

Free e-Learning Tools – PADLA Conference Presentation- Nov 18, 2011
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Listed below is a selection of free elearning tools and resources you may want to explore. Please note that while most of these tools are free, some products have more robust version available for purchase. Your company's network firewalls and security policies may limit use of these tools.

Category	Product Name	Description
Authoring	Snap and Snap Empower– by Lectora	Not free, but inexpensive! Snap by Lectora and Snap Empower, both \$99 are authoring tools with many features of Articulate and Adobe Presenter
	Udoit	Free authoring tool to create and distribute SCORM compliant courses Additional (for fee) hosting and tracking services also available. Automatic Compression and resizing to make it play on the web.
LMS and Authoring	Moodle	Open Source LMS and course authoring tool
Screen Capture	Jing by TechSmith	Can capture screens and annotate, as well as capture keystrokes. For more features, Camtasia and Snagit are available.
	Screenr by Articulate	Browser based - Lets you capture screen and audio up to 5 minutes
	ScreenCastle - http://screencastle.com/	Screen cast recorder – no time limit
Image Editor, Graphic and PowerPoint Utilities	Pixie	Pixie is a color picker utility with few extra goodies. Run it, point to a color and it will tell you the hex, RGB, HTML, CMYK and HSV values of that color so you can use in templates.
	GIMP	Free image editor that includes many features like Photoshop.
	PhotoSize	Resize and compress photos
	Picnik	Picnik makes your photos fabulous with easy to use yet powerful editing tools. Get creative with effects, fonts, shapes, and frames.
	Free Graphics - Articulate Blog	Free graphics and PPT templates available thru Articulate Blog

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Image Editor, Graphic and PowerPoint Utilities (cont'd)	Presentation Pro http://www.presentationpro.com/products.aspx	Free PowerPoint sample templates, icons, photos from Presentation Pro. More options with various paid packages.
	Flickr Commons http://www.flickr.com/commons/	Images from museums are made available for under a “no known restrictions” license. Read Rights Statement from specific museum for more info.
	Slide Rocket http://www.sliderocket.com/	New ways to present with PowerPoint. Plans range from Free to paid services.
Audio	Audacity http://audacity.sourceforge.net/	Open source audio editor
	Aviary Myna http://www.aviary.com/	Part of Aviary product suite that also has video and image utilities
Video	Xtranormal http://www.xtranormal.com/	Make an animated movie simply by choosing characters and typing. Access from On the web and on the desktop.
	TeacherTube http://teachertube.com/	Similar to YouTube, but contains educational content and site may not be blocked at corporations.
Video – convert to Flash	Any Video Converter http://any-video-converter.com/products/for_video_free/	Free video converter for converting video files between various formats, including AVI, MP4, WMV, MKV, MPEG, FLV, SWF, 3GP, DVD, WebM, MP3, etc for iPad, iPod, iPhone, Android, PSP, Tablets. Another free product is This free YouTube Downloader lets you download videos from YouTube and save them as MP3, MP4, WMV, MPEG, MKV, WebM, ASF, M2TS, DVD and other formats.
Video Editing	Video Spin http://videospin.com/Redesign/	Free video editing from Pinnacle.
Flash Animation	Vectorian Giotto http://vectorian.com/	Make cool Flash animations by yourself, for free! Using Vectorian Giotto, completely free Flash animation software, you’ll have a chance to make what you want, and how you want it!

