

# Adobe® kuler

## explore+create+share

### FAQs related to Adobe kuler

#### Q. What is kuler?

A. Adobe kuler is a web-hosted application from Adobe Labs for generating color themes that can inspire any project. Whether creating websites, interior designs, scrapbooks, fabric patterns, graphic identities, or any visual, you can experiment quickly with color variations and browse thousands of themes from the kuler community. Designed both to stand alone and to complement Adobe Creative Suite® software, kuler uses Adobe Flash® technology to bring you online tools for color theme creation. And developers can use the kuler APIs to bring color themes to any application.

Color themes can be created in a variety of color spaces, including RGB, CMYK and LAB, and can be represented as hex values for use on the web. You can tag themes, comment on them, and share them with others. Browse thousands of themes created by the kuler community sorted by newest, most popular, highest rated or by random order, and can search for themes by tag word, title, creator, or hex color value.

Owners of certain components of the Adobe Creative Suite® 3 family of software, including Adobe Illustrator® CS3, Adobe Photoshop® CS3 and Adobe InDesign® CS3, can download any color theme as an Adobe Swatch Exchange (ASE) file for import and use of the theme in artwork. ASE files are also supported by Creative Suite 2 components.

#### Q. What do I need to use kuler?

A. Use of kuler is free and can be accessed by anyone with an Adobe ID (the same ID that is used by the Adobe Store and other services). There is no charge to create an Adobe ID, only a simple registration is needed. If you have accessed any preview from Adobe Labs such as buzzword or the Adobe Media Player, you probably already have an Adobe ID. Bear in mind that kuler is a prototype technology that is subject to change. Please review the [Terms of Use](#) for a better understanding of use of this new technology.

#### Q. Are there other ways to access kuler themes?

A. There are multiple ways that you can access kuler themes:

1. RSS feeds — You can subscribe to RSS feeds of the most popular, highest rated, and newest themes via [adobe.kuler.com](http://adobe.kuler.com).
2. Adobe kuler desktop — The multi-platform [kuler desktop](#) lets you browse themes by newest, most popular, highest rated or by random order, both offline and when connected.

You can also search for themes by tag word, title, creator, or hex color value, and drag and drop themes to the desktop. Themes can be downloaded as ASE files, or copied and pasted as hex values to the clipboard. Adobe AIR™ must be installed to use the kuler desktop.

3. Apple® Dashboard widget for Mac OS—[Dashboard](#) widget lets you browse themes by newest, most popular, and highest rated. You can also copy and paste theme color hex values to the clipboard.
4. kuler APIs — Developers can use kuler APIs to incorporate kuler themes into their creations using standard API calls to access the kuler RSS feeds.

**Q. What is the difference between kuler and the kuler desktop?**

- A. kuler is a web-hosted application and community site with tools for creating color themes as well as browsing, searching, and downloading themes from the kuler community.
- The kuler desktop uses the RSS feeds from kuler for browsing, searching and downloading themes. You don't have the capability to create themes with the kuler desktop, however, the kuler desktop provides some unique capabilities, such as letting you "tear off" themes to your desktop, and the ability to view cached themes while offline.

**Q. Who is the audience for kuler?**

- A. Anyone seeking creative inspiration around color, as well those who need a useful tool for finding, creating and sharing color harmonies.

**Q. How many color themes can I save on kuler?**

- A. Currently, there is no limit to the number of themes that you can save on your Mykuler page within kuler.

**Q. In what languages is kuler offered?**

- A. At this time, kuler is only offered in English, but is designed to be accessible to anyone who speaks the universal language of color.

**Q. What are the main features and benefits of the latest kuler update?**

- A. The kuler update adds the ability to generate themes from uploaded photos or other bitmap images. Unique color extraction technology lets you to choose from five mood presets: colorful, bright muted, deep, and dark. You can also select movable markers on the image to extract specific colors.

kuler now supports an unlimited number of favorite themes which you can select from the thousands of public themes and store in Mykuler. Favorite themes can now be browsed in the same manner as other themes.

The kuler update also provides a new random sorting option that displays published themes in random order.

**Q. Do I have to be an Adobe Creative Suite customer to take advantage of kuler?**

- A. No. Anyone can use kuler to create, share and exchange color themes online. Designers and developers working in web creation and development can copy/paste hex values directly into their web development software. However, owners of the Creative Suite 3 family of software and Creative Suite 2 software have the added ability to download kuler color themes as an Adobe Swatch Exchange file for use in certain components of that software.

