better with every new release, which is rolled out once every six months. Get adventurous, try Ubuntu!



- ❏ Would you believe it, if we tell you that you can preview a link without actually having to click on it? Or control your browser with simple mouse gestures?
- ❏ How about flipping through tabs and giving your browser a 3D look without Vista or fancy graphics on your computer?
- ❏ How about searching in Google, without actually going to the Google homepage, or creating visual bookmarks?
- ❏ Better still, how about using Internet Explorer as one of the Firefox tabs? The list goes on and on. Firefox has an incredible list of possible add-ons, which redefine the meaning of the word 'Browser'. Explore Firefox add-ons at: <https://addons.mozilla.org/>



- ❏ How often have you seen a video on some website and so badly wanted to have a copy of it? Did we hear you say “often”? With Zamzar - <http://www.zamzar.com/>, you are in luck!
- ❏ Gone are the days when you had to download huge software applications for converting formats. Zamzar converts formats of documents, images, videos, and audio files, all online, over their website. You can change formats of files that are up to 100MB in size.
- ❏ With Zamzar supporting incredible number of formats, you can even convert a video file into an audio file. Support for iPod and iPhone formats makes Zamzar a popular choice.
- ❏ Just select a file to be converted and let Zamzar do the rest. It will upload, convert, and notify you by e-mail when the file with the new format is ready to be downloaded. Slick!