The following list is provided for those who need information or suggestions for presentation software, drawing/graphics software, slideshow software, or video editing software programs.

Presentation Software

http://alternatives.rzero.com/present.html

"Power corrupts. **PowerPoint** corrupts absolutely." -Edward Tufte. (OK, that essay applies just as much to the alternatives as it does to PowerPoint, but the quote was too clever not to use.) To be honest, I've never used presentation software enough to have much to say about it. PowerPoint's obviously a pretty good program, but like many Microsoft products, its dominance owes more to Microsoft buying it from the original developers and then bundling it in Microsoft Office than any uniquely compelling features. There's very little it can do that the "also rans" can't do, and there are more than a few things that the alternatives can do better.

Apple **Keynote** represents the current state of the art in this category, with a so-far unmatched combination of ease-of-use features and advanced support for multimedia, including scalable graphics, loads of smoothed fonts, dual displays, etc. It imports and exports all of the file formats you're likely to want. The main down-side is that it's only available for the latest Mac OS X. Other than that, it's priced affordably.

Corel Presentations is one of the three major applications included in the standard WordPerfect Office suite (with WP and Quattro). It has all the features you'd expect these days (templates, snazzy backgrounds, dynamic transitions, etc.), plus support for animation and sound within slides. Not only can it import and export PowerPoint files, it can also produce **Flash** files for publishing on the Web.

Lotus **Freelance Graphics** is part of IBM's SmartSuite package (along with 1-2-3, WordPro, Organizer, etc), and although it's a good tool in its own right, the key point is that it handles most presentation tasks (including reading .PPT files and exporting stand-alone executables) well enough to make PowerPoint unecessary for SmartSuite users. And of course it shares a similar interface to it's suite-mates. For Windows and OS/2.

OpenOffice/NeoOffice/StarOffice Impress is a very capable program, with most of the features you'd expect to find in a modern presentation package. It will run on **Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, or Sun Solaris** and stores its documents in XML, the fully-open data storage format. It has **excellent compatibility with MS Office files**. It's available in two flavours: **OpenOffice**, the free open-source version, and **Sun StarOffice**, which includes some additional features and corporate support at a fairly low price.

Lotus **Symphony Presentations** is the presentation module in IBM's office suite. It's based on the core of OpenOffice with a user interface developed by IBM/Lotus. Available for both Windows and Mac.

SoftMaker Presentations is part of the SoftMaker suite, which is available not just for Windows and Linux, but also both the "Windows CE" and "Pocket PC "versions of Microsoft's mobile operating system.

Ability Presentations is part of a complete suite similar to MS Office, and comes close to qualifying as a **clone** of PowerPoint, with file-format compatibility, an interface that will look very familiar to Word users, and of course features. And much cheaper. The components can be purchased separately or as a complete package. Available for **Windows**. A free trial can be downloaded.

GoBe Productive is an highly-integrated office software package, by some of the same people who created the legendary Claris/AppleWorks package. Rather than having separate programs for word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, presentation, etc. GoBe Productive is a single program that lets you do all of these things, even in a single document. It was a popular package for BeOS, and is

Thinkfree Show operates in conjunction with the company's web site, where your documents can be stored (securely) for retrieval from anywhere. It requires a relatively small download, which can also be used (with local storage) offline. It's Java based, so it's compatible with all the major operating systems: Windows, Mac OS, and Unix-like systems. Companies can licence a server edition for deployment on their LAN. ⊞ ✗

KPresenter is the presentation software included in the **free** KOffice suite of programs for Unix-like systems running the KDE desktop. It can import PowerPoint files and export HTML pages. Since it's feature set is driven by the needs and interests of its developers (rather than adding them for the sake of adding them) it's a fairly simple product, and doesn't have a very large array of templates and such included, but it's more than adequate for many people's presentation needs, and as an open source project, it's likely to improve dramatically with age. ✗

Prologue **SundayPlus** is a well-regarded program designed to assist churches with the use of multimedia technology in their worship services, and is easy for a lay-person (by which I mean "not technical", rather than "not ordained") to work with. However, there's no reason it couldn't be used for secular presentations as well. The dual-screen aspect, showing the presenter a comprehensive control panel and the congregation/audience just the presentation itself, is a nice feature. It's available for Mac and Windows. Or you might find something else that meets your presentation needs on this listing of worship-focused presentation programs. ⊞

