



About The Software : The purpose of this utility is to blend existing images in a very fast and easy way, using a layer mask for transparency. The process is simple ... load the base picture followed by a top layer image, then add a mask and the program automatically merges everything together. Ideal for anyone who doesn't want to use a major graphics application for this task.

A few gradient masks are provided within the program to get you started, but you cannot create any new masks directly. You can however import more images into the transparency layer. 20 sample *.jpg files are included, or you can create your own masks using any graphics program of your choice.

Feature Overview

- Compact, fast and easy to use
- Floating palettes with extra options
- 26 different Blend modes on top layer
- Opacity slider on the top layer
- Tiled mode on top layer
- Gradient presets on mask layer
- Rotate and Flip options on all layers
- Convert to Grayscale on all layers
- Invert colours on all layers
- Flatten and transfer to Base image
- Copy image to Clipboard
- Save merged image in *.bmp format
- Loading of additional graphics formats
- Zoom presets in main window

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System Requirements : Windows 95/98/ME/2000/XP/Vista, plus suitable images or texture maps.

Installation

1. Unzip all the files to a suitable folder on your hard drive
for example ... C:\Cybia\ImageInc
2. Create a shortcut to the ImageInc.exe file to launch the application

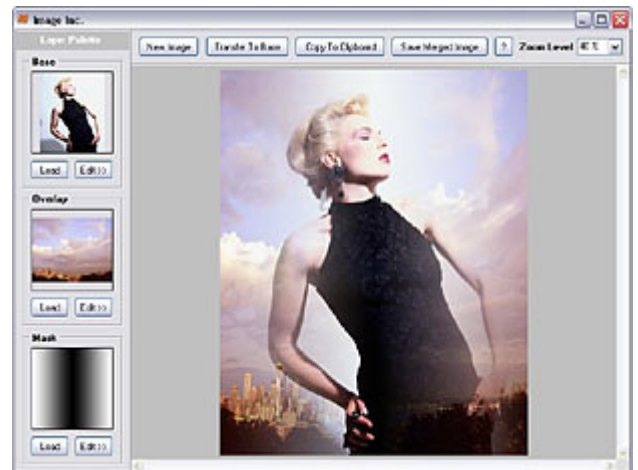
To uninstall just delete the folder where you installed the program files to. Also delete the ImageInc.ini file that has been automatically created in your Windows folder (this is where your settings are stored, so keep a backup if you want to reuse it at a later time). Finally, remove any shortcuts that you have created manually for the program.



Main Program : This screenshot (right) shows the basic program layout. On the left side you will see thumbnail image previews for the layer palette.

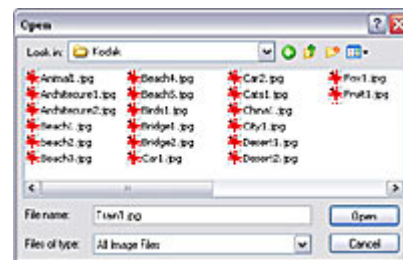
Click the Load buttons in this section to open each file in sequence, starting with the Base, and the full-size composite image will automatically be generated in the main window.

When you are happy with your final output you can either copy the merged picture to Clipboard, ready to past into another app, or you can save the image as a 32 bit Bitmap (*.bmp) file.



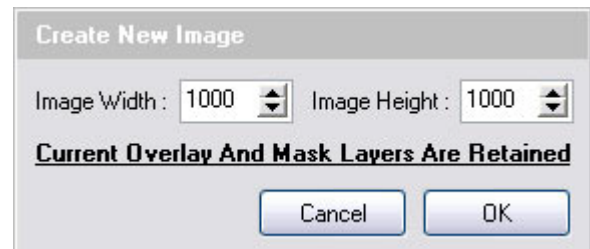
Open Dialog : If you click on any of the Load buttons then this will display the standard Windows open dialog.

Browse your hard drive and select a suitable image. Compatible with *.jpg, *.psd, *.psp (single layer), *.bmp, *.png, *.tga, *.tif, *.pcx and *.pcd files.



New Image : If you want the Base layer to be a blank white canvas then click on the New Image button and input the required width and height.

This will delete the Base image but the Overlay and Mask settings will remain and auto-resize.



Base Palette : Click on the Edit >> button under the Base preview to display further options. You can Rotate, Flip, Convert To Grayscale and Invert.

