

# The GNU Graphics Manipulation Program GIMP

By Giles Godart-Brown

## What is GIMP?

- GIMP is the GNU Image Manipulation Program, it is used for drawing and for editing photographs.
- You can download GIMP for free from <https://www.gimp.org/downloads/>
- It is a huge application, however there are many excellent tutorials on the subject on the internet, for example <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6pXJ7Ijir0>
- GIMP is open source, so there are huge numbers of plugins that enhance its capabilities, for example the G'MIC filter library from <https://gmic.eu/download.html>

Items that came up during our sessions that are not covered by the example tutorial

## How to create a transparent file – Method 1

### Using the mouse to draw your signature

- Create a new image in GIMP, make sure you have Advanced option Background colour set to Transparent in the New image dialogue
- Make sure the background shows the checkerboard Transparent display
- Chose the pencil tool and a suitable colour and size and draw your signature with the mouse
- Export the resultant image as a .png file

## How to create a transparent signature file – Method 2 Using a scanned image.

- Scan your signature from a piece of paper
- Open the image in GIMP
- Right click on the Background Layer on the RHS of the screen and “Add Alpha Channel”
- Use the Fuzzy select tool to select the white space around your signature and hit the delete key to remove it, the checkerboard should show though.
- Carry on with fuzzy select and other paint tools to refine the image
- Export the resultant image as a .png file