

Producing Animated Shorts

Using *Pixie*, *Twist* and *Frames*

To create background

1. Open *Pixie*
 - a. Create simple background using pencil tool and a couple colors
 - b. In toolbar at top, click on “Export”
 - c. Change dimensions to “640 x 480”
 - d. Click on “Export” in lower right
 - e. Create a new folder for the animation project
 - f. In “Save File As:” box, give the background a name and save it in the new folder
 - g. Close *Pixie*

To create character/object

2. Open *Twist*
 - a. Click on arrow in bar labeled “Solid color”; click on “File or Pattern”
 - b. Click on gray box labeled “Use File”
 - c. Locate the saved background and double click on it (the drawn background should appear on the *Twist* canvas)
 - d. Using the pencil, begin to draw the character/object that will be animated
 - e. Determine which parts of the character/object will remain static; highlight all points by clicking on “Edit” in toolbar at top and then “Select all”
 - f. In toolbar at top, click on “Object” and then “Group” (now the character/object can move as one unit)
 - g. In toolbar at top, click on “File”, then “Save Drawing As...”
 - h. Name drawing with a number next to it (i.e. Snowman 1); make sure that the folder created for the animation project appears in the destination bar; click “Save”

- i. Add to first drawing to create a new part or movement of character/object; go to “File”, then “Save Drawing As...”; name second drawing with a number next to it (i.e. Snowman 2); save in project folder
- j. Continue adding parts or movements to character/object, saving each time as a numbered drawing (12-15 drawings is a fine goal for first project)

To put images in sequence

[Note: “Canvas”=background]

3. Open **Frames**
 - a. In initial screen, click on yellow folder, right center
 - b. Locate project folder and double click on it
 - c. On **Frames** toolbar, click on “Make”, then “Full Quality”, then “Export”
 - d. Drawings may be rearranged as necessary
 - e. The animated short can be found in the “All Movies” shared folder

Questions? Confusion? Call Lisa Kaija at 457-2067 ext. 18 (T, Th)

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