



**FINALLY** A Tool, Not a Toy  
a new student-focused tool for K-8 publishing

[Canvastic.com](http://Canvastic.com)

### **READ ME FILE FOR VERSION 3.5:**

Thank you for choosing Canvastic - Finally, A Tool Not A Toy!

Canvastic is the fantastic new student focused graphics/text publishing tool for K-8. It features easy to understand tools and options with a clear, clean interface. Its scalable interface grows with the user. There are no "toy" features or excessive options that waste the students' time.

- Text and Graphics Publishing for K-8
- Clear On-Screen Display
- Grows With the User
- No Toy Features

Complete information and documentation is available at: [www.canvastic.com](http://www.canvastic.com) Lesson plans, activities, useful template files, and user discussion areas are also available there. Full upgrade and installation instructions are included in this document.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES!**

This is a demonstration version and as such it is fully functional *except* for saving and printing. You may skip the registration screen by clicking the Demo button when you launch the program.

Canvastic will launch and ask the user to choose a level of use. This is Canvastic's signature feature. It can "Grow with the User" and present the exact interface he/she needs. The list includes levels labeled from Kindergarten to Fifth grade and Advanced. The levels can all be infinitely adjusted and tweaked.

### **UPGRADE INSTRUCTIONS:**

Version 3.5 is a free upgrade for all **paid registered** users. If you are upgrading, take note of these directions. It is recommended that you delete the old Canvastic folder and install the new one to update. Canvastic does not install any files on your computer except for the files found within the Canvastic folder. Version 2 registration codes will **not** work with any version 3 application.

Note:

- You may have custom preference sets that you would like to save. Place these into the new Preferences folder. They will have to be adjusted for use with version 3.5.
- You may have personal clip art contained in the Art folder. Organize these images into folders and place them into the new Art folder. Clip art must be in a named folder. Name the folders to help categorize your images.
- You will have to re-enter your registration name and code when you launch version 3 the first time. Old version 2 codes will **not** work with version 3.5.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:

By installing Canvastic you agree to the terms contained in the Canvastic End User License Agreement.

1. Locate your downloaded file from [canvastic.com](http://canvastic.com).
2. Double click the file to decompress it.
3. Drag the resulting folder to the desired location on your hard drive. Do not move any of the enclosed folders or files to other locations. **Note:** Canvastic will **NOT** run correctly from the CD or from the disk image. It must be copied to your hard drive.
4. You may wish to add the Canvastic application icon to the Dock (Mac OS X) or shortcut (Windows) to it on your desktop to make it easy to find. See your computer's help system for specific directions.
5. You may wish to make an archival copy of the Canvastic folder on another disk before you begin using it.
6. Canvastic will function in Demo Mode (no saving or printing) until registered. To register, go to the Help Menu and choose Register. Enter your registration name and code EXACTLY as given. Note that registration codes are platform specific. If you are installing Canvastic on Macs and Windows computers please request a "mixed" code.
7. Registration and preference settings should be made while logged into your computer as an administrator. Limited users will not be able to make those kinds of changes.

The only files installed by Canvastic are the ones in the Canvastic folder. Do not move any of the files within the Canvastic folder unless directed by this documentation. Do not rename any of the files with the exception of the preference sets, which are in the Preferences folder or the Preferences Library folder. They can be named anything that is appropriate. 1st\_Grade, 2nd\_Grade etc. and K preference sets are just examples. It is expected that teachers will change these sets to meet the needs of their students (see the Preference Sets section). Be sure to keep the .cpf at the end of those file names if you change them.

**Note:** Students may benefit from the Student Introduction to Publishing with Canvastic Lesson before using the program.

See the website: <http://www.canvastic.com/community/lessonplans/canvastic/studentintro/>

**Note:** If your school purchased a multiple seat license, you should have received directions that will aid in installing Canvastic on multiple computers. You can request those directions from [support@canvastic.com](mailto:support@canvastic.com).

