

# Transparent Images with Fireworks

**Aim:** make the background of an image transparent so that a background will show through it

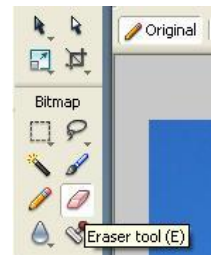
1. Open Fireworks (in ICT Department)
2. Open your base image (this needs to be saved in your user area...) - **File > Open**
3. Click on the **Magic Wand** tool in the toolbox
4. Click on the background of the image. Hopefully the background area will be selected.
5. Press the **Delete** key. The background should show up as a checkerboard. This shows that it's transparent.



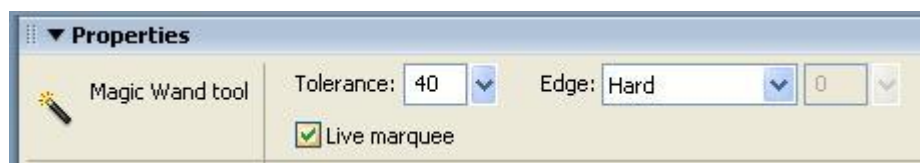
6. Repeat to tidy the image up if necessary (you can also use the eraser tool)

If you need to deselect an area, **Ctrl+D** should do it

7. Save the image as a **PNG format** file (Flattened PNG is fine). This is the only way you will get it with a transparent background!



**Hint:** the Properties bar at the bottom will show you the **Tolerance** for the Magic Wand. If you increase this then the wand will be less picky about what it selects. Decrease it and it will be more picky. If you have a difficult image to select the background on then this might help. The edge settings might also be helpful to try changing.



You can do a similar job using **Pixlr** online ([www.pixlr.com](http://www.pixlr.com)) and uploading your image. This is useful if you need to do this job at home.

Don't forget to save it as a PNG though!