Adobe Spark
Getting Started
# Table of Contents

- Introduction .................................................................................................................. 5
- Learning Objectives ....................................................................................................... 5
- System Requirements ...................................................................................................... 6
  - Platforms ...................................................................................................................... 6
  - Internet Access ............................................................................................................ 6
  - Hosting .......................................................................................................................... 6
- Accessing Adobe Spark ................................................................................................... 6
- Understanding Spark ..................................................................................................... 8
- Spark Post ...................................................................................................................... 9
- Spark Page ..................................................................................................................... 17
  - Adding Additional Content ....................................................................................... 21
    - Button ...................................................................................................................... 22
    - Video ....................................................................................................................... 23
    - Photogrid ................................................................................................................ 24
    - Glideshow ............................................................................................................... 24
  - Completing Your Spark Page ...................................................................................... 25
- Spark Video .................................................................................................................. 26
- Additional Help .............................................................................................................. 30
Introduction
Adobe Spark is the integrated web and mobile solution that enables users, to easily create and share impactful, visual stories. Adobe Spark supports three separate applications that allows you to create visual content; Spark Post, Spark Page and Spark Video. You will learn more about how to use each of the applications in this booklet.

Learning Objectives
After completing the instructions in this booklet, you will be able to:

- Acknowledge the system requirements
- Access and log in to Adobe Spark
- Review the three story formats
- Create visual content using Spark Post
- Work with Spark Page
- Modify your multimedia in Spark Video
System Requirements

Platforms
The Adobe Spark web application runs on Windows 7 or newer, and Mac OS X. The supported web browsers are Chrome 36 or newer, Firefox 31 or newer, Safari 7 or newer, Internet Explorer 11 or newer and Microsoft Edge.

Internet Access
Adobe Spark requires Internet access for sign in, saving to the cloud, syncing, image searching, and more.

If you are using an iOS device, syncing requires a Wi-Fi connection by default. This is to avoid any data charges that may be incurred when syncing over a cellular (mobile provider) data connection. If you do not want content to sync over cellular connections, you must enable this in the iOS Settings for the Spark apps.

Hosting
Your Adobe Spark creations are all hosted on Adobe’s cloud. Content is automatically saved so that nothing will get lost and so that content may be synced between devices. Links to your content can be shared as often as desired.

Spark Video movies and Spark Post images may be downloaded locally, (on iOS these will be saved to the Camera Roll).
Accessing Adobe Spark

KSU community members can now use the provided Adobe Creative Cloud licensing to selectively install Adobe applications by logging in to Adobe Creative Cloud with their NetID and NetID password. Since Spark is not an application that needs to be downloaded, and is web based only, you can access it just by logging in. To access Adobe Spark:

2. Click Log In.

3. From the dialog box, click Log in with Adobe ID.

![Figure 1 - Click Log In](image1.png)

![Figure 2 - Log In with Adobe ID](image2.png)
4. Enter your **KSU email address** and press **Enter**.

![Figure 3 - Enter Your KSU Email]

5. You will be redirected to the KSU sign in page. Enter your **KSU email address** and **NetID password**. (See Figure 4).

6. Click **Sign In** (See Figure 4).

![Figure 4 - Enter Your KSU Email and NetID Password]

7. You are now signed in and can begin working on a Spark project.
Understanding Spark

Adobe Spark is a set of three applications, Spark Post, Spark Page, and Spark Video. All three of these applications work on iPads, and desktop web browsers, making it very easy to create sophisticated images with text, web pages, and exciting videos. All three products post to web pages, so you can easily share your work with anyone. The page that you will see for the first time log in appears below:

![Figure 5 - Spark Applications Page](image)

The following sections will show you how to use each of the applications within Adobe Spark:
Spark Post

Spark Post enables you to create stunning social graphics in seconds. Begin by remixing a design from the inspiration wall, or start from scratch, and create a truly unique masterpiece. Start off by adding an image, add text, and then typography will be applied on-the-fly. You can then transform your creation by applying design filters with a single tap. To access Spark Post, do the following:

1. After you have logged in, click Post from the applications page.

![Figure 6 - Click Post](image)

**Note:** If this is not your first time using Spark, you will see the Create New (+) button at the top-center of the screen, click the + button to expand the menu to display applications.

![Figure 7 - Non-first Time User Options](image)
2. Then select a template or Start from scratch. We will click **Start from scratch**.

![Image of Pick a template or start from scratch](image1.png)

**Figure 8 - Click Start from Scratch**

3. Select a **size** for your graphic image. In this example, we will select **Square** (See Figure 9).
4. Click **Next** (See Figure 9).

