

Types of image file

There are three main types of image file you need to know about:

1. JPEG
2. PNG
3. GIF



Types of image file

JPEG:

Joint Photographic Expert Group

These are standard photographs and are good for general photo use

They use **16.7 million** different colours for individual **pixels**

They are **compressed**, so can be saved with a smaller file size

Most of the images you use will be JPEGs



Types of image file

PNG:

Portable Network Graphic

These can use **transparency** – often the background is made transparent

They are a good choice for logos and other images that need a transparent background when they are complete

Colours don't work as well with PNGs and they have a bigger file size



Types of image file

GIF:

Graphics Interchange Format

These can use **animation** (movement). They don't have to, but can

The can also use **transparency**

GIFs use a lot fewer colours, but have a smaller file size

They can be a good choice for logos on the web



Types of image file

Working file types:

Such as Photoshop (PSD) or Corel files (Corel Draw or Photopaint)

These can't be used as finished products – they need to be **exported** first

But the **layers** can continue to be edited

Always **save** your work as well as **exporting** it in case you need to keep editing

