

# Computer wheels

You will firstly need to find yourself a draw or desktop publishing package like Corel Draw, Paint Shop Pro or PagePlus. I am going to show you the technique using PagePlus SE simply because it works and the program is free from [www.freerisefsoftware.com](http://www.freerisefsoftware.com)

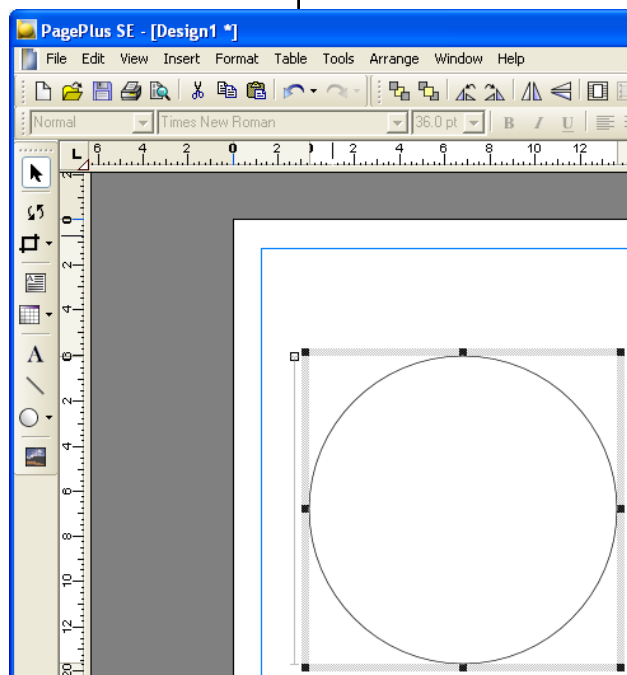
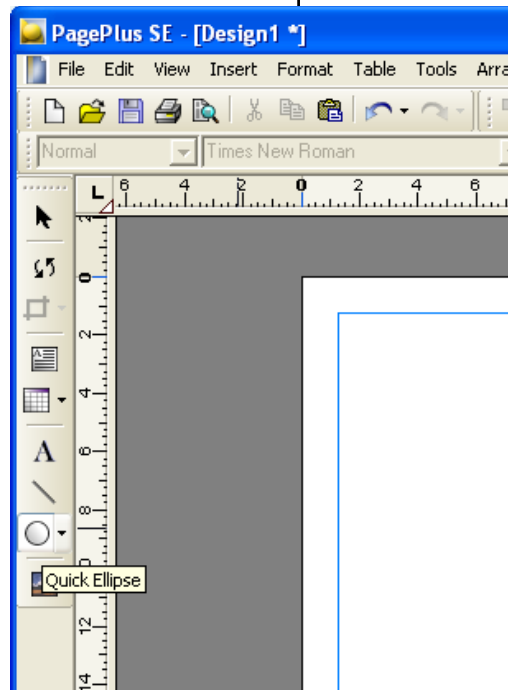
I will have to assume that you have a basic knowledge of creating documents and easy draw tasks otherwise this would take a whole book to explain. I will also say that the same principles I am about to show you in PagePlus SE apply in most desktop publishing or draw packages.

1. Create a new document.
2. In the shapes selector select a 'quick ellipse' this will allow you to drag out the circle shape with your mouse.

Hold down the 'shift key' as you drag and you will get a perfect circle.

The key to success is getting the circle the right size.

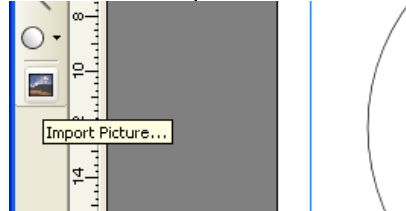
The diameter should be 6 inches. You could rely on the screen rulers, but I prefer to print out the circle and compare it against a real wheel.



