CorelDRAW®
Graphics Suite 2017
Reviewer’s Guide
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Introducing CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite 2017

Our best just got better — CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite 2017 is our latest and most innovative release yet. Following the introduction of the industry-acclaimed CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 in early 2016, this new version has been developed with an eye on rapidly evolving technologies and an ear to customer feedback. Thanks to an accelerated development cycle, users can leverage the latest hardware, peripherals, and operating systems to craft and personalize projects and deliver expert results in record time.

The technology that drives so much of the design world is evolving at an astonishing rate. CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 lets you fully leverage these advancements. Design with ease using some of today’s latest technology, including your stylus or touch-enabled devices, the Microsoft Surface Dial, Ultra HD 5K monitors and more. No matter which new tools and accessories are essential to your workflow, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 is here to help you make the most of your investment.

Jump in

Whether you’re a first-time user or an experienced designer, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 makes it easy to get started. Learn the basics or see what’s new with a Startup tour, and be productive immediately with a workspace that matches your workflow needs. There’s a range of high-quality content and versatile in-product learning resources to enrich your projects. You can also take advantage of the latest that Windows 10 has to offer, together with multi-monitor viewing and 5K-display support.

Craft

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite has long been a favorite with creative and production professionals because the unparalleled power of its toolset allows them to design with dexterity, speed, and confidence. With this new release, we’re going further by challenging assumptions and looking at creativity in a way that’s never before been possible in vector graphics.

What if you could create hand-drawn and organic vector shapes as easily as putting a pen to paper? Imagine your best and most creative ideas starting out as sketches right on your screen — forget about that notebook, napkin or white board. The tactile, hands-on experience that artists love about raster painting has now been incorporated into your creative vector workflow.

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 introduces a revolutionary new tool, LiveSketch™, that uses the power of neural networks to understand and deliver a natural and creative vector drawing experience in real time. Based on the latest research on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, LiveSketch allows you to transform the creativity of free-form sketching into precise vector
curves directly on a pen-enabled device. Your strokes are intelligently interpreted, adjusted and combined with existing vector curves, allowing you to sketch and design on the fly. LiveSketch turns the vector graphics creative process on its head. For the first time, you no longer need to think about the math behind the curve to bring your ideas to life.

Our team created the LiveSketch tool by studying how artists apply strokes by hand, such as the use of overlapping strokes, folded lines and even chicken scratches, to draw the shapes they want. We then developed CorelDRAW to interpret and represent these strokes to create the object the user is trying to achieve. LiveSketch removes barriers to creativity by relieving you from thinking of your designs in terms of vector shapes, lines and nodes. Not only does it offer an enjoyable, spontaneous and natural drawing experience, but it also brings a new tactile dimension to a vector-based environment. Shapes now respond to the user in ways that were never possible before. Almost clay-like, these vector shapes are malleable and organic.

This revolutionary change is freeing and fun, plus it also eliminates the time-consuming task of starting a design on paper, and then needing to scan, trace or recreate it in vector. We believe the LiveSketch productivity boost will be a must for any graphics professional and can’t wait to see what our users create with it.

Of course, there will be times when you’ll want to continue working in a traditional vector workflow. To keep you working quickly, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 also offers faster, more efficient object editing and intuitive node manipulation. Nodes, interactive handles and vector previews have been revamped to ensure that they won’t get lost in the background colors of your design. What’s more, each node type is assigned a unique shape, so you can quickly identify cusp, smooth, and symmetrical nodes.

If you work with a stylus or on a touch-enabled device, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 delivers a range of creative possibilities. You can take advantage of a number of real-time stylus input factors or sketch on the fly and make quick adjustments using touch or a stylus with Tablet Mode support and the new Touch workspace.

**Personalize**

For every industry that relies on CorelDRAW Graphics Suite, there’s a different workflow, each with different needs. Rather than force anyone to work a certain way, Corel encourages you to work in whatever way best suits you and your projects.

We know how critical your custom workspaces are to your productivity. That’s why CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 gives you the ability to reuse CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT workspaces that were created in versions X6, X7, and X8, so you can continue designing right where you left off. What’s more, you have the flexibility of importing select workspace elements into your current workspace, or creating a totally new UI setup.
You can adapt node shapes to best suit your way of working and new color personalization options help you edit objects more efficiently by letting you choose the colors for nodes, handles and previews that will stand out against underlying colors. There is also a range of customization options to help you tailor the interface to suit your workflow. Because fonts are central to so many creative sectors, the Corel Font Manager™ simplifies finding and managing fonts on your system. You can also enhance and tailor your workflow even more by choosing from a collection of creative tools available for download or purchase directly from within the suite.

**Delight**

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 has everything you need to deliver eye-catching professional-quality designs to any medium. Whether your work is destined for the web, social media, print ads, brochures, billboards or signs, the suite provides the flexibility and accuracy that you need for all types of projects.

One of the reasons that CorelDRAW Graphics Suite has long been a favorite with creative professionals is that it has always allowed them to focus on wowing their audience. But time spent tweaking color settings and dealing with file formats can come at the expense of what they’d really rather be doing — creating expressive, captivating designs. To that end, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite offers a color-management system that assures accurate color representation regardless of your level of expertise. Whether you’re importing a client’s mock-up, working with previous designs, or sending a project to a print shop or manufacturing facility, you can be certain that your colors are true. And with its industry-leading file format compatibility, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 provides the flexibility that designers need for sharing their work. There’s also a web-development tool, Corel® Website Creator™, that has dozens of templates so you can easily design, build, and maintain a web presence without having to learn how to code.

