FillSlammer User Guide

Thank you for your purchase of FillSlammer™.

Contents

Technical requirements

The FillSlammer add-in runs on any Windows PowerPoint (including 32 and 64-bit versions) from PPT 2000 onwards.

Terms and Conditions

1) FillSlammer™ is copyrighted software belonging to Steve Hards trading as Briarwood1000/SteveHardSoft.

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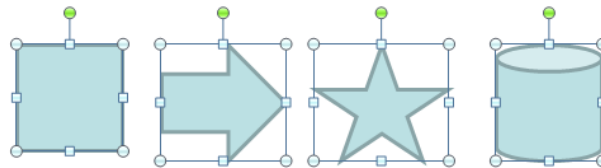
Installation

1) Save the downloaded (zipped) file somewhere that you can find it easily, such as in your 'Downloads' folder or 'Desktop'.
2) When you unzip (extract) the file you downloaded you will see it contains this User Guide PDF and an install (.exe) program called FillSlammerSetup1.1.exe
3) Close PowerPoint if open.
4) Run (double-click) the FillSlammer install (.exe) file. Just follow the instructions you then see on the screen.
5) The next time you open PowerPoint you will find a FillSlammer icon in the Add-ins tab on the PowerPoint ribbon (2007 or later). In earlier versions of PowerPoint the FillSlammer icon will be in a little floating toolbar that you can drag and leave somewhere handy, such as in the toolbars area.
6) If you ever get a message that PowerPoint has 'disabled' FillSlammer, see the information on the following web page to get it going again:
http://freepptresources.com/blog/how-to-enable-powerpoint-add-in/
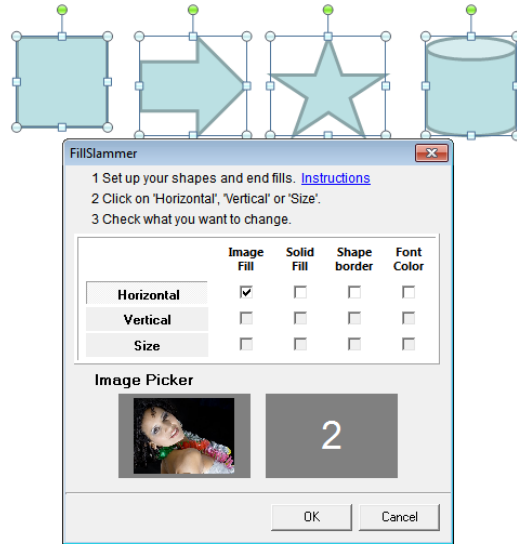
Using FillSlammer 1: Image-blend fills

1) Any time that you want to use FillSlammer, you will need *three or more* shapes to fill. These can be shapes which are in a horizontal or vertical relationship to each other, or which are different sizes.
2) For image-blend fills, select all the shapes you want to fill, including the end ones for the sequence. (To select non-adjoining shapes, hold down Shift and click on each shape with your left mouse button.)
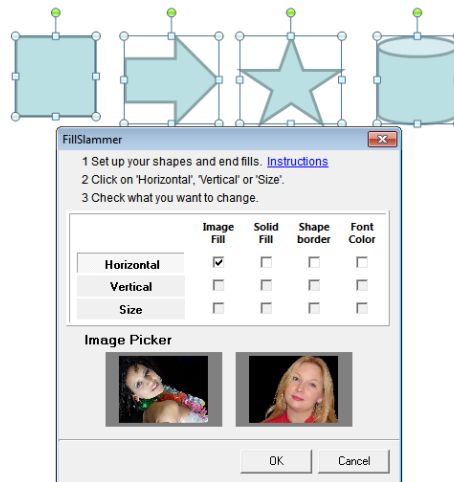

3) Open the FillSlammer dialog box by clicking on the FillSlammer icon.

PowerPoint + FillSlammer = Visual Delight!

4) Click on '1', navigate to the image you wish to use and click on it. It will appear in the dialog box.

5) Repeat for the number '2' to select the image for the other end of the selected sequence.

6) Click 'OK'. You can then make changes by selecting the shapes again.

Top tips for image-blend fills

1) Use images in .jpg .gif or .png formats.

2) Blends work best – both visually and as a 'story' – when the images are similar. For example, if blending faces, try to use images where the eyes are the same distance apart and in the same position on the original. This is sometimes easier to do if you crop the original pictures in an image editing program before inserting them into the shapes. This can be done in PowerPoint and then the pictures re-exported as new images or, (unless you have another program you habitually use), consider using a free image editor like Google's Picasa.

3) Reduce the image file size before inserting them into the shapes. Digital cameras produce files with sizes that frequently exceed 1MB. These will bloat the size of your PowerPoint file and do not look any better in a shape than a smaller sized image. Use an image processing program to reduce the size first. creating a new image that is 300–800 pixels along its longest edge is usually sufficient for a good blending result when filling a shape. Using Picasa, as mentioned above, you can easily crop, tidy, and re-size an image at the same time.

