

Creating a simple rollover in Fireworks

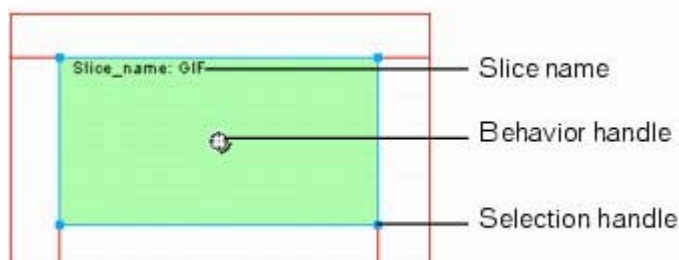
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FW creates rollover and swap-image effects by what it calls the drag-and-drop method.

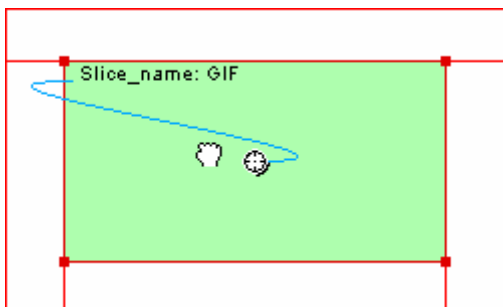
The drag-and-drop method is enabled when a *slice* is created over a graphic. A *slice* determines that part of a graphic is defined for optimisation. Rollover images are graphics that change appearance in a web browser when you move the pointer over them.

Slices and Behaviours

When a slice is selected, a round circle with cross hairs appears in the centre of the slice. This is called a behaviour handle.



By dragging the behaviour handle from a triggering slice and dropping it onto a target slice, you can easily create rollover and swap-image effects. The trigger and target can be the same slice.



Hotspots also have behaviour handles for incorporating rollover effects.

Creating a simple rollover

When creating a rollover Fireworks uses a filmic reference by calling the two image states 'frames'.

1. To make a simple rollover, create a graphic as the first state of the rollover. Draw a slice over the graphic with the slice tool. Pull a pointer from the Behaviour handle and drop it on the slice. You will be prompted to "swap image from frame two". Click OK. A slice layer will appear in the Web layer of the Layers palette.

2. In the Frames panel, go to the panel menu and duplicate the first frame. The next step is to create the second frame that will be the image displayed when the mouse is over the image.

In the Frames panel click on the second frame. You will then need to hide slices in the document window by using the Hide slices tool in the toolbox. Make all required changes to the graphic for the second state of the rollover.

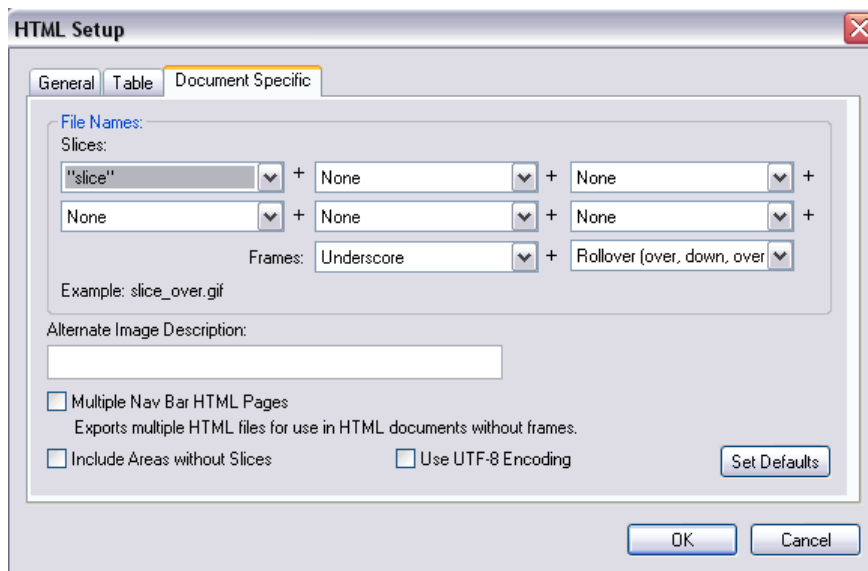
By clicking on frame 1 or 2 in the Frames panel you can see and work on the two states of the rollover.

3. Click on the Preview tab on the document window. Move the cursor over the image and the rollover state should be revealed. If you wish to make further changes to the rollover image then make sure that you choose the appropriate rollover state in the frames panel.

4. Choose an optimisation method (also see below). When you are satisfied with the result go to File > Export. In the Export window choose *Images only* in the Save as type field. Select the images folder in your root folder. The files will be saved using the file name of the original Fireworks png file or, the name of the slice (if it has been named). There will be 2 files saved and the file name of the second state of the rollover will be appended with the name 'over'.

Setting up document naming preferences for slices

In FW it is possible to choose how optimised documents are named when saved. To do this, choose HTML and Images in the *Save as type* field in the Export panel. The Options button now becomes available. Click on the Options button and choose Document Specific. Set this up as in the illustration below.



This will produce simple and manageable file names. Having done this, click on Set Default and this will be the method for all future file saving.

On returning to the Export panel, be sure to set the *Save as type* field to Images only to save the current document.