And when you could use some inspiration or advice, there’s the CorelDRAW Community site. It’s the place where users can get together to share and learn from others, discover what community members create, and fuel their inspiration.
Choose your purchase option

In the interest of user choice, we’re offering several CorelDRAW Graphics Suite purchase options.

Perpetual License

At Corel, we strongly believe that you should not be forced into a rental model if you don’t want it. For a one-time payment, a CorelDRAW perpetual license gives you the right to use the software forever, with no extra monthly cost. By purchasing a box, download version or volume license version of the product, you get access to the full benefits of a specific version, and there is no need for a permanent Internet connection. Perpetual licenses give you the option to pay for future major upgrades, only if you want them.

Subscription

A CorelDRAW® Subscription is an affordable way to stay up-to-date with the latest tools and enhancements of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite. It offers a cost-effective alternative to paying the upfront cost of the software. Instead, you’ll get a full, downloadable version of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite that remains entirely functional for as long as your subscription is active. You decide how and when you want to use it. An annual plan offers an overall discount, with the option to auto-renew or end your subscription after the 12-month period.

Your subscription entitles you to the latest performance enhancements and updates. It also entitles you to the next major version upgrade for as long as your subscription is active.

Upgrade Program

The CorelDRAW® Upgrade Program is the hassle-free way for designers to keep their toolbox up-to-date at the best price. If you own a version of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite with a perpetual license, you pay one affordable fee once a year, and you’re assured of working with the latest design tools, new file compatibility, and the most current technology. And as long as your account is active, you’ll automatically get the latest version of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite. Best of all, sign up once and forget about it. In addition, if your needs change, you will continue to own the last version you received through the upgrade program.

*A corel.com account and Internet connection are required to download and use the application and manage your subscription.
Customer profiles

Graphics and creative professionals

Graphics and creative professionals in industries including advertising and printing spend much of their time creating and editing graphics, working with text, and retouching photos. These users frequently work on layout and design projects for print and the web, such as creating logos and multipage brochures. Some work as illustrators and fine artists, combining classic art practices and time-honored techniques with state-of-the-art vector-illustration technology. They seek innovative design tools that optimize their workflow and compatibility with commonly used file formats.

Production professionals

These users focus primarily on sign making, screen printing, engraving, and graphic design for print and the web. They frequently repurpose and combine such assets as illustrations, scanned logos, photos, clipart images, and fonts. They have to repurpose content provided by clients in a variety of formats. They use this as a starting point, but spend the bulk of their time reworking and tweaking it. They pay particular attention to design optimization and output preparation. Their work is output to large-format printers, engraving machines, glass or vinyl cutters, and silk-screen or Direct to Garment (DTG) printers.

Occasional graphics users

Entrepreneurs and small to medium-sized businesses often create marketing and communications materials in-house. Typically self-taught in graphic design, these occasional users modify existing artwork, retouch photos, and create ads, flyers, and other marketing collateral.

Business users in medium-sized to large enterprises strive to create professional, graphically rich projects ranging from sales presentations to web graphics. They spend considerable time reworking existing projects and retouching photos to use in their marketing and communications materials.

Hobbyists are self-taught and use graphic design software occasionally for creative projects — such as newsletters, calendars, banners, and photo layouts — for personal or community use.
Why do graphics professionals choose CorelDRAW Graphic Suite?

There are many reasons why CorelDRAW Graphics Suite is the software of choice in so many industries, but two really stand out: unparalleled typographical features and the ability to fine-tune your work environment with customization options and the support for the latest technology.

Typography

Whether your work is destined for the web, a digital sign, a billboard or print, chances are text will be a critical part of the design. Text is such an important element of a project because it can truly set the tone. A font or text style chosen haphazardly can undermine an otherwise great piece of work, running counter to the rest of a design.

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite simplifies your typographic workflow by allowing you to manage your font collections and create new ones, choose the perfect font for a project, refine the look of text until it's just right, and ensure that there are no problems when handing off work for printing. CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 offers Corel Font Manager, a standalone font management application for finding, organizing, and previewing local fonts. It also provides easy access to online fonts on the Content Exchange. One of the typographical features that's made the suite a favorite with graphics and production professionals is intuitive searching and filtering that helps you quickly find fonts for any project.

The Insert Character docker helps you quickly find a font's available glyphs, while the Font Playground lets you easily find the perfect font by comparing and adjusting a variety of text examples. Font embedding ensures that CorelDRAW documents can be viewed, printed, and edited exactly as designed. You can also access and preview advanced OpenType features for your fonts, including strong support for Asian text.

Flexible UI customization

When it comes to giving you the freedom to modify your workspace to your exacting standards, few applications come close to CorelDRAW Graphics Suite. Giving you the ability to design in a personalized creative environment has always been a hallmark of the suite. There are endless customization options that let you keep frequently used tools within easy reach and tailor the main applications to work the way you prefer. Quick Customize buttons make workspace customization fast and easy. What’s more, graphics professionals can reuse legacy CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT workspaces that were created in versions X6, X7, and X8 in a few simple clicks.

