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Review of WebEasy Pro 6

★ ★ ★ 1/2

By Staff Writer, London Wilde

Overview:

+ Plus: Convenient Drag and Drop toolbar, on the fly rich text and effects, photo effects, easy to use animation of objects. Nice Site templates and graphics.

- Minus: No Site Map, No ability to see and edit actual Coding.

Ease of Use - Good. No HTML coding required, fairly intuitive interface, some manual reading required.

I was pretty excited to test drive this package. The Box describes this software as "Simply the most powerful, easy to use web design tool available". The software has 120+ templates, a library of 85,000+ graphics, including clip-art, photos and buttons. Web Easy 6 also provides E-commerce tools, search engine optimization tool, and Flash creation tool for animation.

I do not like using templates, and prefer to custom design my web sites, however I found the Pre-made website templates and free graphics offered in Web Easy 6 to be more appealing than most.

I was able to create a simple web site quit quickly using the pre-designed templates. Adding graphics, rich text formatting, setting up ccs styles (font/background/text colors) and even animating objects was a piece of cake, without even cracking open a manual. I loved the drag and drop menu at the bottom of the page, where you can navigate to folders on your computer easily, and see graphic contents with thumbnails. This program allows you to edit photos, add effects, create basic shapes and lines with effects such as colors, fills and shadows directly on your page, seeming to bridge the gap between a graphics program and a web design tool. Another feature I liked, was the ability to preview your page or entire site on the fly in any relevant application currently installed on your computer, such as other web publishing tools, and browsers.

I did notice two serious flaws. The first flaw is that there is no site map to navigate your site and pages, giving you an overall view. This becomes a problem if you plan on creating a site with more than 10-20 pages, such as an e-commerce store. Instead, you must navigate your website in a windows explorer style, which is not very effective.

The second flaw for more serious users is that the program lacks the ability to view or edit the pages you create in html. Even if you are not an experienced coder, being able to see the actual code for your pages and tweak or debug them is very important for e-commerce and other serious professional web sites. However, it may not be an issue for many users, who just want a basic personal or business site.

Scroll Down for rest of review!

My Digital Life Online!



In 1994, my quasi-techie friends and I were trying to understand what Download and Upload meant! The Internet was Unix-based and getting anywhere meant entering very



weird symbol and letter combinations in a little black screen at my personal computer's command prompt.

In 1995 this 'Road Map' to **The Internet** was published, showing all known 'nodes' of the Internet. *How many servers are on it? 30* including Texas A&M University, Rice University Info Gopher, the Executive Branch, U.S. Government, etc.



For desktop publishing, Adobe sold font packages that were expensive

Review of WebEasy Pro 6

Continued

The included manual was easy to read, and the pop-up guide is extremely well done, and some may even choose to skip the included tutorial.

The included free bonus flash animation tool felt like a program in progress, with typos, misspellings, and English so garbled it was difficult to imagine how this program got out the door! The scant handful of flash templates were laughably uninteresting, and graphically unimpressive. The interface was extremely difficult to use and understand, unless you already know flash. I would call this a non usable bonus program for most.

Overall rating: *** ½ out of **** By staff writer, **London Wilde**



Happy **Color;-)** Comes in black, too! Has a power charger plus USB cable for connection to my PC so I can update the Sony Mylo's software, including the wi-fi 'hotspot data-base' which constantly defaults to Phoenix, Arizona for some reason.

5/90 appears to be the date on My MYLO, so this being November, I wanted to update the s/w. At Sony's mylo website, a

pop-up window tells me to refer to page 189 of a 252 page .pdf file to find instructions to install it!

I have to configure the USB mode on the mylo™ personal communicator. It works. As I attempt to download the update, there are more pop-up windows indicating that it is entirely possible that the update will fail and, after several tries, to contact customer support. The Mylo is supposed to '**find**' **wireless networks** so that I can view web pages...since I haven't been able to view any, yet, [the Mylo **can't even find the wireless network I have at home!**] Hmm... **Sony's** [Knowledge Article C283295] asks, '**Can free software available on the Internet be downloaded to the mylo™ personal communicator?**' **Ans:** "The web browser in the mylo™ personal communicator is not compatible with downloading software files and does not support streaming music or video files." Well!

My Mylo found a wireless network at a community college the other day, but didn't connect to the web. I tried connecting at two McDonald's restaurants, and the Mylo kept looking for the college. I did get the website for McDonald's provider came! Nothing else, however, no matter how many times I typed other addresses in. The Mylo still tried to connect to the college even though it is MILES away. Use it for an expensive MP3 player. You can view photographs and IM your friends using Skype or Google, supposedly. After many frustrating failures getting on the Web, I looked at the Cnet review: **5 ***** out of 10**

-editor

My Life Online!

[@ \$200] and took a l-o-n-g time to get! After ordering in advance, I picked up my Adobe Type Library containing Trajan Regular & Bold and Charlemagne Regular & Bold at Adobe's headquarters in Mountain View, CA.

The font package contained 7 diskettes: three 5 1/4" floppies titled The Installer, a Font Foundry Utility and the 4 fonts themselves! The four 3 1/2" floppies had pretty much the same thing: Type Library Program Disk A & B that included the installer, something called Font Foundry Utility, and one with the fonts. The two user guides covered things like 'building bitmapped fonts' and 'Downloaders' {for use with Postscript printers.} Also included, was a 'specimen book' demonstrating the variety of ways to use text.

Back in the day, everything seemed so complicated. There wasn't even a book on how to construct HTML and build a web page, yet. Laura LeMay wrote the 1st-I have an autographed copy.

Here we are. As I prepare to attend the ITSummit2006 in Monterey, CA, the past flashes before my eyes and I continue to be amazed at how FAR we've come...

On the other hand, my *brand-new* <--- **\$349 Sony MYLO** is so disappointing, I realize that the manufacturers still have a long way to go when it comes to consumer usability, usefulness, and yes---price!

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