

10 Simple Ways to Find FREE & HIGH-QUALITY Images for your Website



Introduction

If you have ever designed a website, a sales letter or created a blog post before, you know how powerful images can be in conveying your message.

You also know how painful it can be when you have no images handy. You might even have been guilty once or twice of 'stealing' content straight from Google Images! This can get you into real legal troubles!

The other option is buy Stock images from sites like Istockphoto.com, which I do occasionally. However if you are building more than one website a week you will see that your stock photo bill will quickly rise to 100's of dollars per month.

A few years ago I got to know about images made available with a Creative Commons license. Why not all Creative Commons licenses are created equal, most CC licenses allow other people to make commercial use of images (ie. Attribution, Attribution-ShareAlike, etc.).

The 10 sources I have compiled below will allow you to find images that you can reuse, although you might want to double-check the exact license details if you are unsure. As long as you are not reselling the image you download as-is, you are generally in line with Creative Commons. If you have any doubt about CC licenses types, I invite you to check this link to the FAQ page.

Ready? Let's check-out my personal list of the best places to get free images!

Source #1

CADYOU - FREE 3D MODELS DOWNLOADS



Now why this may not be your number one destination for your everyday graphic design project, this is an amazing resource with loads of high-quality designs.

CADYOU has thousands of 3D models, ranging from home furniture to aircrafts!

Share, download and edit 2d and 3d cad models.

Cadyou is a wiki for cad files, a collaborative library of 2d and 3d models that anyone can contribute to, improve and edit.

Search the extensive database of original public domain and creative commons licensed files.

Source #2

YAHOO! CREATIVE COMMONS SEARCH



While the Yahoo! images creative commons search is based on the Flickr API (since they own it!), I tend to use this rather than Flickr itself. Reason is the interface is pretty smooth and it seems like the Yahoo! search engine brings out more relevant results than Flickr itself.

Creative Common License

Creator allows reuse* - Search only in Creative Commons Licensed content

Specifically allows for:

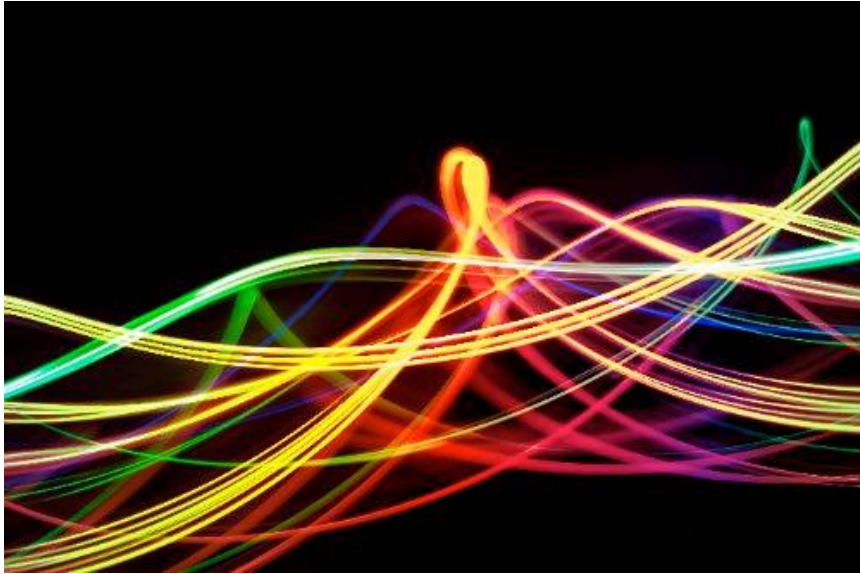
- Commercial use
- Remix, tweak, build upon

* With restrictions. [Learn more](#)

Note: Only Flickr images are supported currently in this Filter.

Source #3

CREATIVITY 103 - FREE CREATIVE DESIGNS



Creativity103 is a very rare and interesting website full of artsy pictures. While you may not use this site for your everyday project, it's always good to keep it in your toolbox just in case you need something a little different.

Cr103 is a library of free abstract backgrounds, textures and design ideas you can cut and paste them into your own work or use just for inspiration.



Source #4

GOOGLE IMAGES - CREATIVE COMMONS SEARCH



Did you know that Google allow users to search specifically for images with a Creative Commons license? This should be your first stop to finding great images online, simply head over to the link above.