You can tailor the shape, size, and color of nodes to best suit your workflow and customize the colors of handles and previews so they stand out against the background of a project. Icons can be scaled up to 250%, allowing you to get more out of high-resolution...
displays. The color of the desktop, toolbars, and window borders can also be personalized to best suit your projects. What's more, CorelDRAW has a variety of workflow-specific workspaces based on the recommendations of professional industry experts who use the suite routinely to arrange tools and features for specific tasks.

The suite is optimized for high resolution displays, ensuring that user interface elements appear crisp and legible when displayed on high resolution monitors, including UltraHD 5K. Advanced multi-monitor support ensures that designers can work in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT across multiple monitors of varying DPI.
What’s included?

Applications

- CorelDRAW® 2017: This intuitive vector-illustration and page-layout application meets the demands of today’s busy graphics professionals and graphics non-professionals.
- Corel® PHOTO-PAINT® 2017: This professional image-editing application lets you quickly and easily retouch and enhance photos.
- Corel Font Manager™ 2017: This standalone font management application lets you find, organize, and preview local fonts, as well as online fonts on the Content Exchange.
- Corel® PowerTRACE® 2017: This utility is embedded in CorelDRAW to help you quickly and accurately convert bitmaps into editable vector graphics.
- Corel® CONNECT™ 2017: This full-screen browser lets you access the suite’s digital content, the Content Exchange, and search your computer or local network to quickly find the perfect complement for a project.
- Corel CAPTURE™ 2017: This one-click utility lets you capture images from your computer screen.
- Corel® Website Creator™*: This application offers a fast and easy way to design, build, and manage websites.

Supporting applications

- Barcode Wizard: This wizard guides you through the generation of bar codes in a wide range of industry-standard formats.
- Duplexing Wizard: This wizard helps you optimize your projects for two-sided printing.
- PhotoZoom Pro 4*: This plug-in lets registered users export and enlarge digital images from Corel PHOTO-PAINT.
- WhatTheFont: This online font identification service is integrated with CorelDRAW.
- Microsoft® Visual Basic® for Applications 7.1: This integrated development environment includes 64-bit support and helps you streamline your workflow by automating tasks.
- Microsoft® Visual Studio® Tools for Applications 2015: This toolset includes the power of the .NET framework, so you can create time-saving macros to automate tasks and extend functionality.
- GPL Ghostscript: This feature lets you isolate and use individual elements of imported EPS files rather than only header images. It also improves the import of PDF files generated by third-party applications.

* Application download requires Internet connection and an authenticated version of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite.
Content

- 10,000 clipart and digital images
- 2,000 high-resolution digital photos
- Over 1,000 TrueType and OpenType\textsuperscript{\textregistered} fonts
- 350 professionally designed templates
- 2,000 vehicle templates
- Over 500 interactive frames and photo frames
- Over 600 fountain, vector and bitmap fills

Documentation

- Quick Start Guide
- Quick-reference card
- Help files

Training

- Interactive Startup tours
- Insights from the Experts
- Hints docker
- Discovery Center access from the Welcome Screen
- More than 5 hours of training videos
- Video Hints
- Tips & Tricks

Minimum system requirements

- Windows 10, Windows 8.1, or Windows 7 (32-bit or 64-bit editions), with the latest updates and service packs
- Intel Core i3/5/7 or AMD Athlon 64
- 2 GB of RAM
- 1 GB of hard disk space
- 1280 x 720 screen resolution at 100% (96 dpi), 1920 x 1080 at 150%, and 2560 x 1440 at 200%
- DVD drive for installation by disc
- Multi-touch screen, mouse, or tablet
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.6
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 or higher
- An authenticated version of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite and Internet connection are required to access online features and content included with your software. You can authenticate the product after the suite installation, before starting an application, or while using an application. The product can be used offline if you connect to the Internet at least once a month to validate your software license.
Top new and enhanced features

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 is an intuitive and complete graphics solution that empowers you to make a major impact with your artwork.

Design using hand-drawn vector curves right from the get-go with the LiveSketch tool. Harness the creative possibilities of a number of real-time stylus input factors. Sketch on the fly and make quick adjustments using touch or a stylus with Tablet Mode support and the Touch workspace. Edit objects and effects more efficiently using enhanced previews, nodes, and handles that don’t get lost in the background colors of your design. Import CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT workspaces that were created in versions X6, X7, and X8.

**New! LiveSketch™ tool:** This revolutionary tool uses an Artificial Intelligence technology called a neural network that gives users an entirely new way to bring their vector designs to life. LiveSketch is perfect for kick-starting a project and getting the idea in your imagination onto the screen in front of you. Great when working with a stylus or on a touch-enabled device, it combines the speed of sketching with flexible stroke-adjustment controls so you can begin your design concepts using hand-drawn vector curves right from the get-go.

Whether you have great sketching skills or you are just learning to sketch, CorelDRAW can adjust your strokes and help you quickly move your ideas from imagination to reality. Artwork by Andrew Stacey.
The LiveSketch tool lets you capture design concepts using hand-drawn vector curves. If you’ve ever used a scanned sketch as the basis for a project, you’ll quickly see the creative and time-saving possibilities that the LiveSketch tool offers. Not only does it eliminate the need to scan and trace a drawing, but it also gives you total control over how your strokes are adjusted and converted to curves. Intuitive settings let you easily fine-tune how CorelDRAW 2017 meshes with your sketching cadence.