## SPECIAL NOTES:

Canvastic may actually run on systems and computers that do not meet the requirements listed below, however tech support is only available for systems that meet the requirements. More information about version 3.5 can be found at: <http://www.canvastic.com/Canvastic/v3>

Registered users of Canvastic will receive periodic messages dealing with updates, new features etc.

v. 3.5 includes these new features and refinements:

- **Audio Tool** – Now it is easy to add audio via recording, iTunes or other audio files to any Canvastic document and slideshow.
- **Universal Binary** - Version 3 runs natively on Macintosh PPC and Intel computers.
- **Smart Spell Check** - Canvastic's new spell checking feature is better than any other for our students. First, you can make it available or not depending upon who is using the program. Second when writing or editing the entry box takes over most of the screen helping the students focus on the task. The words found by the spell checker are shown in full context. Finally, the Learn button can be turned off! No more corrupted dictionaries!
- **Transparency and Tone Control** - Every color can be adjusted using transparency sliders for some fantastic art effects. The sliders are easy to use and adjust the line, the fill and the text colors.
- **Sensible Brush Shape Choices** - The paint brush now has four shapes to make graphics more detailed. As usual the choices are limited to an appropriate level to keep students on task and selection is intuitive, just click the shape next to the line size choice.
- **Slide Shows and Movies are Equal** - Feature sets in these two helpful sharing strategies are now equal. Sounds and transitions in both as well as a helpful "Fit" button that automatically times the slides to match the sound's length.
- **Open Folder... Command** - Why can't you open all the documents from a project all at once? You can in Canvastic! File Menu . Open Folder... and your project is on-screen.
- **Insert Photographs and They Automatically Scale Themselves** - Digital photos are everywhere and often hard to manage in other applications. Now when you insert a photo it will shrink to fit your Canvastic document automatically. Use the Open Folder... command on a folder of photos and they will all be opened and inserted into Canvastic documents.
- **New Templates, Backgrounds, and Clip Art** - Canvastic's graphics that support the curriculum have been enhanced. For example the new Speckles clip art allow students to add color without wasting printer ink.

## KNOWN ISSUES:

- Windows users that have updated QuickTime beyond version 7.1 will **not** be able to successfully record audio. **Work-around:** Don't update QuickTime or wait for a Canvastic/QuickTime update.
- Windows Vista only, Canvastic will not launch until you allow it to run as "an administrator." **Work-around:** Find the actual program inside the Canvastic folder. Right click and choose Properties. Choose the Compatibility tab. Check the "run program as an administrator" checkbox. Choose "Allow" when the system questions you on whether you really want to run the program. Canvastic does not do anything it shouldn't. It just writes some data to a temporary folder when running. **Note:** some users have reported that after following these directions and then reversing them, it runs just fine without being "an administrator."
- Windows 2000 only, iTunes integration does not work. **Work-around:** Use the Insert... command to place mp3 audio files.
- Some gif graphic files don't display correctly, get inserted correctly or even show up in the Art folder. **Work-around:** Use jpeg's, png's instead.
- If you copy from the bottom area of a document that is in a portrait format and paste into a document with a landscape format you cannot see the pasted object. It is "below" the edge of the document. A similar problem would occur if you copied from the far right side of a landscape document and pasted into a portrait document. In both cases, Canvastic is placing the pasted object the same number of pixels from the upper left hand corner. **Work-around:** Directly after pasting hold down the arrow key that will move the object into view until it appears.

- In Windows, double clicking a Canvastic document will launch the program but not open the selected file. **Work-around:** Use the Open command from the File menu or drag and drop the document onto the Canvastic application.
- Menu items can become "grayed out" or unusable. **Work-around:** Click anywhere on the Canvastic document.
- Words that are heavily formatted in Word Processing objects can have a line break at the formatting change rather than at the end of the word. **Work-around:** Adjust the size of the Word Processing object slightly to allow the word to stay on one line.
- Large amounts of clip art in the Art folder may affect performance right after launching the program. **Work-around:** Use tools other than the clip art tool for the first minute. Relax.

## Requirements

Canvastic may run on systems and computers that do not meet the requirements shown here. However, technical support is only available for systems that meet the requirements. Canvastic is designed for the future so some functions and features may be disabled in older systems.

### Macintosh OS X

- G3 processor, G4 or better recommended
- System 10.3.9 or better - Leopard compatible – Intel Mac compatible
- 128 MB of RAM
- 150 MB of hard disk space
- Latest version of QuickTime installed



### Windows Vista, XP and 2000

- Pentium 3, Pentium 4 or better recommended
- Windows 2000, Windows XP, or Vista
- 128 MB of RAM
- 150 MB of hard disk space
- Latest version of QuickTime installed (See Known Issues list above)