

PopArtPlus 1.0 **Companion**



Contents

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1. Welcome

Introduction

Welcome to PopArtPlus. With just your PC, printer, and PopArtPlus, you can revisit the zeitgeist of the pop art era—no artistic training required!

With a stylish and incredibly easy-to-use interface, PopArtPlus makes it a cinch to create unique PopArt masterpieces.

Follow the simple three-step, color-coded procedure, check the handy on-screen help, even visit the easy-to-master control for printing and saving your creations... PopArtPlus makes it a snap for anyone to achieve wonderful results.

About the Companion

This *Companion* is your guide to getting started and getting fantastic results with Serif PopArtPlus—from what to do once you launch PopArtPlus to advanced output options.

Welcome. Provides key information to get you up and running painlessly and introduces you to the main features of PopArtPlus.

Getting Started. Describes the PopArtPlus buttons and windows and offers a quick start guide to creating your first PopArt.

Step-by-Step. A more detailed look at the processes of choosing your starting image, customizing your PopArt, saving and printing.

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Installation

What you need to run PopArtPlus

If you need help installing Windows, or setting up peripherals, see Windows documentation and help.

Minimum:

- ◆ IBM-compatible Pentium PC with CD-ROM drive and mouse (or other Microsoft-compatible pointing device)
- ◆ Microsoft Windows® 95, 98, 98 SE, Me, 2000, NT® 4.0, or XP operating system
- ◆ 32MB RAM (Windows 95/98), see manufacturer's requirements for other operating systems
- ◆ 7MB (typical install) free hard disk space
- ◆ SVGA (800x600 resolution, 16-bit color) display or higher.

Additional disk resources and memory are required when creating, printing, or saving large images.

Optional:

- ◆ Windows-compatible printer
- ◆ TWAIN-compatible scanner and/or digital camera
- ◆ Stylus or other input device

What you need to know

PopArtPlus is the easiest art program around. You don't need any design experience or even artistic talent, as the PopArtPlus 1-2-3 creation process will do virtually all the work for you!

However, if you're new to Windows computing, you will find it much easier if, before installing and using PopArtPlus, you have spent a little time becoming familiar with the Windows operating environment.

- ☐ From the Windows desktop, click the **Start** button at the lower left and choose **Help**.

First-time install

To install PopArtPlus, simply insert the PopArtPlus CD-ROM into your CD-ROM drive. The AutoRun feature automatically starts the Setup process and all you need to do is select Install option of your choice and answer the on-screen questions. If the AutoRun does not start the install, use the manual install instructions below.

Manual install/re-install

To re-install the software or to repair the installation at a later date, select **Settings/Control Panel** from the Windows **Start** menu and then double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon. Make sure the correct CD-ROM is inserted into your CD-ROM drive, choose **Serif PopArtPlus**, and click the **Change/Remove...** button. You'll have the choice of Removing or Repairing the installation.

Registration, upgrades, and support

If you see the Registration Wizard when you launch PopArtPlus, please take a moment to complete the registration process. Just call Serif toll-free and provide the installation number and code shown. We'll give you a personalized registration number in return. Remember, if you need technical support please contact us. We aim to provide fast, friendly service and knowledgeable help.