Strokes before (top) and after (bottom) stroke adjustment: discrete overlapping strokes (left), folded strokes (middle), chicken scratch (right)

Strokes created with the LiveSketch tool are adjusted and added to existing curves based on the time and distance between them. You can set the time it takes to activate stroke adjustment after you’ve stopped drawing and the distance at which strokes are automatically added to existing curves.

With the timer set to 0 milliseconds (left), successive strokes are converted into discrete curves. With the timer set to 1 second (right), successive strokes are joined into a single curve.

An existing stroke (left); A new stroke (in blue) is created within the proximity of the existing stroke (middle). The existing stroke is extended and readjusted (right).
Disable proximity-based stroke grouping to keep your strokes as separate objects.

You also have the option of combining all strokes drawn within the specified time frame into a single curve, regardless of the distance between them.

When you move the pointer inside the editable area of an existing curve, the curve is highlighted to indicate that you can modify it.

When you include an existing curve into a sketch, the resulting curve inherits the properties of the existing curve.

If you want to extend an existing curve, simply hover over it until it turns red and continue to sketch. The subsequent stroke is seamlessly added to the existing curve, allowing you to sketch, adjust and edit on the fly.

Regardless of your sketching experience, you'll be amazed how quickly you can produce impressive results.
In no time, you’ll be capturing an inspiration or an idea just as you had imagined it.

**Give it a try**

**Using the LiveSketch tool**

1. In the toolbox, click the LiveSketch tool.
2. On the property bar, do any of the following:
   - Move the Timer slider to set a delay before your strokes are adjusted.
     
     By default, the delay is 1 second. The minimum delay is 0 milliseconds; the maximum is 5 seconds. Setting a longer delay period gives you more time to manipulate your lines.
   
   - Click the Create single curve button on the property bar to allow input strokes to be converted into one continuous line.
     
     For best results, set a longer delay time. CorelDRAW processes only strokes that are within the specified delay time.
   
   - Type a value in the Curve smoothing box on the property bar.
     
     Higher values produce smoother curves.

You can readjust an existing curve by clicking the Include curves button on the property bar, moving the Distance from curve slider to set the distance at which existing curves are included into a sketch as new input strokes, and sketching over an existing stroke to modify it.

To see a stroke preview, click the Preview mode button on the property bar.

**New!**  **Stylus tilt, bearing, and rotation:** CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 makes it easier than ever to get the most out of your stylus and harness the creative possibilities of a number of real-time input factors. A redesigned UI gives instant access to relevant controls and the ability to quickly choose which stylus properties to leverage.

In CorelDRAW 2017, the new Expression mode of the Artistic Media tool lets you use pressure, tilt, and bearing to vary brushstrokes.

**The Expression mode of the Artistic Media tool lets you take advantage of the pressure, tilt, and bearing of your stylus.**

Powerful editing flexibility makes it simple to perfect anything that you’ve drawn with a stylus. You can use the property bar to precisely fine-tune an existing curve, or you can use the Shape tool to adjust only a segment of the curve by dragging nodes, but still retain all the tilt and bearing values used when it was created. You can get more out the Eraser tool by controlling the width, flatness, and rotation of the nib with your stylus. You can
also dictate bearing and tilt values before using either tool to set a brush nib of fixed flatness and rotation.

Stylus support has also been enhanced in Corel PHOTO-PAINT 2017. You can take advantage of pressure, bearing, tilt, and rotation for the touch-up tools, Effect tool, Eraser tool, and a number of brush tools. What’s more, you can pump up rotation, flatness and elongation settings to get an even greater range of artistic possibilities.

**New! Touch-friendly UI:** Tablet Mode support makes it easy to sketch on the fly and make quick adjustments using touch or a stylus. The new Touch workspace, activated when switching to Tablet Mode, streamlines the UI to maximize the size of the drawing window by displaying only the tools and commands that you’re most likely to use in the field on a tablet. All other features are still accessible in a couple of taps. And when you reattach the keyboard, the UI reverts to the default desktop setup. If you prefer working with one of the desktop workspaces when you’re in Tablet mode, you can choose whatever UI configuration works best for you. Users can now also save time and work faster by panning and zooming in a single gesture.

**Give it a try**

**Using touch**

On Windows 10, Tablet mode is activated when you detach a tablet from its base. CorelDRAW automatically switches to the Touch workspace when Tablet mode is enabled.

Automatic workspace switching is not available for Windows 8 or Windows 7. To switch to the Touch workspace, you must choose it manually by clicking Window ➤ Workspace ➤ Touch ➤ Touch.
New! Microsoft Surface Dial support: If a Microsoft Surface Dial is part of your workflow, CorelDRAW 2017 offers native support to give you a greater range of ways to create and interact with technology.

The Surface Dial can help you zoom in and out as well as undo actions while you’re designing.

Enhanced! Windows 10 support: Thanks to our relentless pursuit of delivering the highest quality user experience, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 is fully compatible with and certified for Windows 10. Corel delivers enhanced reliability and performance, so users can maximize their productivity when working on the world’s most popular operating system.

Enhanced! Support for UltraHD 5K displays: An updated interface and support for 5K monitors means that creative professionals can comfortably view CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT on even the most high-definition monitors, including UltraHD. This allows you to edit photos at their native resolution and see the subtlest details in the image. And with more pixels available, several windows can be opened side-by-side for an efficient workflow.

