

Draw Overview

How is drawing a picture different from painting a picture? Why might you decide to draw a picture instead of paint one? In computer graphics, paint software and draw software are used for different reasons. Paint software, such as Microsoft Paint or The GIMP*, lets you freely add color as you would with a paintbrush or spray paint, and you can easily make changes to the tiniest parts of a picture. In contrast, draw software, such as Microsoft Draw* or OpenOffice.org Draw*, lets you make pictures out of lots of lines and shapes that can be individually moved or made bigger or smaller.

Exploration

Several graphics draw software applications are available, including Draw. To start Draw, you first need to start Microsoft Word* or OpenOffice.org Writer*. Then, click **View** ⇒ **Toolbars** ⇒ **Drawing** to show the Drawing toolbar. You are now using the Draw program. Spend 10 minutes completing the following challenges:

- **Challenge 1:** Draw an AutoShape or Basic Shape.
- **Challenge 2:** Make the shape bigger or smaller, and move it to another place.
- **Challenge 3:** Draw other shapes, and move them around.
- **Challenge 4:** Change the color of the outer borders and fill the inside of shapes with interesting colors and effects.

Use the remaining time to discover what else you can do with graphics draw software.

Discussion

Spend five minutes discussing with your partner your answers to the following questions:

- **Question 1:** What is your favorite feature of the graphics draw software?
- **Question 2:** How is the graphics draw software different from the graphics paint software you used before?
- **Question 3:** What are some projects you could use graphics draw software to do?

Now you will share your answers with the class as directed.

Graphics Draw Resources

To learn more about graphics draw skills, check the *Help Guide* as you complete the activities and project. The Graphics section includes six graphics draw skill groups:

- **Graphics Group 4:** Getting to Know the Graphics Draw Software (**NOTE:** This group name will change depending on the *Help Guide* version being used.)
- **Graphics Group 5:** Using the Drawing Tools
- **Graphics Group 6:** Changing the Look of Lines and Shapes
- **Graphics Group 7:** Adding Words to Your Drawings
- **Graphics Group 8:** Working with Objects in Your Drawings
- **Graphics Group 9:** Adding Special Effects

What is one graphics draw skill that you would like to learn how to do? In which skill group might you begin looking to learn how to do that skill?

Graphics Activities

You will have an opportunity to learn and use graphics draw skills as you complete some of the featured graphics draw activities:

- **Graphics Activity:** Postcard
- **Graphics Activity:** Signs
- **Graphics Activity:** Map