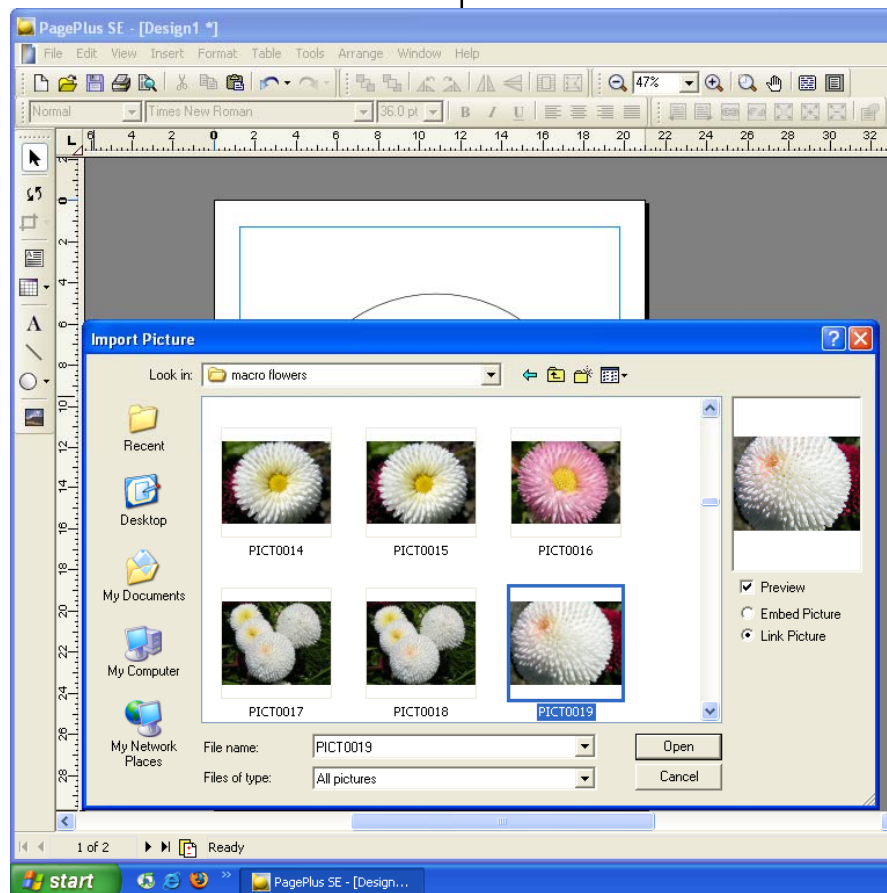
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3. Use the import picture tool to import a picture. This could be clip art or in this case I am going to use some digital photographs.

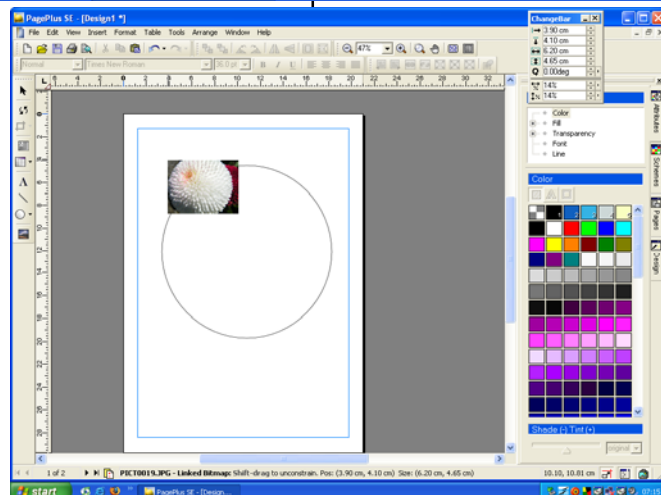
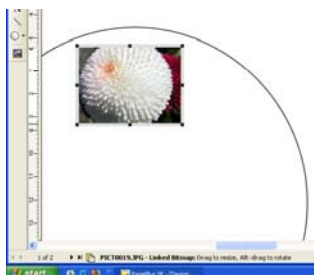