The Touch workspace is ideal for field work and sketching by offering a streamlined user interface (UI) that shows you only the tools and commands that you are most likely to use. In addition,

- buttons and other UI elements are bigger to be touch-friendly.
- the toolbox is modified to include only tools you are likely to use often, as well as Undo, Redo, Copy, Paste, and Delete commands.
- you can access menu commands by clicking the Menu button in the lower-left corner of the status bar.
- the status bar lets you quickly change the zoom level as well as access commonly used commands and dockers.

You can use the following gestures:

- to scroll in a document, tap the screen with two fingers and drag in the direction you want to scroll.
- to zoom, pinch outwards to zoom in and pinch inwards to zoom out using two fingers.
- to pan and scroll simultaneously, pinch outwards or inwards while dragging in the direction you want using two fingers.
- to choose a tool in a toolbox flyout, tap a flyout button, and tap the tool you want.
**Enhanced! Advanced multi-monitor support:** Support for Per-Monitor UI scaling and improvements to multi-monitor support allow graphics professionals to take advantage of the sharpness and fidelity of new High-DPI monitors and laptops while still using lower-DPI monitors to maximize design space (requires supported hardware and Windows 8.1 or later). This ensures that UI elements scale properly and appear crisp and legible on screens of all resolutions. For example, you can drag a document out of the application window and place it within a second screen, dedicating one monitor to a drawing or image and the other to frequently used dockers and toolbars.

**Enhanced! Real-Time Stylus (RTS) support:** You can use your RTS-compatible pen tablet or device to capture whatever inspires you on the fly. Support for the Windows Real-Time Stylus delivers truly responsive pressure sensitivity and tilt and gives you full control of your brushstrokes in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT. What’s more, there’s no stylus driver to install, so you can get to work right away.

You can use your RTS-compatible device to control your brushstrokes.

**Give it a try**

**Using an RTS-compatible stylus with CorelDRAW 2017**

1. In CorelDRAW 2017, click Tools > Options.
2. In the Global list of categories, click Pen Settings.
3. Enable the Real-Time Stylus option.
4. Using your stylus or digital pen, apply at least three strokes in the window in the Pen Settings page, building from the lowest to the highest pressure.
5. In the toolbox, click the Artistic Media tool , click the Expression button on the property bar, and apply a few brushstrokes in the drawing window.

You can also use the pressure of your pressure-sensitive pen with the Eraser tool , Smear tool , Twirl tool , Attract tool , Repel tool , Roughen tool , or Smudge tool .
Enhanced! Vector previews, nodes, and handles: CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 simplifies shaping curves and objects with redesigned nodes and handles that are easier to see and manipulate. Enhanced vector previews help you edit more efficiently by ensuring nodes and curves stand out against background colors in your design.

New! Prominent interactive sliders: It’s easier than ever to work with object fills, transparencies, blends, extrusions, drop shadows and more thanks to enhanced interactive sliders that are more visible.

New! Custom node shapes: CorelDRAW 2017 simplifies shaping curves and objects by assigning each node type a unique shape, making it easy to identify smooth, cusp, and symmetrical nodes. Designers can tailor the look of nodes to best suit their workflow or project with new options for customizing their shape, size, and color. They can also accelerate modifying elements in designs by choosing to show the direction of curves and using a range of drawing tools to edit nodes.

New! Custom colors for previews and curve editing: New color personalization options help you edit objects more efficiently by letting you choose the colors for nodes, handles and previews that will stand out against underlying colors, making them easier to see.
Give it a try
Using revamped node-editing features

1. In CorelDRAW 2017, click Tools ➤ Options.
2. In the Workspace list of categories, click Nodes and Handles.
3. In the General Settings area, you can make any of the following node customizations:
   - To change the node size, choose an option from the Node size list box.
   - To change the shapes of nodes, choose a node shape from the Node shape list boxes for each node type: cusp, smooth, and symmetrical.
4. In the Colors area, choose Custom from the Color scheme list box to create a custom color scheme for nodes, handles, and previews:
   - Open the Main color picker, and choose the color to be used in nodes and handles when an object is selected for editing. When you select multiple objects for editing, the main color is used for the nodes and handles of the first selected object.
   - Open the Secondary color picker, and choose the color to be used in nodes and handles when additional objects are selected for editing with the Shape tool or when you are editing vector effects such as extrusions.

You can display each node type in a different color by enabling the Show node types in different colors check box. You can also invert the colors of nodes, handles and previews when displayed against colored background by enabling the Invert node and vector preview colors check box.

New! Import legacy workspaces: CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 lets you reuse CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT workspaces that were created in versions X6, X7, and X8. You have the flexibility of importing some workspace elements and excluding others. You also have the option of adding them to your current workspace or creating a totally new UI configuration. And choosing which workspace elements to import or export is faster than ever.
Artwork by Rudyard Alfaro
Peru
CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite user favorites

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite users continue to enjoy many of the following features that have been cornerstones of the suite for years.

Jump in

With a variety of in-product learning resources, it’s easy for first-time users or experienced designers to jump in and quickly get started with CorelDRAW Graphics Suite.

Interactive Startup tours: You can get to work fast and efficiently thanks to a series of interactive Startup tours. Whether you are new to graphics software, an experienced user, or someone familiar with other graphics applications, there’s a start-up tour to help you quickly get up to speed and take full advantage of the features and tools of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017.

