



Corporate Flow



Illustration



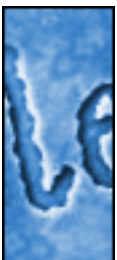
Image Editing



Automation



Web



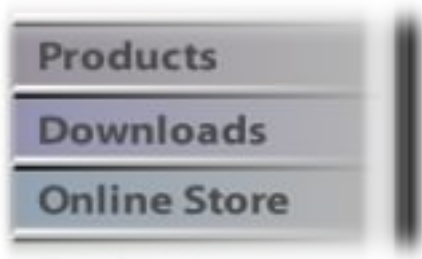
Text Effects

# Canvas Tips and Techniques



**Deneba  
Creative Department**

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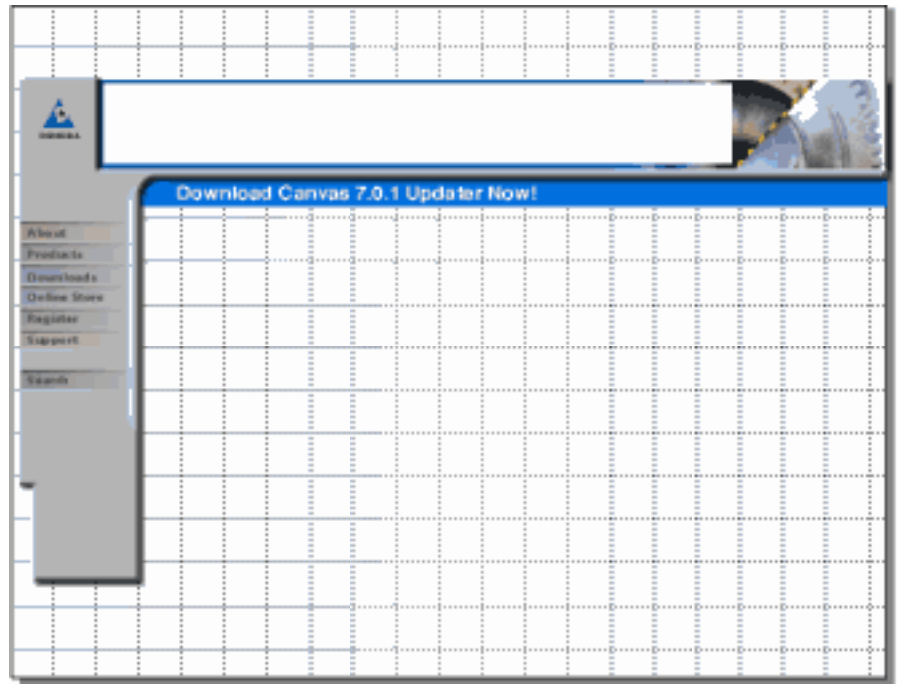


## Prepare Hot Slices for the Web

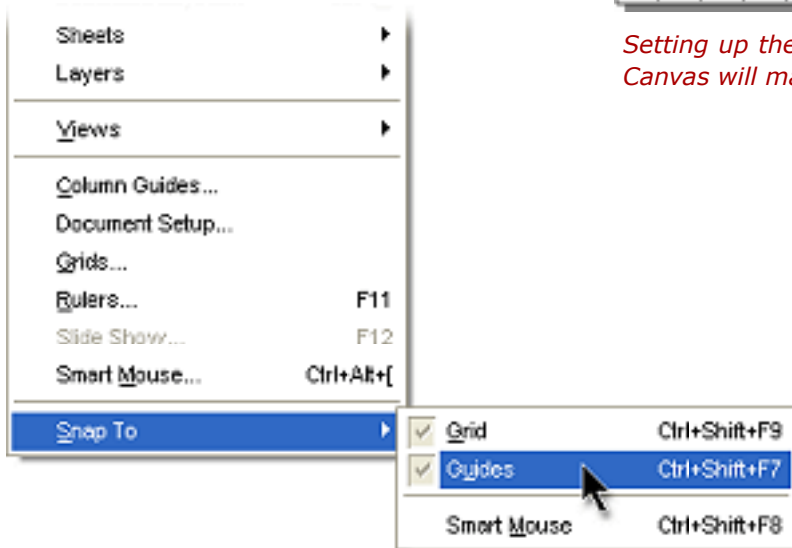
Canvas integration makes it an excellent tool not only for designing your web page graphics but also to export your Web pages directly to HTML. However if your Web project requires the export of GIFs and/or JPEG images for use with other applications, Canvas simplifies this process by providing the tools to slice your Web page designs for optimal file size and resolution.

### Step 1

Start by setting up Canvas to work on Web graphics: First set your Grids and Rulers (see the previous tutorial Three Quick Tips for Web Design for more details on how to set up Canvas for Web graphics) for best results. By setting your rulers to pixels, the sliced images will be created to the exact dimensions needed. Next, layout your navigation design. Keep in mind that your design can be made up of text, vector and image objects. Creating the GIFs and JPEGs will happen at the time of exporting.