![Image of Select a size](image2.png)

**Figure 9 - Select a Size**
5. Choose one of the photos provided, search the database for free photos, or upload your own. For this step, we will select one of the photos provided.

**Note:** Multiple pictures can also be selected.

6. Once you have selected a photo for your background, click **Next**.
7. Spark will begin to prepare your Post. You are now ready to begin to stylize your text.

![Figure 12 - Stylizing Text](image)

8. Double click in the area pictured below to begin editing your text.

![Figure 13 - Double Click to Edit Your Text](image)
9. The *Text sidebar* will open by default to the right. Under the *Style* tab are features to change the settings for *shape, color, font, opacity, spacing* and *alignment* (See Figure 14).

10. You can also use the *dial* to scroll through some text design presets (See Figure 14).

![Figure 14 - Style Tab](image)

11. Click on the *Words* tab to stylize individual *lines*, or *words* within your text. If you choose Lines, then you can apply a shape, color, font, or opacity to the entire line. If you choose Words, it applies those changes only to the word you select.

![Figure 15 - Words Tab](image)
12. Once you are finished editing your text, you have other editing options available to you.
13. The **Design** tab contains preset themes that you can select to give your text and layout a fresh look.

![Figure 16 - Design](image)
14. The other editing options you have are:
   a. **Layout** – Contains layout presets to change the layout of your text on the graphic, and you can use the resize feature to change the size of your project (See Figure 17).

   b. **Palette** – Contains preset palettes to change the color scheme of your text (See Figure 17).

   c. **Background** – Allows you to apply various effect and color filters to your graphic (See Figure 17).

   d. **Text** – Allows you to navigate back to the Style or Words tab to edit your text (See Figure 17).

![Figure 17 - Editing Options](image)

15. Click **Add** to add other items to your *Post*, such as another **Photo**, additional **Text**, or a **Logo**.

![Figure 18 - Add Options](image)
16. When you are ready, you can select to **share** your post with others via Facebook, Twitter, Email, as a generated link, or you can **download** it as a .JPG to your device.

Figure 19 - Share or Download Your Post
Spark Page

Spark Page allows you to turn stories into modern, professional, attention-grabbing web pages. With Page, instructors and students can bring words and images together in fun ways, turning assignments, essays, reports, and more into engaging visual stories. You can play with a variety of layouts, and add text, or you can use your own photos, and pick from thousands of free online images. To access Spark Page, do the following:

1. After you have logged in, click **Page** from the applications page.

![Figure 20 - Click Page](image)

**Note:** If this is not your first time using Spark, you will see the **Create New (+)** button at the top-center of the screen, click the **+ button** to expand the menu to display applications.

![Figure 21 - Non-first Time User Options](image)

**Note:** Spark Page will take a few seconds to load.
2. The *Edit Page* appears. Click the **Textbox** to add a *Title* and a *Subtitle*.

[Figure 22 - Edit Page]

3. Click **Themes** in the upper right-hand corner. The *Themes Panel* opens (See Figure 23).
4. Select a **Theme** (it will take Spark Pages a few seconds to apply) (See Figure 23).

[Figure 23 - Click Themes]
5. Once you select a theme, you are now ready to add content to your page. Begin by clicking the + button to add a photo.

![Figure 24 - Add Photo](image)

6. The *Add photos* panel appears. You can select **Upload photo**, or you can choose from several online resources.

![Figure 25 - Add Photos Panel](image)
7. In this example, we will choose *Find free photos*. You can then use *keywords* to search for an image. In this example, we search for the keyword *beach*.

![Find free photos interface with the keyword beach entered](image)

**Figure 26 - Search for Photo**

8. Your image will be inserted.
9. Below your image and text, you will see the phrase, *Scroll to start writing your story*.

![Image with the phrase 'Scroll to start writing your story'](image)

**Figure 27 - Scroll to start writing your story**
Adding Additional Content

The following section will show you how to use some of the additional options to add content to your Spark Page:

1. From the Spark Page editor, use your mouse and begin to scroll down the page. You will then see a + button. This will show you other content options:
   a. **Photos** – Click here to open the Add photos panel and add photos (See Figure 28).
   b. **Text** – Click here to add text and access formatting options (e.g. Heading 1, Heading 2, quotes, bulleted, and numbered lists, etc. (See Figure 28).
   c. **Button** – Click here to add a hyperlink button (See Figure 28).
   d. **Videos** – Click here to add an embedded video (See Figure 28).
   e. **Photo grid** – Click here to add photos to a grid from the Add photos panel (See Figure 28).
   f. **Gllideshow** – Click here to choose photos, add text, block quotes, and more (See Figure 28).
**Button**

Buttons are items you can add to your Page project with a hyperlink embedded within them. To add a Button to your Page project:

1. Click the **Button** icon.

![Button Icon](image)

**Figure 29 - Button Icon**

2. The *Edit a button* window will appear (See Figure 30).
3. Enter your **options**: (See Figure 30).
   a. Add the **Name** of the button (See Figure 30).
   b. Add the **web address** (See Figure 30).
   c. Select your **alignment** (See Figure 30).
4. Click **Save** (See Figure 30).
5. The **button** has been created (See Figure 30).

