

WHAT IS A VECTOR

Vector Graphic

Unlike Raster files like JPEGs, GIFs, and BMP images, vector graphics are not made up of a grid of pixels.

Vector graphics are comprised of paths, which are defined by a start and end point, along with other points, curves, and angles along the way.

A path can be a line, shape, or an outline of an object. These paths can be used to create simple drawings or complex diagrams. Paths are even used to define the characters of specific typefaces.

A vector-based image is not made up of a specific number of dots, so they can be scaled to a larger size and not lose any image quality.

If one enlarges a raster graphic, it will look blocky, or "pixelated."

However when one enlarges a vector graphic, the edges of each object within the graphic stay smooth, crisp and clean.

This makes vector graphics ideal for logos, which can be small enough to appear on a business card, but can also be scaled to fill a billboard.

Common types of vector graphics include:-

- Adobe Illustrator,
- Macromedia Freehand,
- Corel Draw and EPS files.

File extensions:

AI, .EPS, .SVG, .DRW,

(some .pdf can also be vector files if created from the file types mentioned before.)

Many Flash animations also use vector graphics, since they scale better and typically take up less space than bitmap images.

