



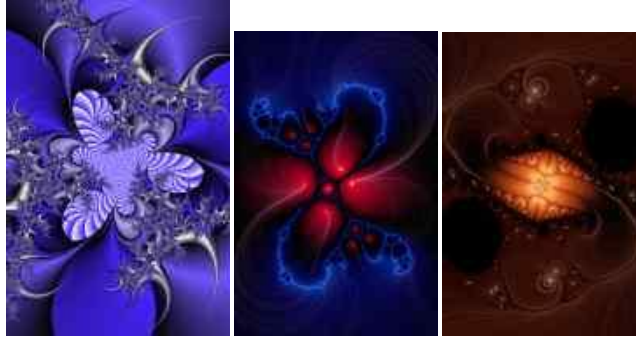
Web 2.0 Banners: Header Banner

WEB 2.0 BANNERS: HEADER BANNER

GIMP® is all about IT (Images and Text)

Before you begin this tutorial, you will need to download a public domain image that will be the focal point of the header banner. The type of image that we will be using is called a *fractal*. A simple definition of a fractal is an image that is generated by a mathematical formula. When a small part of an image is magnified, you can see another intricate image within. When the image is magnified millions of times, it creates an image known as a *fractal*.

Several examples display below:



I downloaded pink/green fractal from

OPEN GIMP®

Beginning with this banner project, the instructions will be abbreviated.

Step 1: Create a new GIMP® project and select a size and background color for your new image.

The size should be the width of the content area of your Web page. Many designers use a width of 800 pixels for the banner image. This will accommodate a browser resolution of 800 x 600 pixels.

Note: Many designers no longer develop pages for this resolution as most browsers have a resolution of at least 1024 x 768.

Step 2: You will be using the colors in the fractal image you selected so you will need to open the fractal image in GIMP® and to use the Color Picker Tool to select a light color in the fractal to use as the background color of the image.

Write down the Html Notation: for this color as it will also be the background color of the container of the web page that will “contain” your content.

Note: You may want to minimize the fractal image as you will need to select additional colors from the image.

Duplicate the “Background” layer and fill with the selected color. Name the new layer appropriately.

Step 3: In a new layer (name appropriately), create a rounded rectangle and fill with a purple color from the fractal image.

Step 4: Use the Text Tool to add the title to the header banner (Use [Your Name] and [Professional Portfolio]. Use a color from the fractal image for the font color.

Step 5: In a new layer (name appropriately), draw a rectangle for the navigation and fill with a green color from the fractal image.

Step 6: Using the Text Tool, add the link text for the first navigation link and use the Duplicate Layer to insert the additional. Select a link color from the fractal image.

Step 7: In a new layer, add a divider line with a reduced opacity level and use the Duplicate Layer to insert additional dividers. Select a divider color from the fractal image.

Step 8: In the Layers palette, select the navigation rectangle layer and add a drop shadow.

Step 9: Drag the fractal image onto the image canvas and scale the layer to a suitable size and position on the image.

Step 10: With the fractal image layer selected in the Layers palette, add a drop shadow to the fractal image.

Step 11: Use the Paths Tool to draw a selection to delete from the fractal image. Cut the selection.

Step 12: Use the Crop Tool to crop the portion of the image you want to save.



Step 13: Save as a GIMP image in the `\PortableApps\GIMP\banners/images` folder as `professional_portfolio_banner_mm_dd_yy` (replacing the `mm_dd_yy` with the current month, day, and year).

Step 14: Save again in the same folder as a .png image.

At the Menu tab, you will use GIMP® to determine the hotspots for the link navigation.

