Google Drawings
One Tool, Many Masterpieces

Features

Google Drawings has many features, this is a list of some of them:

- Resize the canvas, either by manually dragging the edge at the bottom or in Page Setup within File to make something specific.
- Insert a range of objects, including text, images, shapes, wordart and tables
- Draw lines
- Format shapes: This includes color fill, as well as width and style of the border.
- Group, order and arrange objects
- Access different fonts from the Google Fonts Library

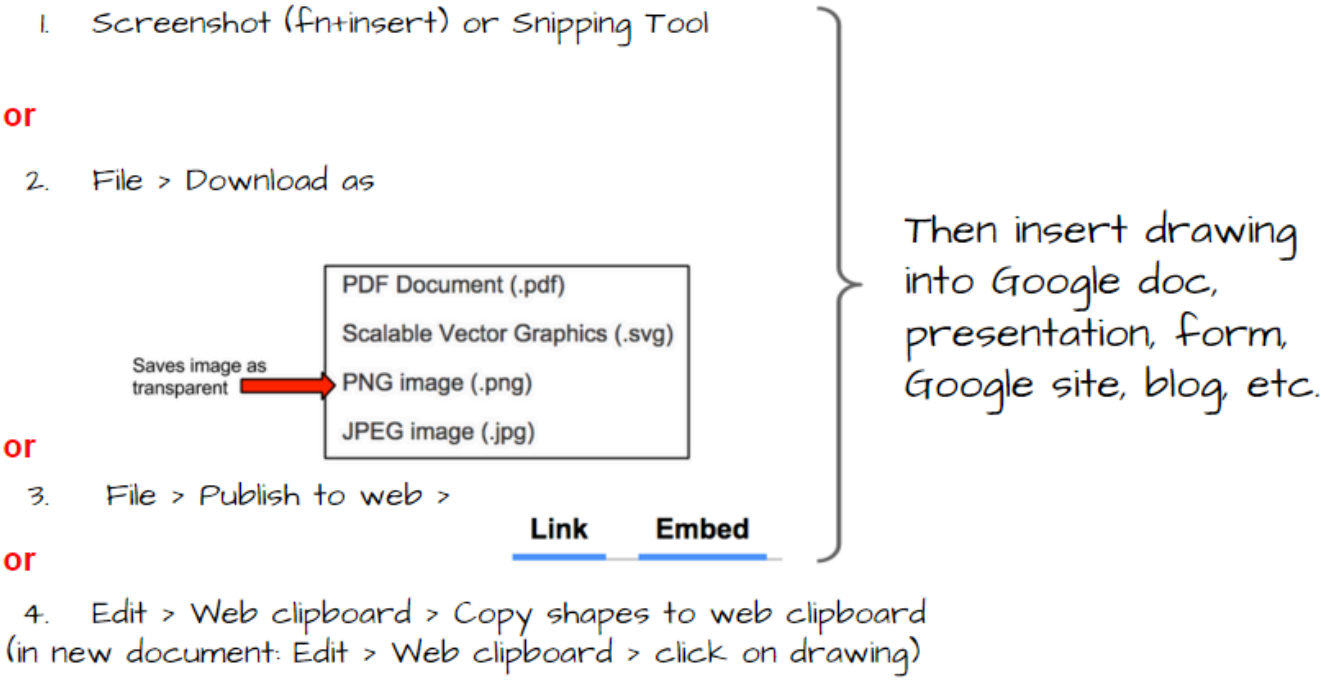
  Edit images, including cropping to a shape, adding borders, inserting links and adjusting the color settings.
- Red and blue guidelines helps you to organize the different objects both in regards to alignment and size.
- Share shapes with other applications using web clipboard in edit
- Publish to the web, not only is this useful in its own accord, but it also provides the means to embed within a website

Tips

Here are some tips to help working with Google Drawings:

- Holding SHIFT will allow you to make finer adjustments, constrain movement to the nearest axises and maintain relative proportions when resizing.
- Holding down Ctrl/Options allows you to choose multiple objects, when clicking and dragging off an object it allows you to create a duplicate, while when adjusting the node of an object allows you to maintain the dimensions
- Holding ALT/Command temporarily disable 'Snap to Grid'
- Canvases are transparent, but will turn to white if you download them as a JPEG. If you want to change the background color, right click on the canvas to get the different options.
- Clear formatting can be useful when copying in text to clear the formatting
- Replace image, not only will this keep the same dimensions as the previous image, but it will crop it to fit
- Use the workspace around the canvas to store elements and instructions offstage.

Publishing Options



Ideas

Graphic Organizers. Drawings provides the ability to create and collaboratively complete graphic organizers. This can be anything from a Venn diagram, to seating plan to a sporting line-up. Matt Miller has created a great collection of templates to easily copy into your Drive.

Visualising Thinking. By using shapes, lines and texts Drawings allows you to create brainstorms, concept maps, timelines, flowcharts and infographics with ease. What is good is that you can easily build upon past designs.

Digital Manipulatives. Whether it be working with a fraction wall, making messages with magnetic poetry or organizing different shapes into categories, Drawings allows you to create resources that allow students to engage with. See Collette Mondor's post for more ideas.

Web Clipboard. Using the line tool, create arrows to the different parts and then add text to describe them. This can be particularly useful when creating diagrams or annotating images for tutorials for Docs, Slides and Sheets. Using web clipboard, images can be created using Drawings then transferred to other programs. The benefit is that unlike copying a finished image, you are able to continue to make changes and adjustments. See Andy Hair's course diagram for an example.

Cards and Certificates. Building on the idea of Web Clipboard, you can use the full suite of applications to create merges for any situation. Sylvia Duckworth provides a tutorial for how to quickly and easily create personalized cards.

Avatars and Images. Through the use of shapes and lines, you are actually able to make a wide range of images. From cartoon characters and vector portraits, to visual quotes and movie posters. What is great is the ease in which you can just remix an old design.

Extra Tools

Colorzilla--**Extension that allows you to pick hex codes for colors off the web.**

Snag-it--Chrome browser screenshot tool

Page ruler--Extension that gives you web-based measurements for objects

Resources

1. Getting Started with Google Drawings – Alice Keeler
2. Google Drawings Cheat Sheet – Kasey Bell
3. Google Drawings: The Best Tool You're Not Using – Adam Seipel
4. Create with Google Drawings – Joe Sisco
5. Docs Editor Help: Drawings
6. Getting Creative with Google Drawings – Sylvia Duckworth
7. Google Drawings Graphic Organizers – Matt Miller
8. Creating Mind Maps & Mind Map Tips – Alice Keeler
9. Create Infographics – Alice Keeler
10. Digital Worksheets: Using Google Drawing In Math – Colette Mondor
11. Magnetic Poetry with Google Drawings – Kasey Bell
12. Comics with Google Tools – Mike Petty
13. Van Gogh sunflowers recreated using Google Drawings – Wes Warner
14. Google Drawings: Vector Portraits Tutorial (incl Video) – Josh Pomeroy
15. Using an Eyedropper Tool in Slides or Drawings – Phil Ballard
16. Google Drawings Interactive Posters – Matt Miller
17. Use Google Drawings for Brain-friendly Visual Notetaking – Matt Miller
18. Have Students Create Meme's in Google Drawing – Alice Keeler
19. Using Google Drawing Across the Curriculum – Janelle McLaughlin
20. 10 Engaging Google Drawings Activities for Classes – Matt Miller
21. SAMR Task for Students and Google Drawings

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