

Selecting the Image in AppleWorks Paint by Cindy O'Hora

The Paint environment is just like a painting a wall. What you create is stuck right to the page. Clicking on it will not get handles like it does in Draw. But you can select things using two tools.

Dotted Rectangle Tool

1. Click on the dotted rectangle tool. The cursor will change to a cross hair.
2. Start in the upper left corner just outside your picture. Hold down the mouse button and drag down to the lower right until your selection is enclosed.

The rectangle dotted outline is moving like "marching ants".

3. Go Edit ...Copy.

The selection is now on the Clipboard ready to go to a web page, word processing or any other document.

Outcome

Any white space you include in the selection rectangle will be copied with the image. Keep the white space small to minimize the memory size of your image. More white space ... more memory size for the image.

Take command

If you hold down the command key  as you drag the rectangle tool it will not select a square space. It will adhere to the outside of the graphic like the lasso tool would!

Lasso Tool

1. Click on the lasso tool.
2. Hold down the mouse button as you drag the lasso around the object you are selecting. Leaving a wide margin. Drag all the way around and bring the ends of the dotted line you've created together.

If you don't approximate the ends, the computer will. But it may cut off part of your object. If that happens don't panic. Click on a blank area of the page and then try again.

You'll see the dotted line jump to adhere to the outline of the object you circled with the tool.

3. Go Edit ... Copy. (⌘... c)

The selection is now on the Clipboard ready to go to a web page, word processing or any other document.

Outcomes

If you keep the image in the paint environment, it keeps its cookie cutter outline. If you take it to another environment, it has a minimum white space around it.

I find that shrinking the view of the image (by clicking on the small mountains  in the bottom left corner) can make it easier to "lasso" around an image. This does not change the actual image's size, only the view of it.

I use the selection tools interchangeably to suit myself and the application.



Feeling crabby? I'm guessing you discovered that you cannot resize a paint image after you take it from Paint to another document? Frustrating isn't it. Actually, you can make them resizeable. Here is how.

1. Copy the image as described above.

2. Open Scrapbook. It is in the AppleMenu. 

3. Paste your image in Scrapbook. (It saves automatically)

4. Copy the image in Scrapbook. With it visible go command ... c. I often use Cut so that the image is removed from Scrapbook. Remember when you cut, your Clipboard is holding on to the selected text or object until you cut again or shut down the computer. Edit ... cut.

5. Now paste it in your other document. You'll find that Scrapbook has converted the image to a format which permits resizing. ;-)

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