Give it a try

Taking an interactive tour

1. Click the Welcome Screen tab.

If the Welcome Screen is not active, click Window > Welcome Screen.

2. On the Getting Started page, click Tour New Features in the Take a Tour area.

You can also launch this tour by clicking Help > Take a Tour > Tour New Features.

This tour is designed for users who are familiar with earlier versions of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite. When you start a tour, a sample drawing opens automatically. The steps in the tour are directly related to design elements in this file.

As you complete a stage of a tour, you can move to the next step by clicking Okay! You can also navigate to a specific step in the tour by clicking the step’s corresponding button at the bottom of the tour window.

If you want to pause a tour, click Quit, and click Yes in the dialog box that asks you if you want to save the results. To resume the tour, click the tour title, and click Continue Progress in the dialog box that appears.
Hints docker: The Hints docker is a hub of valuable learning resources designed to help reduce the learning curve for new users. It dynamically displays context-sensitive information on the currently selected tool and provides links to related information. The Hints docker gives quick access to additional resources, such as video hints, longer videos, and written tutorials, so users can learn more about a tool or feature without having to search.

The Hints docker makes it easy to get up and running quickly.

Product Details page: The Product Details page in the Welcome screen is your one-stop source for the latest on the suite and your user account. It provides important information about your product or subscription, account status, product updates, and the Upgrade Program.

User guides available as eBooks: The CorelDRAW 2017 User Guide and Corel PHOTO-PAINT 2017 User Guide are available as eBooks. Published to the EPUB and MOBI file formats, the eBooks bring the most comprehensive information about product features to your eBook reader. Following the user guides on an eBook reader saves you switching between program windows on your system, allows you to keep learning on the go, and ensures access to the suite’s Help files when you don’t have Internet access. To access an eBook, sign in to your corel.com account, and click Downloads on Your Account page.

Craft

Make the most of your design dexterity with the high-caliber, yet intuitive, features of CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017.

Hiding and displaying objects: CorelDRAW 2017 lets you hide objects and groups of objects so that only the sections you want or need to see in a project are displayed. When working with complex designs, the ability to hide a particular element in your drawing can be a great time-saver. It ensures that you don’t inadvertently select and edit an object that you hadn’t intended to work on, and it lets you experiment with your designs more easily.

You can hide individual objects or groups of objects on a layer without hiding the entire layer.
Splitting objects: With the Knife tool, vector objects, text and bitmaps can be split along straight, freehand or Bézier lines. You can create a gap between the split objects or have them overlap. There are also options to convert outlines into curve objects that can be manipulated or keep them as outlines. And if you’re unsure, CorelDRAW can eliminate any guesswork by automatically choosing the option that best preserves outline appearance.

The Knife tool lets you split vector objects, text, and bitmaps along any path.

Give it a try

Splitting objects with the Knife tool

1. In CorelDRAW, click File ➤ New.
2. Create a couple of shapes using the Ellipse tool (press F7) or the Rectangle tool (press F6), and click colors on the color palette to apply fills to the shapes.
3. In the toolbox, open the Crop tools flyout, and click the Knife tool ➤.
4. On the property bar, choose a split mode.
   You can choose 2-Point Line ➤, Freehand ➤, or Bézier ➤ mode.
5. On the property bar, choose an outline option.
   You can choose to convert lines to curves, keep them as outlines when splitting objects, or let CorelDRAW choose the option that best preserves the outline appearance.
   You can create a gap or an overlap between the new objects by choosing an option from the Cut span list box on the property bar. You can set the size of the gap or the overlap in the Width box.
   You can close the paths that result from splitting an object by clicking the Auto-close on cut button ➤.
6. Drag across the objects to split them.

Corel Font Manager: When the number of fonts on your system become less of a benefit and more of a hassle, Corel Font Manager is the answer. It lets you easily handle, organize, and explore your typeface and font collections by giving you the tools to control every aspect of your typography workflow. Whether you want to find fonts for your projects, organize fonts for easy access, or manage unneeded fonts, Corel Font Manager has the tools you need. It lets you access online fonts from the Content Exchange, which can be installed or downloaded to use later. You can browse and search
online and local fonts, preview font glyph sets, add custom font collections, and more.

When you add folders and create collections, all your fonts, including ones that aren’t installed, become accessible from the Font list box in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT. This means that you can use fonts that are not installed in your drawings and documents. In addition, any collections that you create appear as font filters in the Font list box of the main applications, so fonts can be filtered to show only the ones included in specific collections.

Corel Font Manager, a standalone font-management application, opens.

1. In Corel Font Manager, click Content Exchange in the Libraries pane to display online fonts that are provided by Corel and are available for download.

2. Type Humanst in the Search box. Fonts that match this search term appear in the Preview pane.

Font list box: Finding the right font for your project is easy in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT. Using the Font list box, you can quickly view, filter, and find the specific font you need. Fonts can also be sorted based on weight, width, supported scripts, and more. In addition, any folders or font collections added to Corel Font Manager are accessible from the Font list box in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT, allowing you to use fonts that are not installed in your drawings and documents.

The Corel Font Manager simplifies exploring, organizing, and managing your typeface and font collections.

**Give it a try**

**Searching for a font**

1. Click the Application launcher button on the standard toolbar, and then click Corel Font Manager.

The Font list box helps you quickly find the perfect font.
Special characters and glyphs: The Insert Character docker presents all characters and glyphs associated with a selected font, making it easy to find these items and then insert them in documents. Available in both CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT, the docker includes a filtering option for displaying only specific character subsets. For example, users can choose to display only the Cyrillic characters for a selected font.

