ScreenSkills

Games

Sortingh: sortingh.at/
Operating system: Web based
Web-based tool to help developers pick a game engine.

Twine: twinery.org/
Operating system: All
Easy-to-create interactive, story-based game engine. Add slides and embed media. Coding knowledge is not required.

GameMaker: yoyogames.com
Operating system: Windows and Mac
Simple-to-use trial to create prototypes of 2D games. Coding knowledge is not required.

Unreal Engine: unrealengine.com/en-US/what-is-unreal-engine-4
Operating system: Web based
Advanced game engine to create 2D, 3D, mobile and VR games. Knowledge of programming is not required.

Playcanvas: playcanvas.com
Operating system: Web based
Simple-to-use web-based 3D game engine using HTML5. Create apps faster using Google Docs-style realtime collaboration.

Unity: unity3d.com/
Operating system: Windows and Mac
Easy-to-use game engine for importing 3D models, creating textures and building environments.

Animation

Autodesk Maya and 3ds Max: autodesk.com/freesoftware
Operating system: All
Educational institutions can access a range of software for 3D modelling, animation and rendering.

Synfig: synfig.org/
Operating system: All
Vector-based 2D animation suite.

Three.Js: threejs.org/
Operating system: Web based
Create animated 3D computer graphics on a web browser using HTML.

Blender: blender.org/
Operating system: All
Easy-to-use software to create 3D models, environments and animated films. Can be used for VFX and games.

Learn how to use your work to build a portfolio and get a job:
screenskills.com/building-your-portfolio

Find a job profile that uses your skills:
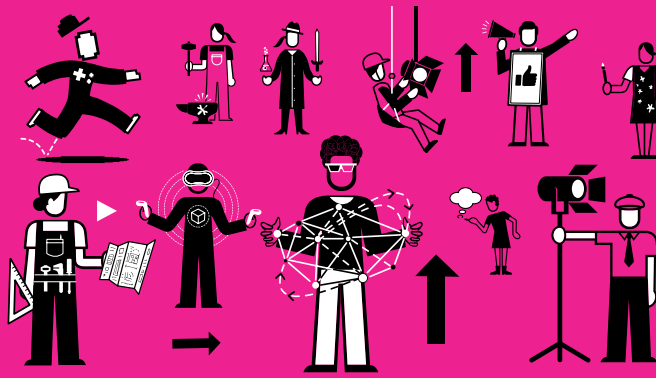screenskills.com/job-profiles

Software guide

Free software to help you develop your skills and create a portfolio for the film, TV, animation, VFX and games industries

Audio editing

- **Audacity:** audacityteam.org/download/
Operating system: All
Easy-to-use, includes some professional features.

- **Ocenaudio:** ocenaudio.com/
Operating system: All
Easier than Audacity, good for effects and filters.

- **Frinika:** sourceforge.net/projects/frinika/
Operating system: All
Music editing and audio recording.

Storyboarding/screenwriting

- **Trelby:** trelby.org
Operating system: Windows and Linux
Easy-to-use software, good for applying standard industry formatting.

- **Fade In:** fadeinpro.com
Operating system: All
Clear interface and usable with any text editor.

- **Plot:** theplot.io
Operating system: All
Quick and efficient basic storyboard creator which allows collaboration with other people.

- **WonderUnit:** wonderunit.com
Operating system: All
Easy-to-visualise storyboard, which allows you to plot and create the animatics of a story.

Visual effects (VFX)

- **Natron:** natrongithub.github.io
Operating system: All
Easy-to -use node-based interface for 2D compositing, rotoscoping and 2D tracking.

- **Hitfilm Express:** fxhome.com/express
Operating system: Windows and Mac
2D and 3D compositing software with preset special effects, keying for green screen and online tutorials.

- **Blackmagic Fusion:** blackmagicdesign.com/products/fusion
Operating system: All
Advance node-based software for 2D and 3D compositing, rotoscoping, colour grading. Can be used for animation.

- **Nuke:** https://www.foundry.com/products/nuke
Operating system: All
Industry-used software with dynamic 3D compositing, 3D particle effects and tracking.

Programming

- **Scatch:** scratch.mit.edu/
Operating system: Web based
Learn the principles of programming, interactive stories and games.

- **Python:** fxhome.com/express
Operating system: All
Great software to learn how to code.

Photo editing and design

- **Pixlr:** pixlr.com
Operating system: Web based
Web based photo and graphics editor.

- **TinkerCad:** tinkercad.com/
Operating system: Web based
Easy-to-use software for 3D design.

- **GIMP:** gimp.org/
Operating system: All
Easy-to-use alternative to Adobe Photoshop.

Video editing

- **Avidemux:** fixounet.free.fr/avidemux
Operating system: Windows and Linux
Simple to use and good for quick edits and cuts.

- **ShotCut:** shotcut.org
Operating system: Windows and Mac
Similar to Windows Movie Maker with editing filters.

- **Kdenlive:** kdenlive.org/en/download
Operating system: All
Basic, simple-to-use video editor with audio editing, special effects and fast rendering.

- **Lightworks:** lwks.com/
Operating system: All
Powerful video editor with real time effects and colour corrector.

- **Black Magic Davinci Resolve Lite**
blackmagicdesign.com/products/davinciresolve/
Operating system: All
Advanced editing software with multicam editing, colour corrector and can be used for VFX.