≋ a close match or substitute for Microsoft's product

★ an especially high-quality alternative

↻ an inexpensive (or even free) alternative

⊘ offers a strong challenge to Microsoft's influence

✓ my personal selection

Free Drawing and Painting Programs, Image Manipulation and Photo Editing Software

http://www.thefreecountry.com/utilities/imagephotoediting.shtml

MyPaint ⟩NEW⟨

MyPaint is an open source painting software that comes with a large number of brushes, including pencil, charcoal, smudge, ink, etc; support for creating your own types of brushes; unlimited canvas; layer support; support for pressure sensitive graphics tablets; and so on. Windows and Linux versions are available, as well as a plugin for GIMP (see elsewhere on this page so that you can open and save MyPaint native files with that software.

mtPaint

This program, mtPaint, lets you create "pixel art" and manipulate digital photographs. It presents you with a pixel grid of your picture, at varying zoom levels, so that you can accurately paint or edit it. It works with pressure sensitive graphics tablets, supports multiple layers (up to 100, at the time this was written), has numerous brush patterns, user-defined gradients, undo, multiple image clipboards, gamma correction, a variety of effects (eg, invert, greyscale, isometric transformations, edge detect, sharpen, "unsharp" mask, soften, Gaussian blur, emboss, etc), crop, rescaling, screen capture, etc. The program works in Windows and Linux, and is open source, under the GNU General Public License.

Pencil — 2D Animation Software

Pencil is an open source (free) animation drawing software that runs on Windows, Mac OS X and Linux. That is, you can use it to draw pictures that you can string together to form an animation or cartoon. This cartoon can be exported as a series of PNG images, in a Flash file format (which you can exhibit on your own website) or as a QuickTime movie (the QuickTime movie export only works in the Mac OS X version at the moment). Sound can also be added to cartoon. The program supports both bitmap and vector graphics.

PhotoPos Lite

This is a photo and graphics editor that lets you work with multiple images simultaneously, edit and enhance those pictures, apply filters to your photos, use basic shapes and paint brushes to draw your pictures, use flood fill, apply simple gradients, apply special effects, print your pictures, etc. This is a Windows program.

[Helios Paint](#)

This freeware paint program may be used to create and edit images on Windows, Mac OS X, Linux and Unix. Features include a pencil for editing pixels, a variety of lines (curved, straight, freehand), a paint brush with resizable heads, a spray can with resizable nozzle and a global spray facility, shape tools (star, moon, heart, regular polygon, freehand), paint can with colour bleed sensitivity, text entry, HSB/RGB/contrast/gamma adjustment, image filters (invert, grey, black and white, colour, sharpen, blur, edge feathering, edge detection, oil painting effect, emboss), image colour and transparency adjustment, zoom in and out, selection and moving tools (scissors, lasso, wand), undo and redo, printing with page auto-fit, etc.

[Paint.COM](#)

This image editor lets you create and modify JPG, PNG, BMP and other types of raster images. It supports layers with effects, has many drawing tools that can do gamma-blending and color gradient interpolation, has sub-pixel accuracy, the usual assortment of tools (magic wand, transformation, brushes, rectangles, ellipses, polygons, etc) and filters (drop shadow, blur, bevel, colour corrections, etc), supports [PhotoShop](#) plugins as well as customizations using JavaScript, etc.

[Dia](#)

Dia is a diagram creation program inspired by the commercial "Visio". A drawing program rather than a painting one, it has many facilities to help you draw diagrams, including special objects for drawing entity relationship diagrams, UML diagrams, flowcharts, network diagrams, etc. It saves files to a custom XML format, but can also export to other formats like EPS, SVG, XFIG, WMF and PNG. Other features include the ability to print multi-page diagrams. Dia works on Windows and Linux. Source code is also available.

[IrfanView](#)

IrfanView is primarily an image viewer that can double as a simple image editor that can perform tasks like resizing of images, converting images between formats, renaming of files, etc. It is able to perform batch conversion of images and pictures as well as batch renaming of files, which is a handy feature when you have many files you need to process.

[GIMP - GNU Image Manipulation Program](#)

GIMP, often touted as a [Adobe Photoshop](#) replacement by its fans, allows you to create and edit images and photos. It has the usual facilities found in many commercial paint programs such as a variety of paint tools (Brush, Airbrush, Pencil, Clone, custom brushes and patterns, etc), full alpha channel support, layers and channels, transformation tools (rotate, scale, sheer, flip), multiple undo and redo, selection tools (rectangle, ellipse, free, fuzzy, intelligent, bezier, polygonal), animation support (including MNG), numerous file formats (BMP, GIF, JPEG, MNG, PCX, [PDF](#), PS, PSD, PNG, SVG, TIF, TGA, XPM, etc) including conversion between different file formats, and so on. Supported systems include Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, FreeBSD and Sun Solaris. This is an open source program.

