



Bux-Mont Macintosh Users Group

Serving Bucks and Montgomery Counties in Suburban Philadelphia, PA USA

Join us every first Thursday of the month at 7:30PM in Telford, PA

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[User Group Network](#) - News, resources, community, and lots of links - bringing user groups together in a big way.

[Hershey Apple Corp](#) - maintains an extensive listing of MUGs!

[The MUG Center](#) - a great resource site for Mac user groups.

[Mid-Atlantic MUG Team](#) - PA, NJ, DE, MD, NY, CT & VA MUGs working together to keep meetings, events, MacDinners and presentations interesting, informative and most of all...FUN!



PRODUCT REVIEWS

Whenever we raffle off sponsor's products, members are charged with filling out one of our [review forms](#). In addition to printing these reviews in our monthly newsletter, we will be posting them on our site for all to see.

FREEHAND10 by Macromedia
review by Daniel East/Program Director 5/2002



Description: Vector Design Tool for Print & Internet Graphics

First impressions:

FH10 is an OSX native program and runs well in the OSX environment. Running in Classic or OS9 environment dramatically degrades the speed of the program. The necessity of having Virtual Memory turned on while using FH10 in OS9. 2.1 needs to be made clearer to the user. Without VM turned on, FH10 is so slow as to be unusable.

Likes:

- Simple Flash animations without the need to exit FH10
- Easy on the eye and usable menus and the (moveable) info menu across the top
- New gradient abilities-not as fun as the gradient mesh offered by Adobe Illustrator, but some new functions allowing you to be more creatively gradient.
- Better path pattern options

Dislikes:

- Lack of any good vector 3D abilities without 3rd party plugins
- Cursor distance no longer has a keyboard shortcut
- Transform again doesn't have a copy function attached to it

Ratings: 1-5 (best)

Installation ease: 5 stars
Instructions: 4 stars
Ease of use: 5 stars
Program appearance: 5 stars
Level of experience needed: Intermediate

Recommend this product: Good upgrade choice

Reviewer's System:

PowerMac G4, 867mhz, 384M RAM

Summary: I like the program upgrade. The added features are easy to use and self explanatory. I wish that Macromedia would make more vector distorts available within the program instead of having to find them with 3rd party developers. BTW, my Vector Tools will not install into FH10 (anybody got a tip?) so I need to go back to FH8 for any way of controllable distorts. I love creating simple Flash animations without having to leave the program for another application. This little added feature makes up for any lack in other areas.

Overall rating: 4.8 out of 5 stars

For more info go to the Macromedia web site.
<http://www.macromedia.com/>

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