



PIXLR



## BASICS

An online photo editor that allows users to quickly edit images, add text, symbols, effects, and layers, making it ideal for creating visual clues, coded images, maps, and backgrounds for digital escape rooms.

**URL / Access:** <https://pixlr.com/>



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Multilingual support:** Available in multiple languages including English, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Italian, and others.

**Technical requirements:** Works on computers, tablets, and smartphones. Internet connection required. Runs in a web browser (no installation needed)

**Adaptations for SLD users:** Pixlr supports learners with specific learning difficulties by allowing visual-based clues, simplified layouts, and colour-coded information instead of text-heavy instructions.

### Cost and access:

- **Price:** Freemium / Paid plans: Pixlr Plus / Premium (monthly or yearly plans)
- **Free plan limits:** Basic tools and templates ; watermark on some exports ; ads displayed.
- **Account required?** No (account optional, required for saving projects online)



## HOW TO USE IT

1

### STEP 1: Open Pixlr and choose an editor

Go to [pixlr.com](https://pixlr.com) and select Pixlr X (simple editor, recommended for children) or Pixlr E (more advanced editor).

2

### STEP 2: Create or open an image

Click "Create new" to start with a blank canvas or "Open image" to upload an existing picture (e.g. a map, lock, letter, or background).

3

### STEP 3: Add visual clues

Use the Text tool to insert numbers, letters, or riddles, and the Shapes/Icons tools to add symbols such as locks, arrows, or warning signs.

4

### STEP 4: Hide or encode information

Change opacity, layer order, colours, or blur effects to hide clues. For example, place a number behind an image or reduce contrast so clues only appear when carefully observed.

5

### STEP 5: Apply effects or filters

Use filters (e.g. glitch, vintage, shadow) to make clues look aged, damaged, secret, or "encrypted".

6

### STEP 6: Export the final image

Click Save, choose image quality and format (PNG or JPG), and download the visual to use in your escape room platform (Genially, Google Slides, etc.).



## EXAMPLES OF VISUALS AND ANIMATION

### For visuals

In the free version, Pixlr icons are accessed via the Stickers/Elements panel inside the editor.

Name	Images	Link
<p>Lock Icon → Padlock symbol for locked puzzles</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/</a></p>
<p>Key Symbol → Classic key for unlocking clues</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/</a></p>
<p>Warning Sign → Alert icon for danger clues</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/</a></p>
<p>Magnifying Glass → Investigation or search clue</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/s-ticker-maker/</a></p>



## EXAMPLES OF VISUALS AND ANIMATION

### For visuals

Name	Images	Link
<p>Arrows → Directional arrows for navigation puzzles</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/sticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/sticker-maker/</a></p>
<p>Question Mark → Mystery or unknown challenge</p>		<p><a href="https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/">https://pixlr.com/tools/add-object-to-photo/</a></p> <p><a href="https://pixlr.com/design/sticker-maker/">https://pixlr.com/design/sticker-maker/</a></p>



### For animation

Pixlr does not create true timeline animations, but animated-style effects can simulate motion or transformation. **Link:** <https://pixlr.com/effects/>

Name	Images
<p>Glitch effect → Simulates corrupted or hacked data</p>	



## EXAMPLES OF ANIMATION

Name	Images
<p>Neon glow → Highlights secret symbols</p>	
<p>Blur reveal → Makes hidden clues visible gradually</p>	
<p>Shadow overlay → Conceals parts of an image</p>	
<p>Light leak → Creates cinematic transitions</p>	



## EXAMPLES OF TEMPLATES

Templates can be customised with text, icons, and hidden clues for escape room puzzles.

Name of the template	Link
Mystery poster template	<a href="https://pixlr.com/designer/template/">https://pixlr.com/designer/template/</a>
Vintage document template	<a href="https://pixlr.com/designer/template/">https://pixlr.com/designer/template/</a>
Map-style background	<a href="https://pixlr.com/designer/template/">https://pixlr.com/designer/template/</a>
Warning / hazard sign	<a href="https://pixlr.com/designer/template/">https://pixlr.com/designer/template/</a>
Puzzle card layout	<a href="https://pixlr.com/designer/template/">https://pixlr.com/designer/template/</a>