2. Getting Started

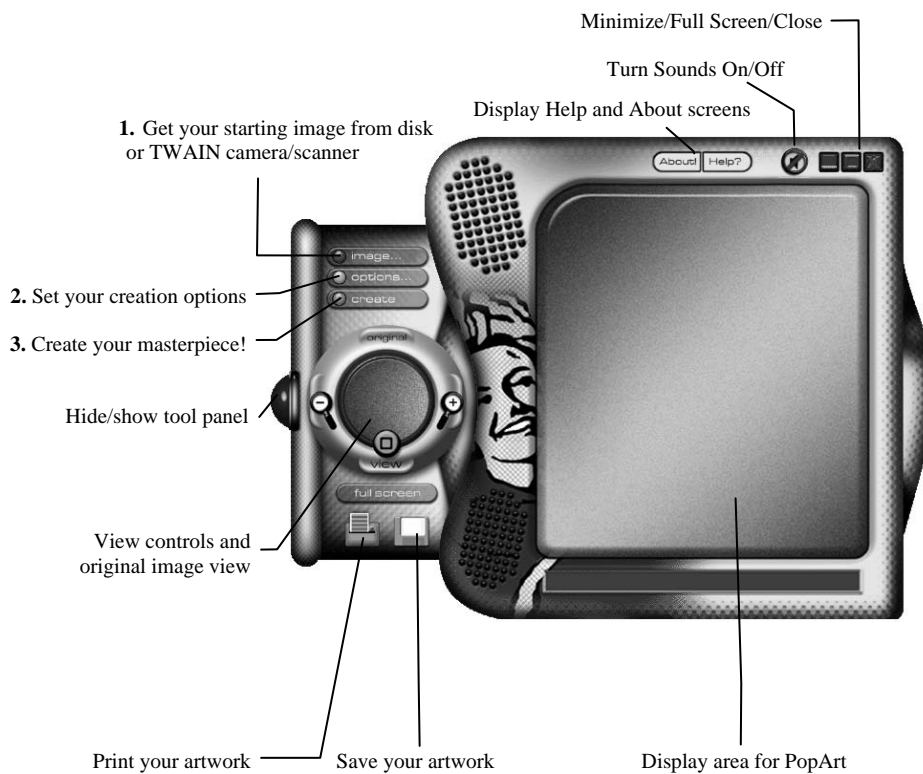
Once PopArtPlus has been installed, you'll be ready to start. Setup adds a **Serif PopArtPlus 1.0** item to the **Programs** submenu of the Windows **Start** menu.

- Use the Windows **Start** button to start PopArtPlus.

The first time PopArtPlus launches, you'll see an overlay with helpful information. When you're done with this, click anywhere to proceed to the main screen, as shown below.

PopArtPlus Interface

Now you can see the normal PopArtPlus screen. The 1-2-3 creation procedure is depicted to the left in the interface illustration below:



A Quick Start Guide

Let's take a look at some of those buttons and screens in action! If you're using PopArtPlus for the first time, here's a recommended sequence using a sample image:

- Click the red **Tool Panel** button to the left of the interface to reveal additional controls, if they're not already visible. The panel slides out to the left side. If you want to close the tool panel, just click the button again.
- When you're ready to start, click the **Image** button. (For full details on opening images from different sources, see the next section, "Step-by-Step.")
- Browse to the PopArtPlus installation folder (typically C:\PROGRAM FILES\SERIF\POPARTPLUS\1.0\), select the sample image **Face.jpg** and click **Open**. You'll see the image appear in the **Original** porthole at the left and in the main PopArtPlus display area.

For this demo, you can skip step 2 (Options) and let PopArtPlus choose settings for you. More on that in the following section.

- Click the **Create** button. After a few moments, your new PopArt appears in the preview window!
- Click **Create** again if you like, to try different color schemes.

We've just used the simplest, quickest procedure for creating original PopArt! As mentioned, there are options we can explore and these will be covered in the next section of this companion.

Accessing Help

- At any time from the main PopArtPlus screen, you can press **F1** or click **Help** to see useful reminders of the button functions. Click anywhere to return to normal operations.

When you're done, you may want to branch out on your own—or you can tag along as the rest of us continue a more detailed look at PopArtPlus in the next section...

3. Step-by-Step

In this section we'll be taking a closer look at the choices available in opening your starting image and customizing your PopArt.

Opening an Image

PopArtPlus can open images in a variety of formats, including a range of industry-standard file types for images opened from disk, as well as images captured directly from a TWAIN-compatible digital camera or scanner.

Image considerations

PopArtPlus uses proprietary imaging technology to recolor and modify images in the production of PopArt. As such, some original images will produce better results. For example, where there is a strong contrast between the subject matter and the background in a photo, PopArtPlus will better be able to process the image.

When taking a picture for use in PopArtPlus, you may also get better results when the background does not closely match colors found in facial features, like eyes and lips. Because of the special processes used in the creation of PopArt, you can use low-resolution images and still achieve fantastic results with PopArtPlus.

Opening an image from a disk

Supported image file formats for use in creating PopArt are .JPG/.JPEG, .GIF, .BMP, .PNG and .TIFF.

- On the Tool Panel, click the **Image** button.
- Browse to an image of your choice and click **OK**.

