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There are several design apps available for graphic designers and artists, and they can pick from open source programs to steeply priced commercial products depending on their budget and designing requirement. Those who are into web graphic design, can do with entry level image editing apps. However, designers with an artistic bent of mind and deep pockets can use feature-rich image editing apps for photo editing and print production. Needless to say, the latter variant can cost a lot.

What is AutoDesk?

While majority designers opt for either Adobe or Corel apps, there are some worthy alternatives in the industry that can be considered. AutoDesk is a company that is known mainly for its 3D modeling and industrial design software. However, its SketchBook Pro is a capable illustration program, which can also be used for quality digital painting.

Benefits of SketchBook Pro

SketchBook Pro design app is suitable for those designers who love using brush effects. However, to get the most out of it, users will need to invest in proper hardware accessories. A veteran artist will understand that this app is suitable for tablet usage the moment he takes a look at its interface.

When it comes to feature set and customization abilities, AutoDesk's SketchBook Pro does not fail to impress. It offers support for the majority of stylus tablets and also supports dual monitor setup. The latter is a boon for professional graphic designers. Those artists, who aspire for pixel precise control in their artwork, would appreciate its extensive rulers and grid sets. The symmetrical drawing feature is also exciting as it lets the artist execute conceptualized drawings faster. It also offers seamless email integration, which lets users email finished or even unfinished projects to others without closing the app.

However, when it comes to the inbuilt brush sets, SketchBook Pro falls behind apps like Corel Painter. It does offer a good brush set, however, although brushes can be customized and combined to suit user needs, advanced users will crave for more. SketchBook Pro does not have exhaustive brushes for dry and wet style painting, but for sketch based drawing, it can leave other apps biting the dust. It does offer air brush painting features.

While few graphic designers will rely on a single app for image editing or illustration, it is nice to use a program that offers support for various formats. SketchBook Pro offers support for the most widely used image formats like PNG, BMP, and JPG, etc. Photoshop users will be delighted to know that it imports PSD files and keeps the layer objects and details intact while doing so.

The app is fairly intuitive and does not have a steep learning curve. It also offers a comprehensive help section with FAQ. There are tutorials for beginners who can also benefit from user forums.

Overall, SketchBook Pro is ideal for those designers who are not exactly beginners and want a design tool to complement their existing apps.

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