Google **Advanced Image Search** [About Google](#)

Find results	related to all of the words	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Google Search"/>
	related to the exact phrase	<input type="text"/>	
	related to any of the words	<input type="text"/>	
	not related to the words	<input type="text"/>	
Content types	Return images that contain	<input checked="" type="radio"/> any content <input type="radio"/> faces <input type="radio"/> photo content <input type="radio"/> clip art <input type="radio"/> line drawings	
Size	Return images that are	Any size <input type="text"/>	
Exact size	Return images exactly the size	Width: <input type="text"/>	Height: <input type="text"/> Use my desktop size
Aspect ratio	Return images with an aspect ratio that is	Any aspect ratio <input type="text"/>	
Filetypes	Return only image files formatted as	any filetype <input type="text"/>	
Coloration	Return only images in	any colors <input type="text"/>	
Domain	Return images from the site or domain	<input type="text"/>	
Usage Rights	Return images that are	labeled for commercial reuse with modification <input type="text"/> More info	
SafeSearch	<input type="radio"/> No filtering <input checked="" type="radio"/> Use moderate filtering <input type="radio"/> Use strict filtering		

Source #5

TEXTURE WAREHOUSE

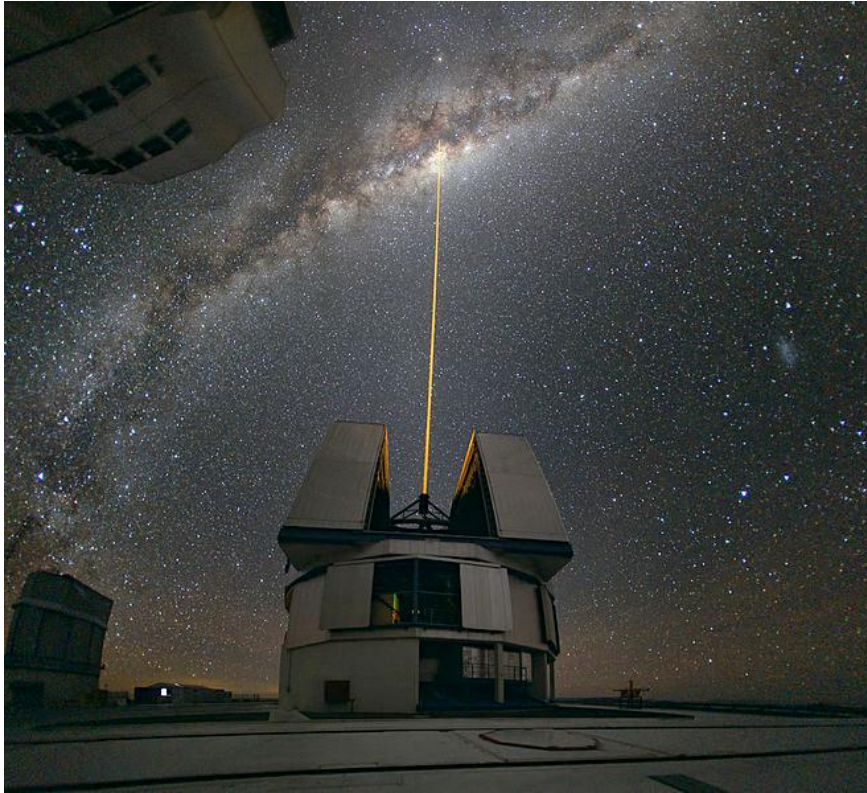


Texture Warehouse is a very unique site which provides free textures images in high-resolutions for designers. All images are licensed under a Creative Commons License.



Source #6

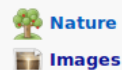
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



An often overlooked but amazing library of images, ranging from panoramas to icons and symbols (such as the famous Crystal Clear library).

Welcome to Wikimedia Commons,

a database of 10,466,539 freely usable media files to which anyone can contribute.



Source #7

EVERY STOCK PHOTO



EveryStockPhoto is another great way to find free images online. It's also one of the oldest free stock photo website, and they have a very large gallery pulled from Stock.xchng and ImageAfter to name a few.



[welcome to everystockphoto.com](http://www.everystockphoto.com)

We are a search engine for free photos. These come from many sources and are license-specific. You can view a photo's license by clicking on the license icon, below and left of photos. Membership is free and allows you to rate, tag, collect and comment on photos.

[Sign Up](#)

[f Like](#) 10


Now searching: **10,704,290 free photos**

Source #8

MORGUEFILE



In their own words: “Free images for your inspiration, reference and use in your creative work, be it commercial or not!” Not my favorite, but don’t overlook as it might come handy someday.



Morguefile Filter

The morguefile filter has been designed to help you find images quickly and easily. It's super simple. Start by clicking a filter on the left or enter a search term and click add to search.

[Add to search](#)

When you are done setting filters click the Apply filters button or [click here](#) to see all files.

Source #9

ICONFINDER



Not exactly an image search tool, but this website is SO good I had to include it in this report. ICONFINDER as it says on the tin helps you to find free icons from their huge icon library.

This is incredibly powerful when creating new logos. Simply download an icon from ICONFINDER, get a funky font for Photoshop, and you'll have created your logo in no time.



Search through 155,796 icons or browse 812 icon sets

Source #10

ALEGIPHOTOS



Despite its horrendous homepage and logo design, ALEGRIPHOTOS is one of the best resources I have used to find free images. And once you get passed the homepage, you will find an awesome library of high-res images licensed under the Creative Commons license.



Money in wallet



Hand with euro coins



Old coins



100 lei banknotes



Franklin on dollar bill



Dollars isolated on white

Conclusion

Now that you have this list, make sure to keep it on your desktop so that next time you need some images you won't get stuck researching from scratch.

<http://www.kimgarst.com>