

COOL TOOLS CAFÉ, SUNDAY JULY 24, 2011

SPONSORED BY CS SIS, 1:30 – 2:45 PM, AALL ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE
SACRAMENTO COUNTY PUBLIC LAW LIBRARY DEMO

Picnik – online image editing program

Available at: <http://www.picnik.com/>

Overview:

Use Picnik for photo image editing online in your browser. No download of software is required. The site was developed in 2007 and joined the Google family of apps in 2010. Use this program to grab your photos from anywhere, make them into masterpieces, and share them on the Internet.

Cost:

Picnik gives you a few examples of their editing and creating tools for free. Picnik Premium is the pay version which is \$24.95 *per* year, or \$2.08 per month. The full version is updated with new features and is free of advertising. Subscriptions may be annual, six months, or monthly.

How to use:

To get started grab your photos from anywhere you save them: Facebook, Picasa, Twitter, Flickr, Myspace, Photobucket or on your computer. Use the editor to perfect your photos and get creative. The Picnik Help Center has a “Getting Started Guide” : <http://www.google.com/support/picnik/?hl=en>

Features:

- Tools to make your photos perfect : crop, rotate, resize, auto-fix, sharpen, and more.
- Or give your photos a whole new look: sepia, black and white, and color boost and more.
- Create photo compositions: use designer fonts, stickers, frames and themed graphics.
- Improve your photos: remove red eye, whiten teeth, zap blemishes and more.
- Combine dozens of pictures into photo collages – fancy collages, photo shows, and widgets.
- Share your projects on social media and other sites.

Pros:

- Grab your photos from anywhere you save them: Facebook, Picasa, Twitter, Flickr, Myspace, Photobucket or your computer. Also use a webcam to take photos and upload to Picnik.
- Web based so can work on photo projects anywhere you have internet access.
- Lots of fun features to create personal digital photo projects.
- Saves disc space so no software has to be downloaded.
- Available in multiple languages including Spanish, French and more.

Cons:

- Limitations for free users. Restricted to uploading only 10 photos for a photo show. Also, doesn't save premium features tested in your file. Only can upload 5 photos at one time.
- Frequent pop ups suggesting upgrading to the Premium fee-based version are annoying.
- A monthly fee is charged for the premium features, rather than a one-time purchase. May be more affordable for an institutional purchase rather than an individual purchase.

Example 1. Photo collage of children using the add stickers feature.



Example 2. Photo collage of the Sacramento County Public Law Library using the themes feature.



Example 3. Online photo show of West Coast scenery in Nevada, California, and Oregon. Go to:

http://www.picnik.com/show/id/14936814342_bGmfF