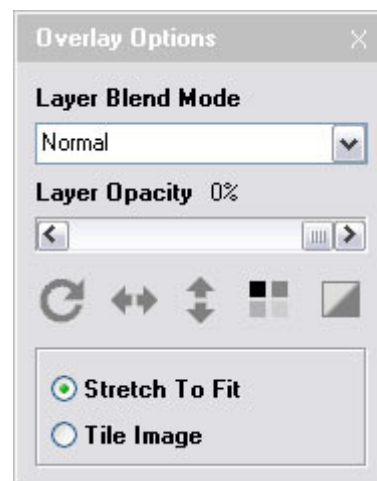


Overlay Palette : Click on the Edit >> button under the Overlay preview to display further options.

The Layer Blend Mode drop-down menu allows you to choose from 26 different blending modes. Plus you can control the overall Opacity too.

Buttons for Rotate, Flip, Convert To Grayscale and Invert are also available for this layer.

You can also choose between the automatic Stretch mode or Tile Image options (only works if the Overlay image is smaller than the Base).



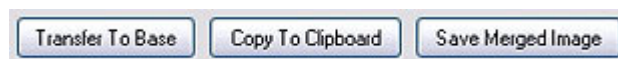


Mask Palette : Click on the Edit >> button under the Mask preview to display further options.

Along with the usual Rotate, Flip, etc buttons, this floating palette also comes with 5 simple built-in gradients to help you get started.

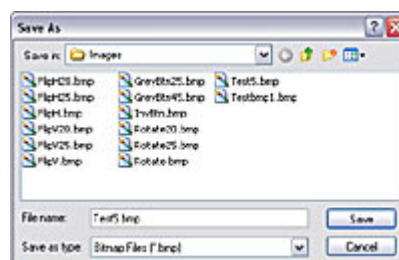


Top Menu Bar : When you are happy with your composite image click the Transfer To Base button and continue adding further layers, or copy the current image to Clipboard, or save the file.



Save Dialog : If you click the Save Merged Image button in the top menu bar then this will display the standard Windows save dialog.

Browse your hard drive and select a suitable place to save your composite image in *.bmp format.



Zoom Level : Zoom out to view large images.



About Box : Click on the ? button in the top menu bar to display this dialog which will provide you with some basic program information such as version number, website URL and Copyright data.

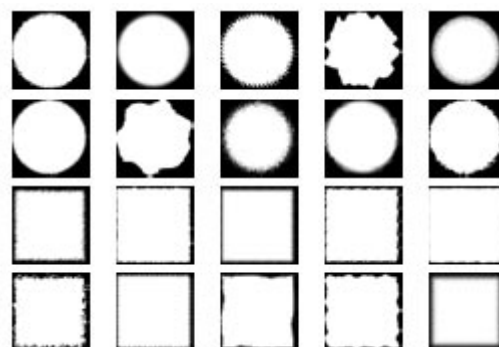
Click on the OK button to exit the About dialog and return to the main program.



Image Masks : There are 20 additional mono *.jpg images provided which you can import into the transparency layer, including 10 round edges and 10 square frame variations.

You can also create your own transparency masks using any graphics software that can paint/edit and save grayscale images.

Black areas will allow the image beneath to show through and white retains the top layer picture.





Example 1 : Photo Blending

One possible use for this application would be to mix parts of different photographs together. For example, if you wanted to enhance the sky in one picture by fading-in the clouds from another.



Example 2 : Texture Effects

Another handy feature is the ability to add image overlays to certain objects or areas in a photograph, such as distressed textures.



Example 3 : Edge & Frames

You can also quickly apply edge effects using various image masks. The background could be a plain colour or another image/texture.



Example 4 : 3D Texture Maps

The original purpose of this utility is to help 3D users build texture map variations without the need for more complex editing software.

For example, you can smoothly blend different skin textures for your Poser characters using gradient masks, or apply overlays to specific areas only.



Additional Credits : Image Inc. was programmed using Borland Delphi with additional Graphics32 components by Alex Denissov and GraphicEx library by Mike Lischke. Guide PDF created using Serif PagePlus. Screenshots edited in Adobe Photoshop. Files compressed with 7-Zip. Many thanks also to all my beta testers who helped along the way!

More Resources Online : If you enjoy using Image Inc. then be sure to visit the Cybia website and download some of the other software and resources available at : www.cybia.co.uk