Font Playground: In both CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT, the Font Playground docker offers an easy way to browse, experiment with, and choose the perfect font. You can easily add sample text to view its appearance in different fonts, and a handy Zoom slider lets you quickly adjust the size of sample text. With a single click, the sample text can be displayed as a single line, multiple lines, or a cascading series of increased sizes. The Font Playground also provides access to advanced features within OpenType fonts. If a text sample uses an OpenType font, and the selected characters have OpenType alternates, simply select the text to display the Interactive OpenType arrow and then choose which features to apply.

Font embedding: Users can embed fonts when saving CorelDRAW documents so that recipients can view, print, and edit the document exactly as designed. This is especially useful when sending a CorelDRAW file to a print shop, ensuring that the document can be viewed and printed accurately.

CorelDRAW respects any restrictions encoded with each font, so a font must support embedding to be saved with the document. While some fonts cannot be embedded, most will support embedding for either print and preview, or for editing.

OpenType support for Asian text: While working with Asian text, you can use advanced OpenType
typography features, such as widths, forms, vertical metrics, kana glyph alternatives, and vertical alternates and rotation.

Users can access advanced OpenType features for Asian text.

Selecting adjacent nodes: CorelDRAW offers node selection that simplifies working with complex shapes. You can select adjacent nodes on curves by using the Shape tool while holding down Shift. You also have the option of changing the direction in which the nodes are selected.

Copying curve segments: Another time-saver in CorelDRAW is ability to copy or cut a specific part of a curve segment. You can then paste it as an object, making it easy to create new adjacent shapes with similar contours.

Drop shadows with Gaussian Blur feathering: Drop shadows are a great way to enhance elements in designs. In CorelDRAW, users can create realistic drop shadows that have natural-looking feathered edges in an instant thanks to the Feathering direction button on the property bar.

You can adjust the feathering of drop shadow edges.
QR codes: With CorelDRAW, designers can create unique, artistic, and scalable QR codes by adding text, colors, and images. Popular in consumer advertising and packaging, QR codes give smartphone users quick access to a brand's website, which can offer additional product information. The Object Properties docker makes it easy to customize a QR code, and object styles can be created to save a fixed appearance for the QR code, enabling quick and easy reuse.

You can change the shape, outline width, color, and fill type of the QR code pixels, change the background color and fill type, and more. The information included in the QR code can be tailored, such as URL, email address, phone number, SMS, Contact, Calendar event, and Geo location. There's also a Validate option, which analyzes the QR code to ensure it can be read by QR code readers, smartphones, and scanners.

Healing Clone tool: It's easy to ensure that your photo subjects always look their best thanks to the Healing Clone tool. It discreetly removes unwanted spots and imperfections from an image by painting with sampled texture and matching it to the color of the area that you're retouching. In a few clicks, blemishes or scars can be seamlessly repaired and blended into the rest of the photo.

Give it a try

Fixing imperfections with the Healing Clone tool

1. In Corel PHOTO-PAINT, open an image.
2. In the toolbox, open the Touch-up tools flyout, and click the Healing Clone tool 🌈.

You can also activate the Healing Clone tool with a keyboard shortcut by pressing 0.
Correcting perspective distortions: With the Straighten Image dialog box in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT, users can correct perspective distortions in photos that have straight lines and flat surfaces. In a few clicks, you can easily fix photos of buildings, landmarks, or objects that appear in the wrong perspective or that were taken from an angle other than directly in front.

Gaussian Blur lens: The Gaussian Blur special effect in Corel PHOTO-PAINT is available as a lens, so images can be blurred without overwriting the original image. When you create a lens, the changes you make are non-
destructive, so any edits are displayed on the screen through the lens rather than applied to the image pixels. The lens is created as a separate object on a layer above the image background so you can edit the lens and the background image separately, maintaining the original’s data and quality.

You can blur an image without overwriting it.

Give it a try

Applying a Gaussian Blur lens

1. In Corel PHOTO-PAINT, open an image.
2. Click Object > Create > New Lens. You can also create a lens by clicking the New Lens button in the Object Manager docker. If the Object Manager docker is not open, click Window > Dockers > Object Manager.
3. In the New Lens dialog box, choose Gaussian Blur, and click OK.
4. In the Gaussian Blur dialog box, experiment with the Radius slider.

As you move the slider to the right, you increase the blurring of the focus of the image according to Gaussian distribution, which spreads the pixel information outward using bell-shaped curves to produce a hazy effect.

Planar Mask tool: The Planar Mask tool in Corel PHOTO-PAINT lets you define a feathered editable area along parallel lines. When combined with a blur effect, this tool lets you simulate depth of field, giving focus to a particular object while blurring areas outside the planar mask. The effect of the planar mask can be modified by moving or rotating the lines. You can also use mask modes with the Planar Mask tool.

The Planar Mask tool lets you define a feathered editable area along parallel lines.

Liquid tools: Corel PHOTO-PAINT has four pressure-sensitive Liquid tools — Smear, Attract, Repel, and Twirl — that offer creative options for retouching photos. These tools let you reshape specific image areas to produce unique artistic effects. Each tool responds to the pressure...
of your digital pen or stylus, and provides options that help you control the intensity of the effect.