[Google Picasa](#)

Picasa is a photo editing program that allows you to edit and organise your pictures on your computer. You can add visual effects to your digital pictures, write captions, pan, tilt, zoom, crop, eliminate red eyes, change the contrast, colour and enhance them. Other features include the ability to create slide shows, upload your photographs to your blog or website, burn them to CD or DVD, make a desktop image, create a screensaver, etc. The software is available for Windows and Linux.

[Tux Paint](#)

Tux Paint is a drawing software designed for young children. It has cute looking buttons, sound effects and a mascot that encourages children as they use the program. Supported systems include Windows, Linux, Mac OS X, FreeBSD and NetBSD.

[Paint.NET](#)

Paint.NET is an image and photo manipulation program that supports layers, unlimited undo and redo, special effects, drawing tools (tools for drawing shapes, splines, Bezier curves, etc), etc. It runs under Windows 2000, XP, 2003 and Vista. It requires the Microsoft .NET Framework (hence its name).

[Inkscape - open source scalable vector graphics editor](#)

Inkscape is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) editor. It is open source, and versions are available for Windows 2000, XP, 2003, and OS X.

Slideshow Programs – Free/low cost

Microsoft Photo Story 3 for Windows

http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.mspx

Photo Flash Maker Free Version 5.17	**ANVSOFT Inc.**

Photo Flash Maker free version is a light-weight and easy-to-use flash creator. With this freeware, you can create flash slideshows with photos and music, in only a few steps. Photo Flash Maker (free version) provides user-friendly interface, ready-for-use flash templates and effects, and more features. With Photo Flash Maker free version, you can create gorgeous photo flash slideshows in SWF format for watching on computer, burn the gift CD/DVD.

E.M. Free DVD Photo Slideshow 2.12	**eTinySoft Inc.**	**Released:** Mar 18, 2010

E.M. Free DVD Photo Slideshow is the absolutely free photo to DVD creator. It allows you to create unique DVD slideshow complete with various transitions, personalized background music, effects, narration, caption and so on. Just import photos and videos, decorate it with abundant material as you like, burn it on DVD with this magic free photo DVD maker!

Platforms:

Rating: Not rated

Easy Slideshow Maker 1.0	**Fellow software**	**Released:** May 31, 2010

Easy Slideshow Maker is an efficient and easy slideshow creator software, it can help you create your photo slideshow to avi format in several steps. You can burn the slideshow to CD to watch on TV, enjoy it on your mobile phone or portable video player which supports avi format. You also can upload it to your social network space, such as YouTube, Facebook, MySpace etc to share with your friends.

Platforms:

Type: Shareware	**Cost:** $19.99 US

Online Slideshow maker programs:

Slideroll	http://www.slideroll.com/
Animoto	www.animoto.com
Big Huge Labs	http://bighugelabs.com/slideshow.php
Kizoa	http://www.kizoa.com/

Top 5 Free Video Editing Software Programs
http://www.desktop-video-guide.com/top-5-free-video-editing-software-review.html
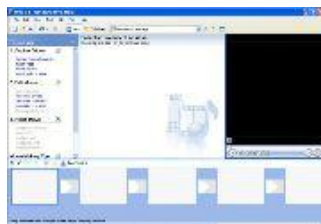
Microsoft Movie Maker

Already installed on newer computers that are running Windows XP, Movie Maker has drag and drop features to make creating and editing your movie easier. Microsoft has many add-ons for this software, and upgrades are available through the website. This is one of the best free video editing software programs available.

Apple iMovie

Apple iMovie is comparable to Windows Movie Maker, but Apple iMovie is used on the MAC operating system. Apple iMovie has many advanced features and add-ons. Unfortunately, the software is only free if you buy a new MAC system. If you want the software without buying the system, it is available for purchase. One of the best free video editing programs available for MAC users.

Avid FreeDV

Avid FreeDV is available for both Windows and MAC operating systems, and includes basic video and audio editing capabilities, as well as up to two streams of real-time effects. On the whole, a solid video editing program that is slightly hard to use, but very powerful once you learn its ins and outs.

Wax

Wax is a high performance and flexible free video editing software program. It started out as a college project, and has since grown. Wax is good for both home users and professionals. It can be used as a stand-alone application, or as a plug-in to other video editors. The software also features unlimited video and audio tracks with top-down compositing.

Zwei-Stein

Zwei-Stein is great free video editing software, but the user interface is very technical. It is full featured, offering many different effects. It can edit up to 256 video, audio, and still image clips. There are up to 64 effects, which can be chained serially. An interesting program that's worth looking at.