If you are opening an image directly from a digital camera or scanner, read the notes in the next section. If you are happy with your opened image, jump to “Customizing and Creating Your PopArt.”

Opening an image from a TWAIN digital camera or scanner

PopArtPlus supports the retrieval of an image directly from a scanner or digital camera. The most popular method offered for these devices to interface with a computer is called TWAIN, a standard used across many programs.

- Click the **Image** button.
- Click the **Acquire from TWAIN** button to the right of the dialog.

Your standard digital camera or scanner software should launch. From there you can adjust the scan area and scan settings prior to actually scanning, or, in the case of a digital camera, choose which image to retrieve. Once you're done, the image will be transferred to PopArtPlus.

Customizing and Creating Your PopArt

Once you have your image ready, it takes only a few more clicks to create your original masterpiece. This second stage of the PopArt process allows you to make some choices to influence the end result. Here's a breakdown of the steps involved.

- Click the **Options** button, the second in the red/amber/green sequence at the left of the PopArtPlus interface.

Behind the scenes, PopArtPlus employs clever color-detection algorithms to identify shapes and colors in the image, and displays various choices for stylizing your image.

- With a click of your mouse choose a **painting style** from the variations shown. Click the right arrow button to advance to the next choice.
- Next, select a **background style**. Choices here will include a halftone (dotted) draw style and more. Click the right arrow again to advance.
- Finally, click on a **layout** of your choice. Clicking the right arrow one last time will automatically activate step 3 (Create) and create your PopArt!

Modifying the End Results

PopArtPlus has an internal set of colors to use in your creations. If you'd like to see an altered set of colors for your new PopArt, just click **Create** again—PopArtPlus will use the same options you've specified but will cycle the colors so you get slightly different results with subsequent clicks.

Saving Your PopArt

Once you've created your PopArt and have decided to keep the image, you'll need to save it. PopArtPlus offers a range of industry-standard save types including JPG, GIF, PNG and TIFF. Click **Save** in the main PopArtPlus screen, choose a format, type a name and click **Save**.

Choosing a file format

Here's a brief summary of what types of image are good for:

JPG – a full-color format suitable for Web publishing. PopArtPlus uses medium compression by default, which reduces the image quality but makes the file significantly smaller and therefore quicker to download from the Web..

GIF – a 256-color format also suitable for the Web, especially where there are few colors in the image. GIFs use compression too, but without loss of image quality.

PNG – another full-color image format suitable for the Web, comparable to JPG but with no loss of image quality.

TIFF – A popular full-color format for professional printing.

Image size

PopArtPlus offers a slider on the Save dialog box. The slider's default position in the middle is relative to the artwork generated based on the original image size.

To reduce the number of pixels in the image, move the slider to the left (great for images to be used online). To increase the number of pixels in the image, move the slider to the right (perfect for images to be used for large output).

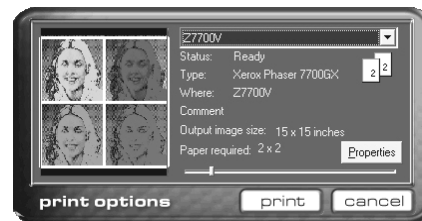
Printing Your PopArt

The Print dialog

Once you've clicked on the **Print** button in PopArtPlus, you'll see some familiar controls in the Print dialog. You can select which device driver to use from the installed list using the pull-down at the top of the dialog.

From this dialog you will also be able to access your normal printer controls to adjust quality and other options.

A preview lets you know what to expect when you click **Print**.



Printing posters

PopArtPlus supports **tiled output**, which lets you print out multiple sheets, then trim and assemble them into poster-sized results. Simply drag the **Poster Size** slider and watch the preview window until you find the size you want. (The dialog tells you how many pages are required.)

In the illustration above, the slider is set so that the output will print on four pages using a 2 x 2 tiled layout. This layout is indicated above the slider and by white lines in the preview.

Carry On Creating!

If you are happy with your saved or printed PopArt and would like to create another, it's a simple case of clicking on the **Image** button again, selecting an image, choosing your options, and clicking on **Create** to roll out another masterpiece.

When your PopArt need has been sated and you'd like to close PopArtPlus, just click the **X** in the top right corner and be sure to visit again!