![Edit a Button](image)

**Figure 30 - Edit a Button**
Video
The Video icon allows you to add embedded videos within your Spark Page project. To add a video:

1. Click the **video** icon.

![Figure 31 - Video Icon](image)

2. The **Add an Embedded Video** window appears (See Figure 32).
3. Enter in the **web address** of the video (See Figure 32).

**Note**: You can add links from YouTube, Vimeo, or Spark Video (See Figure 32).
4. Click **Save**. Your video will be added to your Page project (See Figure 32).

![Figure 32 - Add an Embedded Video](image)
**Photogrid**

**Photo grid** allows you to add photos to a grid from the *Add photos* panel.

![Sample Photogrid](image)

**Glideshow**

A glideshow is a specialty treatment for photos, which will allow you to create dramatic effects within your Spark Page presentation. As you scroll through your glideshow, one image will dissolve into the next. The white area inside your photos, allows you to add additional photos, text, block quotes, and more. To create a Glideshow:

1. Click on the **Glideshow** icon.

![Glideshow Icon](image)

2. Begin by adding a **photo(s)** from the *Add Photos* panel.
3. Once finished, click **Save**.
4. You will be taken to your *glideshow image*, where you have the option to add another *photo*, *text*, a *button*, or a *video*.

![Figure 35 - Editing Your Glideshow](image)

**Completing Your Spark Page**

1. When you are ready, select one of the options at the top of the screen to either **Preview** your page or **Share** by generating a clickable link.

![Figure 36 - Preview or Share Your Page](image)
Spark Video

Spark Video lets you turn story into a captivating animated narrated video in just a few minutes. You can use it to present a report, explain a concept, or tell your own personal story. You can start with a blank slate or use gentle prompts as a guide to help talk you through your story, one line at a time. You have the option to pick from thousands of beautiful iconic images, or you can use your own to illustrate your ideas. Then select a design theme and supporting music to add to your story. Spark automatically incorporates cinema-quality animation that you can view on your mobile device or browser, which you can share with anyone around the world. To access Spark Video:

1. After you have logged in, click Video from the applications page.

![Figure 37 - Click Video](image)

**Note:** If this is not your first time using Spark, you will see the Create New (+) button at the top-center of the screen, click the + button to expand the menu to display applications.

![Figure 38 - Non-first Time User Options](image)
2. Give your project a **title** (See Figure 39).
3. You can also skip adding a title by clicking **Skip** (See Figure 39).

4. Once you have entered in your title, click **Next**.
5. A list of story templates appear, which you can choose from, or you can create your own. For this example, we will choose **Tell What Happened**. This template helps you share a family vacation, success to celebrate, or just something that happened to you.

![Figure 41 - Choose a Story Template](image)

6. Once you select a template, a quick tip video tutorial will appear:
   a. If you do not wish to watch the video, click the X in the top right-hand corner (See Figure 42).
   
   ![Figure 42 - Quick Tips Video Tutorial](image)
   
   b. If you want to watch it, click the **play button** (See Figure 42).
   c. Click **OK, I'm ready**, if you wish to move on to the next step (See Figure 42).
   d. Click the **check box** if you do not want to see this video tutorial again (See Figure 42).
7. (Optional): Click the **red microphone** to record the audio for your first slide (See Figure 43).

8. Click any of these icons if you want to add **video, text, photos, or icons** to your slide (See Figure 43).

9. You can then add more **slides** to complete your story. The slides have prompts to help you while you are building your story, such as *When and Where, This happened..., Then this happened..., etc.* (See Figure 43).

10. If you wish to add additional slides, click the **+ slide**. It will add a new slide to the right of the slide currently selected (See Figure 43).

11. After you have created a few pages, you can change your **Layout**, choose a **Theme** or add **Music** that fits your story (See Figure 43).

12. When you are ready, you can **Preview, Share, or Download** your video using the buttons at the top of the page (See Figure 43).

![Figure 43 - Video Layout](image-url)
Additional Help

For additional support, please contact the KSU Service Desk:

KSU Service Desk for Faculty & Staff
- Phone: 470-578-6999
- Email: service@kennesaw.edu
- Website: http://uits.kennesaw.edu

KSU Student Helpdesk
- Phone: 470-578-3555
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- Website: http://uits.kennesaw.edu