*Setting up the rulers, grids and guides for working on Web graphics in Canvas will make slicing and exporting the GIF/JPEG much easier.*

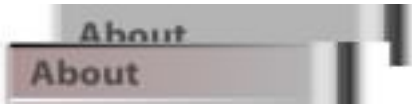


*Be sure to set the Snap to Guides before "slicing".*

## Step 2

Once your design is complete, you can start "slicing" the parts of the final image and export them for your Web site navigation. In this example, the left side navigation bar requires two images for each button in order to create rollover style navigation (see below).

Once the design is complete, drag guidelines to outline the areas to be sliced.



**Tip:** What to slice?

Slice images for rollovers (cut each state separately from the same original file) or images to use outside of Canvas .

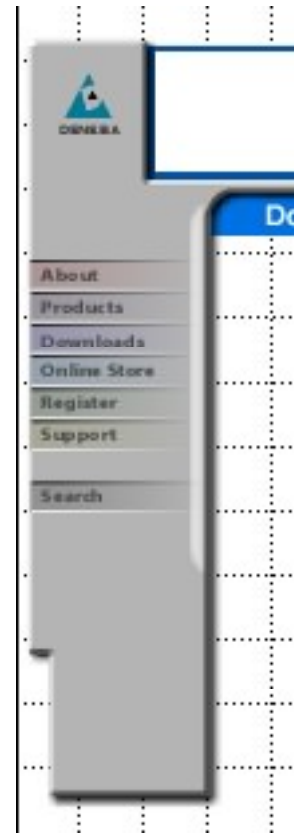
Also you can use sliced images for complex tables.

Slicing can also be used for optimizing file size of complex Web graphics. For example, an area of solid color versus a full color image. By slicing the image, each section can be optimized independently at Export. Then all "parts" would be rejoined in an html table.

## Step 3

The "trick" to slicing is to use Canvas's camera Tool to slice areas defined by the Guidelines. In Canvas 7.0.2, the camera Tool was enhanced with the ability to Snap To Guides. This makes "slicing" a pixel-perfect area as easy as dragging out a rectangle.

With the the Camera tool selected, drag a rectangle over the area to be rendered. Canvas will automatically "snap" the Camera Tool to the Guides so that a pixel-perfect image is created in the exact dimensions needed. Once the camera tool is released, a set of open handles are left for last minute editing, although not likely needed if the "Snap to Guides" was set. To accept the image, simply press Enter with the hammer icon is within the image area. Next, the Image Resolution dialog box appears to select the color mode and resolution of the image. For the Web be sure that RGB color mode and 72 Resolution are selected.



*Preparing the two states of a rollover button is just one example where "slicing" can be used. This example would require 14 separate slices, two for each of the seven buttons on the navigation bar.*



*The camera tool is found in the Toolbox.*



*Create pixel-perfect sliced images to be exported directly from Canvas for use on the Web by using the camera tool to render an area outlined by guides as shown here.*

## Step 4

Export the sliced images. Exporting a group of images at the same time using Canvas 7's Save To Web wizard is an easy and efficient way to process all your images at one time. Select for example, all the images for the left navigation buttons. As long as the button images are stacked in the order that they'll go, Canvas will automatically name each file and export to GIF or JPEG (your choice at export) number them. TIP-Because Canvas 7's Camera Tool renders the area at the appropriate resolution, the original art can remain as vector, text and images. In other words, your working files always remains editable.

Once you have all your images sliced and ready, select a set of images such as the "up" state for these rollover buttons and export them using Canvas 7's Save to Web Wizard. (File>Save to Web...).

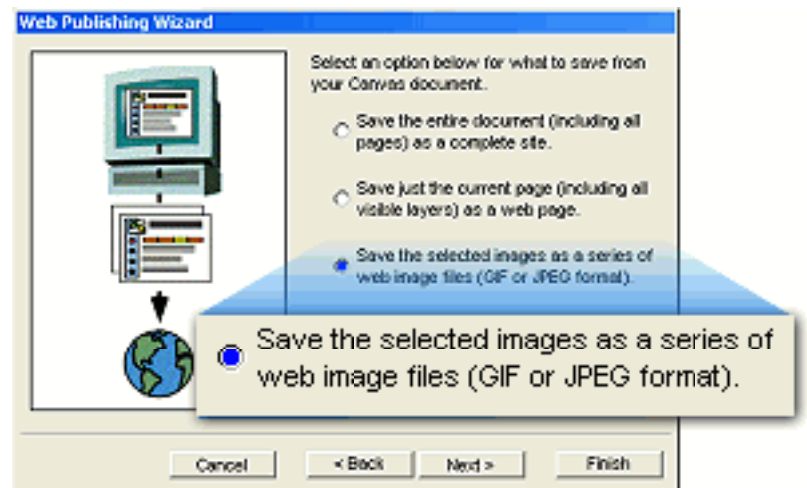


*Select the group of buttons or images to export them together using the Canvas Save to Web Wizard.*