**Q. What is Adobe Swatch Exchange?**

- A. Adobe Swatch Exchange (ASE) is a file format that was introduced in Creative Suite 2. It allows customers to import and export color swatches via the Swatch palette, enabling easy sharing of color swatches between certain Creative Suite 3 and Creative Suite 2 components.

**Q. What components of Adobe Creative Suite 3 support ASE files?**

A. ASE files are supported by Adobe Illustrator CS3, Adobe Photoshop CS3, and Adobe InDesign CS3. Adobe GoLive® 9 also supports ASE files.

**Q. Why don't other Creative Suite 3 components, such as Adobe Flash® Professional CS3 and Adobe Dreamweaver® CS3, support ASE files?**

A. The ASE file format was developed by Adobe for Creative Suite 2 prior to the acquisition of Macromedia. While deep integration was made across the various components of the Creative Suite 3 family, support of ASE files was not part of that integration effort. However, users of Flash and Dreamweaver can copy/paste hex values into their software.

**Q. How is kuler integrated into Illustrator CS3?**

A. New to Illustrator CS3, in International English and Universal English versions only, is a kuler panel, built entirely with Flash technology. This panel, which behaves just as any other panel in Illustrator, provides direct access to the kuler community from the Illustrator desktop. With the kuler panel, Illustrator CS3 customers can browse the RSS feeds of the most popular, the highest rated, and the most recently created themes, and subscribe to custom feeds, such as a particular tag word or creator name. Any theme can be downloaded to the Illustrator CS3 Swatches panel with a single click and immediately be used in coloring Illustrator artwork. In addition, color groups of three to five swatches created in Illustrator CS3 can be uploaded to kuler as kuler themes through the kuler panel.

**Q. Why is Illustrator CS3 the only component of the Creative Suite 3 family of software to include a kuler panel?**

A. Illustrator CS3 and kuler share underlying technology. kuler is based a subset of the color technology found in the Live Color feature in Illustrator CS3. The connection between Illustrator CS3 and kuler is a natural extension of that shared technology. Since kuler and the kuler panel are both technology previews, Adobe is interested in hearing from members about their views on connecting Adobe desktop applications to the web community. Please share your thoughts on the [kuler talk forum](#).

**Q. What are the differences between kuler and the Live Color feature in Illustrator CS3?**

A. While kuler and Live Color share underlying technologies for creating color harmonies, Live Color is designed to support the needs of Illustrator customers who are creating and editing original artwork, and who need to control color for outputting artwork to various media. kuler lets you create harmonious color themes quickly, with the same professional technology used for creating themes in Live Color. Live Color in Illustrator CS3 lets you both create color harmonies and interactively apply colors and color harmonies to any selected artwork. Live Color includes the Color Guide panel, where you can create color schemes based on 23 color-harmony rules, or you can create your own custom themes. kuler provides six color-harmony rules, and also allows for member-created custom harmonies.

Color themes in kuler must be composed of three to five colors. Color themes in Live Color can be composed of any number of colors. Live Color provides powerful controls for remapping colors to a particular color library, such as PANTONE colors, as well as options for quickly reducing the number of colors in a design, for example, when full-color artwork must be output in two colors. The capabilities of Live Color can be explored in more detail on the [Illustrator CS3 pages on Adobe.com](#).

**Q. Why is the kuler panel only available in the English versions of Illustrator CS3?**

A. The inclusion of the kuler panel in the English releases of Illustrator CS3 matches the languages currently supported by kuler.

**Q. Is Adobe now entering the web-hosted application and services space?**

A. Like any forward-looking software business, Adobe is looking at new ways to deliver its technologies to the market. Delivering software as a service is gaining industry momentum, especially in segments where customer demand and the ability to deliver a stellar customer experience come hand-in-hand. Today, Adobe delivers a few of its technologies as hosted services and will continue to evaluate a hosted service business model.

**Q. What products or technologies does Adobe deliver today as hosted services?**

A. Today, Adobe delivers Create PDF Online, Adobe Document Center and Adobe Acrobat® Connect™ as hosted services. Additionally, we've announced a partnership with Photobucket to integrate Adobe web-based video remix and editing technology directly into the Photobucket user experience, giving 35 million Photobucket users direct, free access to world-class digital video editing tools.



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