

Software & Hardware Review

CorelDraw

BY DAVID WILLIAMS

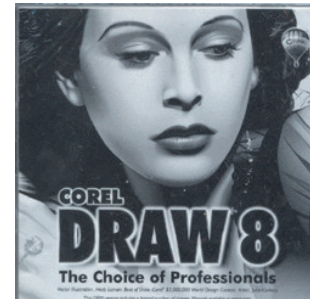
CorelDraw is unlike Adobe Illustrator, PhotoShop, and PageMaker, a graphics suite that offers several software packages in one. The program controls graphic design, page layout, photo editing and vector animation using CorelRAVE. CorelDraw reduces the number of steps it takes to complete graphics. With CorelDraw a user can size, rotate, and draw lines and curves at the same time. More time is saved using CorelDraw compared to using Adobe.

One option this writer likes about CorelDraw is the ease with which a person can create rollover button effects. All that has to be done is create a button shape, select the

effects, and click “create rollover” on the Effects toolbar. CorelDraw automatically inserts the HTML. CorelDraw launches the Internet browser, which allows the user to preview the newly created rollover buttons. In order to create a rollover button using Adobe, the user has to create and save three separate images using different file names.

CorelDraw, which is a separate application using Corel tools, can create simple Flash still and movie files that can be used for web pages. One disadvantage is CorelRAVE files are larger than Macromedia Flash files, which take longer to load. However CorelRAVE files can be converted to Flash files, which are much smaller. The best use of CorelRAVE is to create small Flash

animation. While CorelDraw has graphic design, page layout, and photo editing all in one program, CorelRAVE requires separate software application for each. On the other hand, Adobe uses application separate software for Adobe Illustrator, PhotoShop and PageMaker. CorelDraw is not intended for beginners, it is for intermediate and advanced users.



Adobe LiveMotion

Adobe® LiveMotion™ software is an essential tool for professional Web designers and developers

BY DAVID WILLIAMS

Many programs create simple Flash files, but only Adobe LiveMotion can battle directly with Macromedia Flash MX. The question is LiveMotion better than Flash. Like Motion is easier to use, and is less expensive than Flash. The interface in LiveMotion is more user friendly than Flash. LiveMotion a compelling alternative to Flash. People familiar with the Adobe interface will be right at home with LiveMotion interface.

LiveMotion and Flash differ in several important ways. “In particular, the two applications organize their animation

timelines differently. While Flash forces you to plot changes to each layer frame by frame, LiveMotion plots changes to object attributes over time, so if you set a blue ball to turn into a red ball in 10 seconds, it’ll happen--no layers to fiddle with. Not only is this

approach less confusing, it lets you independently animate more than 100 properties of a single object”.

LiveMotion integrates well with other Adobe applications such as Photoshop and ImageReady. LiveMotion can convert layers into objects, groups, and sequences while maintaining the file so it can still be edited.

LiveMotion can create complex flash animation if the users take the time to learn to use the software. The program is much easier than flash.