With the Liquid Smear tool, you can push pixels around an image area to produce distortion effects. The Liquid Twirl tool produces twirl effects from image areas. The Liquid Attract and Liquid Repel tools pull pixels toward or push pixels away from an image area.

**Interactive brushstroke transparency and feathering:** With Corel PHOTO-PAINT, you can use modifier keys to interactively adjust the transparency and feathering of brushstrokes. This lets you apply transparency and feathering on the fly, and works with the Eraser, Red-eye removal, Clone, Touch-up brush, Paint, Effect, Image Sprayer, Undo brush, and Replace color brush tools.

**Special effects:** Corel PHOTO-PAINT has a variety of camera effects, such as Bokeh blur, Colorize, Sepia Toning, and Time Machine to help you recreate historic photographic styles and give your images unique visual appearances.

With the Bokeh blur effect, you can define an area of focus and leave the rest of the image out of focus. A duotone image can be created using the Colorize effect to replace all colors in an image with a single hue. The Sepia Toning effect simulates a photo taken with sepia film, which is similar to grayscale except with brown tones. And with the Time Machine, you can choose from seven historic photography styles ranging from 1839 to the 1960s.
Personalize

CorelDRAW Graphics 2017 ensures that you feel right at home with all of your favorite tools by giving you the ability to adapt your design space to your needs.

Fully customizable UI: CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 offers UI customization options that allow you to tailor your design space to create a unique work environment. Icons can be scaled up to 250%, and there’s a variety of colors for the application background.

You can fully customize your design space to your needs.

Customizing desktop color: CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2017 offers flexible desktop color scheme options. You can change the color of the area surrounding the drawing page in CorelDRAW or the image in Corel PHOTO-PAINT to set up the optimal environment for each project, reduce the overall workspace contrast, or increase the legibility of design elements.

Customizing window border color: You can customize the color of window borders in CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT to match your personal preference. If you use both applications simultaneously, different border colors can be set for each, which lets you quickly identify them when switching programs.

Give it a try

Customizing the UI

1. Click Tools ▶ Options.

2. In the Workspace list of categories, click Appearance.

3. In the Size area, move the slider to the right for larger UI items, and to the left for smaller UI items. The scaling level is relative to the scaling level of the operating system. The default setting is 100%, which means that UI items in the application appear the same size as similar UI items in the operating system. Scaling by 200% makes the application UI items appear twice as large as the UI items of the operating system.

4. In the Color area, choose an option from the Theme list box.

   To make the workspace lighter or darker, you can choose one of the following themes: Light, Medium, Dark, or Black.

5. To change the border color of the application window and dialog boxes, open the Window border color picker, and choose a color.

6. To change the color of the area surrounding the drawing page, open the Desktop color picker, and choose a color.
**Status bar:** You can place the status bar at the top of the application window, making it easier to see useful information about selected objects, such as color, fill type, outline, and more.

**Simple customization:** The toolbox, docker space, and property bars contain handy Quick Customize buttons, which will help you tailor the interface to suit your workflow. Available in both CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT, these buttons offer a fast and convenient way to add dockers to your workspace, add or remove tools from the toolbox, and add or remove items from a property bar.

**Get More docker:** You can expand your collection of creative tools by downloading applications, plug-ins, and extensions directly from within CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT. You can download your free license of Corel Website Creator, purchase AfterShot Pro for the ultimate RAW workflow, experience Corel ParticleShop for amazing bitmap effects, and more.

**Give it a try**

**Downloading apps and extensions from within CorelDRAW or Corel PHOTO-PAINT**

Note: You must be online and signed in to your corel.com account to download apps from within the main applications.

1. On the standard toolbar, click the Search Content button to open the Get More docker.
2. Click the Tools tab.
3. Click Apps & Plug-ins, and click Corel Website Creator.
   This application offers a fast and easy way to design, build, and manage websites.
4. Click Download.
5. Click Extensions, and click Prep and Stretch.
6. Click Download.
Prep and Stretch docker: One of the best ways to show off a great photo is to print it on canvas. With the Prep and Stretch docker in Corel PHOTO-PAINT 2017, you can prepare your photos and images for canvas printing in three easy steps. By resizing, fine-tuning, and stretching the image, it’s easy to achieve the perfect composition for your wall art.

Border and Grommet dialog box: CorelDRAW accelerates the workflow of production professionals with the Border and Grommet dialog box, which simplifies preparing banner designs for printing. It has intuitive controls for precisely creating the perfect border for the job, whether it’s stretching or mirroring the document edges or defining a color. This feature also simplifies adding grommets, which are rings or edge strips inserted into holes through thin material used to insert ropes and properly hang a banner. The Border and Grommet dialog box also gives you the flexibility to create a banner from the entire active page or just selected objects.

Image opening options: So you can set up your workspace in the way that best suits your style, Corel PHOTO-PAINT offers options for how your photos open. You can have a number of documents visible simultaneously in floating windows. Or if you want to focus on one image at a time, files can be opened in the default tabbed view.

Community website for developers: With support from the Developer Community site, you can create your own automation tools. There’s a variety of useful resources, including in-depth programming articles and code samples, which can help you automate tasks with macros and create custom features. And when you have questions, there’s a community forum, knowledge base, or the FAQ page. For information, visit www.community.coreldraw.com/sdk.
About Corel

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CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite 2017 Reviewer’s Guide

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