

A Short History of CorelDRAW®

Celebrating 20 years of innovation in design



Imagine how dull documents would be if text and graphics could never be combined in the same file. Or, if you could imaginatively draw shapes, or carefully create diagrams, but never with the same program. Such was life on the PC before CorelDRAW...



CorelDRAW® took the computer graphics world by storm in 1989, introducing a full-color vector illustration and layout program—the first of its kind. Two years later, Corel revolutionized the industry again, introducing the first all-in-one graphics suite with version 3, which combined vector illustration, page layout, photo editing and much more in a single package.

Twenty years later, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X4 continues the innovation, introducing new, live-text formatting, independent layers per page and integration with online services to allow real-time collaboration. This version is optimized for the latest Windows® operating systems, continuing its tradition as the professional graphics suite for the PC.



January 1989

CorelDRAW 1.0 revolutionized the graphic design industry, becoming the **first graphics software for Windows®**.

February 1990

CorelDRAW 1.11 added **AutoCAD® DXF™ import/export support** for working with 2D and 3D designs.

September 1991

CorelDRAW 2 introduced **Print Merge**, for merging text files with graphics files and printing the result. This version also introduced Envelope, Blend, Extrusion and Perspective tools for distorting and blending objects and shapes.

October 1992

CorelDRAW 3 added an Editable Preview Mode, providing the ability to work with objects displayed in full detail and in color. CorelDRAW 3 was also the **first suite of graphics applications for Windows**. It introduced Corel PHOTO-PAINT®, adding the ability to create, edit or modify raster images.

May 1993

CorelDRAW 4 introduced a multi-page capability, allowing documents to be created with as many as 999 pages. This version also introduced the Floating Toolbox, which could be moved out of the way to open up more workspace.

July 1994

CorelDRAW 5 brought Postscript® and TrueType® font support to the program. A powerful color management system was also added, allowing users to custom-calibrate a monitor, printer and scanner to achieve a more accurate on-screen representation of colors.

August 1995

CorelDRAW 6 was released the same day that Microsoft launched Windows® 95. CorelDRAW 6 was the first version with full **32-bit support**. It also added a Graph Paper tool, and increased the maximum page size from 35" x 35" to 150 ft. X 150 ft.

April 1997

CorelDRAW 7 added an **interactive property bar** that put essential tools at people's fingertips in one handy bar, streamlining the workflow. This version also added support for users to **write scripts and automate functions**. New writing tools were added, including the Automatic Spell Checker, Thesaurus and Grammar Checker.

April 1998

CorelDRAW 8 introduced **Multi-file Import**, plus interactive Drop Shadow tools and interactive Vector tools for manipulating drop shadows, and Zipper and Twister tools for distorting lines and nodes.

December 1999

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 9 added **multiple Color Palettes**, letting users customize their workspace to display multiple color palettes simultaneously, for more speed and flexibility. A new Palette Editor made it possible to create custom color palettes or edit existing custom palettes.

October 2000

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 10 introduced a **Publish to PDF** function. The **Page Sorter View** let users view thumbnails of all pages in a document, and reorder pages by dragging and dropping them into new positions. Color Management was completely redesigned to combine essential options in one dialog box.

August 2002

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 11 introduced **Symbols**, letting users create objects and store them in a reusable library, to be referenced many times in a drawing.

January 2004

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 12 introduced **enhanced text alignment** tools and **Dynamic Guides** for precisely positioning, aligning and drawing objects relative to other objects. Unicode text support made it effortless to exchange files regardless of the language or operating system in which the file was created.

February 2006

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X3 introduced a new tracing engine, Corel® PowerTRACE™, to convert bitmaps into vector graphics, a new Cut-Out lab in Corel PHOTO-PAINT, and a new Image Adjustment Lab to quickly improve digital photos. This version also added vector object cropping, previously only possible with bitmaps.

January 2008

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X4 introduced **live text formatting** for previewing text attributes before applying them to a document. Other new and enhanced features included **interactive tables**, additional file format support (including PDF 1.7 and Microsoft® Publisher 2007), camera raw support for over 300 cameras, and **independent page layers**. **Online services** for collaboration (CorelDRAW® ConceptShare™) and font identification were also introduced. In-keeping with market demand, this version was certified for Windows Vista®.