

# Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the novice to the advanced.

## **Gimp – a Free Photoshop**

As digital photography has become the new norm, and we use our computer to make and publish our photo albums, there is often something more we need to do to make the picture just right. Since before XP, Microsoft Windows has come with a free picture editing tool called Paint. Past versions have been quite basic, but very handy for cropping, changing a colour or adding text to a picture. The latest version has a lot more flexibility, but still it has nothing like the power of a picture editing program like Adobe Photoshop or others.

Now there is a real alternative to these powerful and costly picturing editing programs, and it is free, called Gimp. Download it for free from [www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org)

You can use it to remove skin blemishes, change and remove colours, smart cut-out tools for selecting shapes or people in a picture. This is very useful for copying a person's portrait onto a group photo if they were missing. It works with layers in the same way that Photoshop does, and you can change the size or perspective of each layer.

Yes - it does take a little getting use to, but if these are the results you need, then this tool is well worth the effort of getting to know.

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