## Step 5

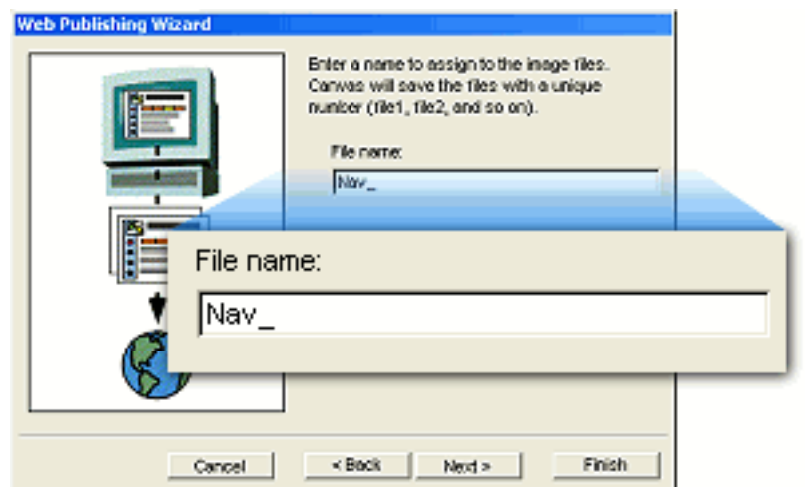
### Web Publishing Wizard

Canvas provides an easy to understand wizard to help with the choices to be made at time of export. In the wizard's second window, be sure to select the third option (shown at right) so that the entire set of images selected will be exported properly.



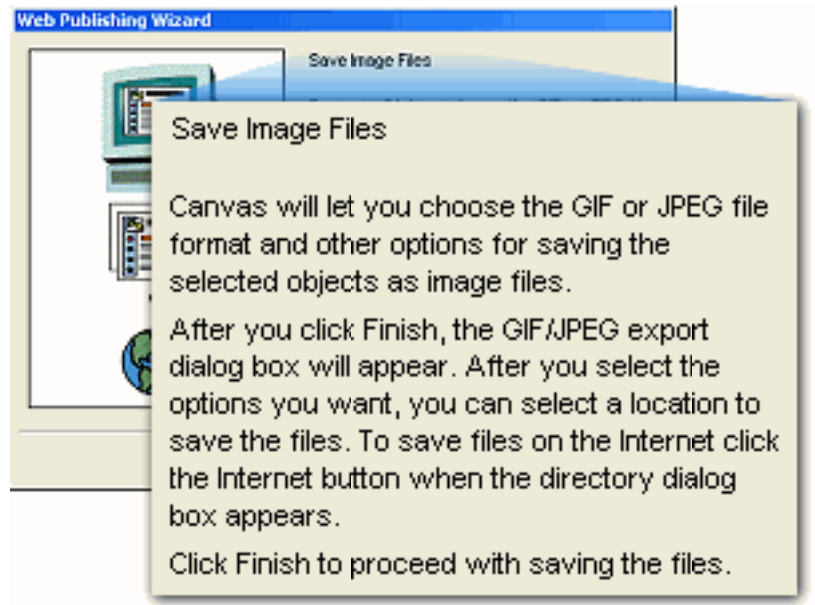
## Step 6

The next window asks to enter a name for the files. In this example, Nav\_ was used for the navigation buttons "up" state. The "down" state buttons might be named NavDown\_. Canvas fills in a unique number for each file.

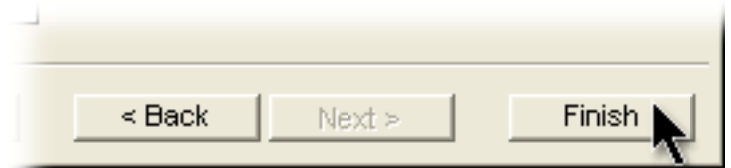


## Prepare Hot Slices for the Web (Continued)


The last window of the Web Wizard just states that the choice of exporting as GIF or JPEG is yet to be made.



Click on the Finish button on the last window of the wizard to complete the export.



Canvas will create a GIF or JPEG (depending on the choice made earlier) for each of the images selected for the Save To Web Wizard and place them on your Desktop or other designated directory.

 **Note:** When using this method on a Mac, the GIF/JPEG extension may be left off the exported images. Be sure to type in the .GIF or .JPEG extensions at the end of each file name before using them.



Nav\_1



Nav\_2



Nav\_3



Nav\_4

*The exported group of buttons are saved with unique names.*