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PPT to Flash	<u>iSpring</u> <u>http://www.ispringsolutions.com/free_powerpoint_to_flash_converter.html</u>	Free tool that will convert a PowerPoint to flash video, reducing file size, but keeping animations intact. Fee based software also available for more features.
Polling, Surveys	<u>Google Forms</u> <u>http://www.google.com/google-d-s/forms/</u>	Part of Google Docs. Allows you to create surveys and questionnaires. Surveys can be distributed as links or embedded into a website, and survey responses are automatically compiled into a google docs spreadsheet.
	<u>Free Online Surveys</u> <u>http://freeonlinesurveys.com/</u>	Create free email or website surveys for many uses such as surveys, polls, online registration, online forms, and online exams.
	<u>PollEverywhere</u> <u>http://www.polleverywhere.com/</u>	Poll live audiences thru Text, Web or Twitter. Free for 30 people or less.
Blog & Discussion Groups	<u>WordPress</u> <u>http://wordpress.com/</u>	Free Blog tool - You can get a blog started quickly to support a course or a group. All you need is an email address. You'll get your own WordPress.com address, a selection themes, and 3 <i>gigabytes</i> of file space.
	<u>Google Groups</u> <u>http://groups.google.com/</u>	Create your own discussion group, either open to the general public, or restricted to specific individuals you invite. A better alternative than all those email cc's for small and medium sized working groups.
Utilities	<u>Web2PDF</u> <u>http://www.web2pdfconvert.com/default.aspx</u>	Free tool called Web2PDF and it makes a PDF out of a webpage without you having to have Adobe Acrobat to create the PDF
	<u>PDFLite</u> <u>http://www.web2pdfconvert.com/default.aspx</u>	Convert files to PDF like Word to PDF, JPG to PDF, Images to PDF, and more. Any program that can print, can be used to convert to PD
	<u>NovaPDF</u> <u>http://www.novapdf.com/</u>	Inexpensive but more robust features available at price levels under \$50
	<u>DropBox</u> <u>https://www.dropbox.com/</u>	Free online storage service that lets you bring your photos, docs, and videos anywhere and share them easily.
	<u>Tiny URL</u> <u>http://tinyurl.com/</u>	Creates a tiny URL from a long link

Category	Product Name	Description
Utilities (cont'd)	Scorm Cloud http://scorm.com/scorm-solved/scorm-cloud/?gclid=CPndp4vSp6wCFYTe4AodsYAo1g	Connecting learning with learners all over the internet, SCORM Cloud is a hosted SCORM player that integrates easily with other platforms. You can use it to test your course for SCORM compliancy and also pilot team and learners can access the course outside of an LMS.
	What the Font	iPhone App to identify font style
Miscellaneous	Media selection/ROI tool http://www.bnhexpertsoft.com/advisor.htm	Online tool to determine media and ROI
	ROI Calculator- <u> </u>	Free ROI Calculator
Useful Links for Resources and White Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid e-Learning Blog –(great Blog, plus free download book – Becoming a Rapid e-Learning Pro http://www.articulate.com/rapid-elearning/) • Allen Interactive (sample courses and white papers)- http://www.alleninteractions.com • Brandon Hall - http://www.brandon-hall.com • Jane Bozart – e-Learning on a Shoestring and other resources - http://bozarthzone.blogspot.com/ • Jane Hart – C4LPT - http://c4lpt.co.uk/ • Synchronous Trainers Survival Guide and Articles – Jennifer Hofmann- http://www.insynctraining.com/ • Learning Peaks (Patti Shank) http://www.learningpeaks.com • Vignettes for Training - http://www.vignettestraining.com/ 	
Email Newsletters or Online Magazines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASTD Learning Circuits - http://www.astd.org/lc • The Masie Center (Elliott Masie)- http://www.masie.com/ • eLearn Magazine - http://elearnmag.acm.org/index.cfm • Training Magazine - http://trainingmag.com/ • Training Mag Network – free webinars/whitepapers - http://www.trainingmagnetnetwork.com • Training Industry Quarterly ezine - http://www.trainingindustry.com/ezine.aspx 	
More Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be sure to use the Blogs and Community for your specific authoring tools and LMS as many free tips and resources are shared. 	

Ideas for this listing of free tools came from many sources including those below. Check these links for even more tools and resources:

- Rapid Intake webinar on 16 e Media Tools - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbuhBl-Nix8>
- Joseph Mullock from Univ of Penn, ASTD presentations on Free Tools <http://phlesig.wordpress.com/free-tools-resources/>
- Jane Harts Top 100 Tools for 2011 - <http://c4lpt.co.uk/>
- Notes from Jane Bozarth's Bozarthzone - <http://bozarthzone.blogspot.com/>
- 2010 Free e-Learning video - FREE e-learning Tools video <http://www.viddler.com/explore/eLearningTV/videos/79/>