

Creating a button (rollover images) with Fireworks' Frames panel & the Dreamweaver Insert/Interactive Images/Rollover Image menu command:

1. Open a new document with a white background that is 100 px by 100 px.
2. Use the Rectangle tool to draw a rectangle of a desired size and color. This will eventually be the button's up state.
3. Add text if desired with the Text tool. If desired, this text may be added to a different layer but this is not necessary.
4. Click the Window/Frames menu command to bring up the Frames panel.
5. Double-click the entry for "Frame 1" in the Frames panel and rename the frame "up state".
6. Click the white downward triangle at the top of the Frames panel and choose the command "Duplicate Frame".
7. Choose the "Number 1" and "After current frame" and click OK.
8. Double-click the second "up state" entry in the Frames panel and rename this new frame as "over state".
9. With the over state entry selected in the frames panel, click the Pointer tool in your toolbox and single-click the rectangle to select it.
10. Change the rectangle's fill color in the Property Inspector to a color that you desire for your button's over state. (You can also select the text in this frame and change its color or add an effect.)
11. Save your Fireworks png document to your "original images" folder. A name such as microsoft button template would be a good name (assuming the button is for microsoft.com) since this button can be reused for all of the separate buttons on a navigation bar. You will simply have to change the text in each different button's up state and over state.
12. Click the up state entry in the Frames panel and then choose the File/Export Preview menu command.
13. Change the transparency entry on the Options tab to "Index Transparency". You could also crop the document by defining the export area on the Files tab. (You could also have cropped the document with the Crop tool before using the Export Preview command.)
14. Click the Export button and save this up state gif image in the appropriate images folder for your web site.
15. Click the second frame named "over state" in the Frames panel.
16. Repeat the export process but save the image as the down state gif image.
17. Close Fireworks.
18. Open a web page with Dreamweaver, insert your cursor where you'd like to use the button.
19. Use the Insert/Interactive Images/Rollover Image menu command to insert the button into a web page.
20. Click the Original Image button and select the up state gif image that you exported and saved.
21. Click the Rollover Image button and select the over state gif image that you exported and saved.
22. Enter an appropriate URL address at the bottom of the window.
23. The original png that you saved in step #11 can be used in Fireworks to create consistent buttons for a navigation bar.