4) The lips image below started with just the red lips on the right and a new grayscale image, left, was created from a copy of it. FillSlammer then produced the graduated images.

Using FillSlammer 2: Blended color fills, lines and fonts

1) Any time that you want to use FillSlammer, you will need three or more shapes to fill. These can be shapes which are in a horizontal or vertical relationship to each other, or which are different sizes.

2) Set your chosen end shapes with the fill, line or font colors that you want for them. You can blend all three if you want!

3) Select all the shapes you want to change, including the end ones.
(To select non-adjoining shapes, hold down Shift and click on each shape with your left mouse button.)

4) Click on the FillSlammer icon to call up the dialog box.

5) First click on the left hand side to select whether you want to change the colors by 'Horizontal', 'Vertical' or by 'Size', and then check the aspect that you want to change – 'Fill', 'Line' or 'Font'. Multiple aspects can be checked at the same time.

Top tips for blended color fills, lines and fonts

1) Don't just go for dramatic effects, try subtle combinations of similar colors too!

2) Create words with letters with graded colors by setting up a shape for each letter. It needs to have one letter of your word in each shape. Give the shapes 'no fill' and 'no line'. Use the FillSlammer font setting to color the letters.
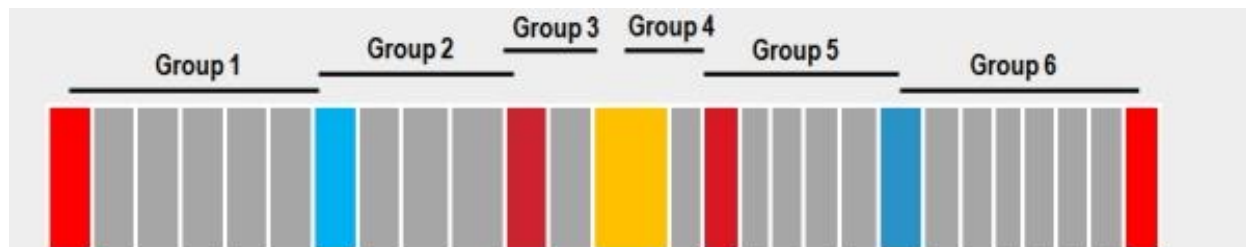
FillSlammer = Visual Delight !

Here's the quickest way to set it up, step-by-step:

a) create a shape for the first letter, a rectangle, say, and then type your first letter in it

b) format the font face, color and size and set the shape properties to 'no fill' and 'no outline' so that only the letter is visible

c) copy the shape and paste it once for each other letter you need

d) change the letter in each shape (It may help to separate them out a bit. Quickest, though, is to select the first shape, then hit 'Tab' on the keyboard to move to the next shape.)

e) position each shape so that the gaps between the letters look right

f) if it isn't already, set the color of the left hand letter to the color you want it to be

g) set the color of the right hand letter to the color you want *that* to be

h) select all the shapes

i) call up FillSlammer and check 'Horizontal' and 'Font'

j) all the intermediate letter colors will be calculated and changed

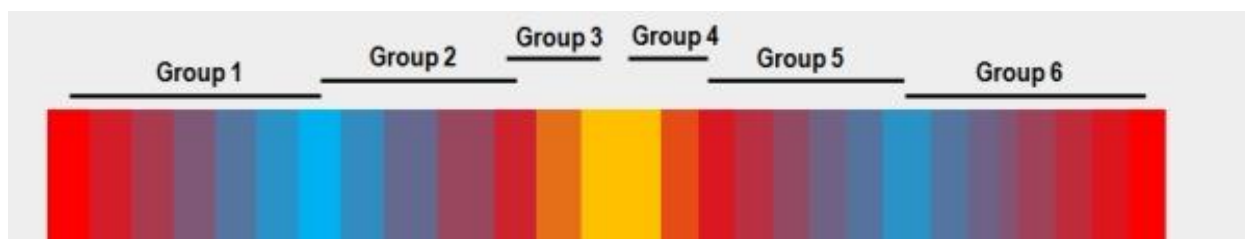3) Create sequences of color blends. Like in this Guide's page header...

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First: Identify which shapes you want the colors to change between, and set those colors manually. In the example below they are the shapes below the ends of the black lines that indicate the groups

Then use FillSlammer on each group in turn...

Feedback

If you need any further help or have:
- suggestions on how to improve this Guide
- new ideas for using FillSlammer
- cool examples you want to show off
- any comments at all

please email me, the creator of the add-in, Steve Hards: steve.hards@stevehardsoft.com

If you enjoy using FillSlammer, please email/Tweet/Facebook a link to it (http://shpresents.com/fillslammer1/) to friends and colleagues so they can enjoy it too!

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Appendix: End User Software License

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