4. Select by clicking on the photograph you want.



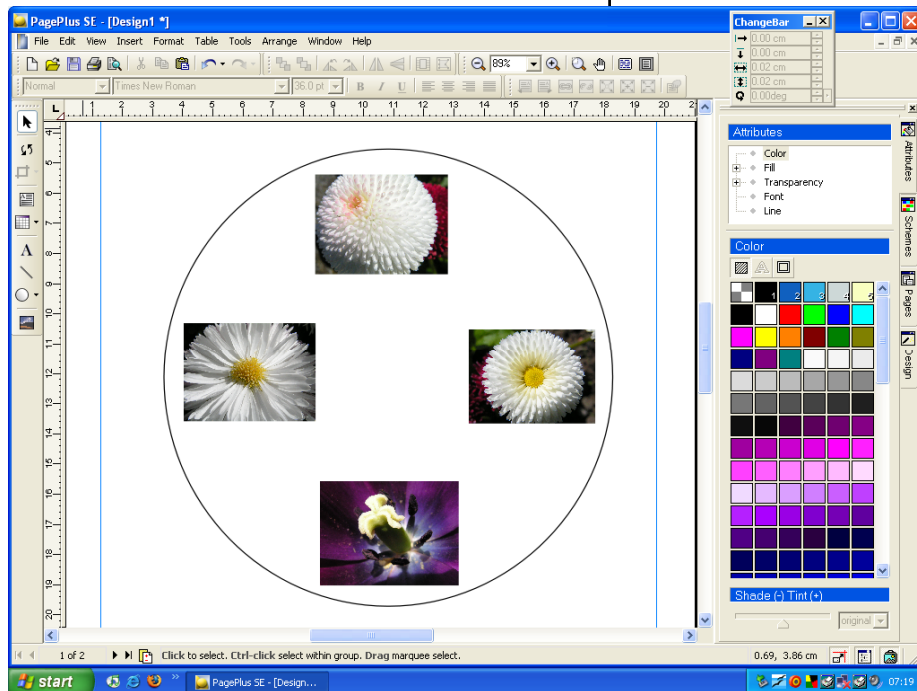
5. Drag the image out and resize it as needed.

6. Then drag it to about 12 o'clock in the wheel.

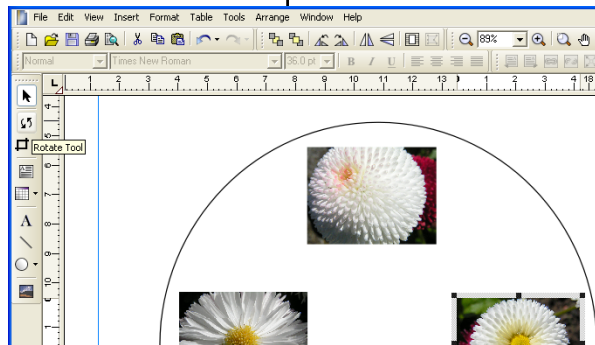


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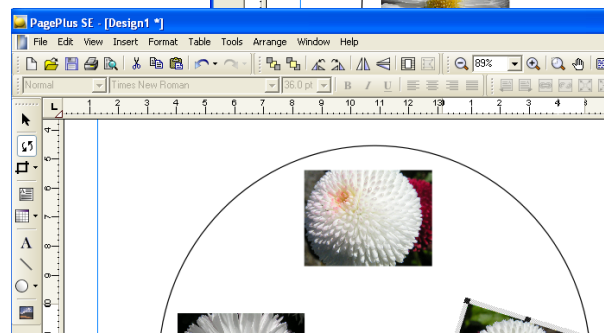
Repeat this until you have the photographs you want in the wheel.



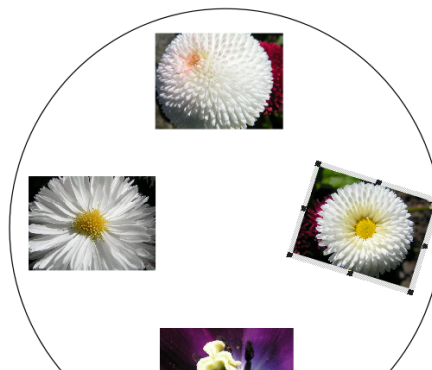
To rotate the images into the correct position you will need to click on the photograph and then locate the 'rotate' tool.



By clicking on one corner of the selected photograph rotate the photograph as shown. In this case its at 3 o'clock so it needs to rotate about 90 degrees.



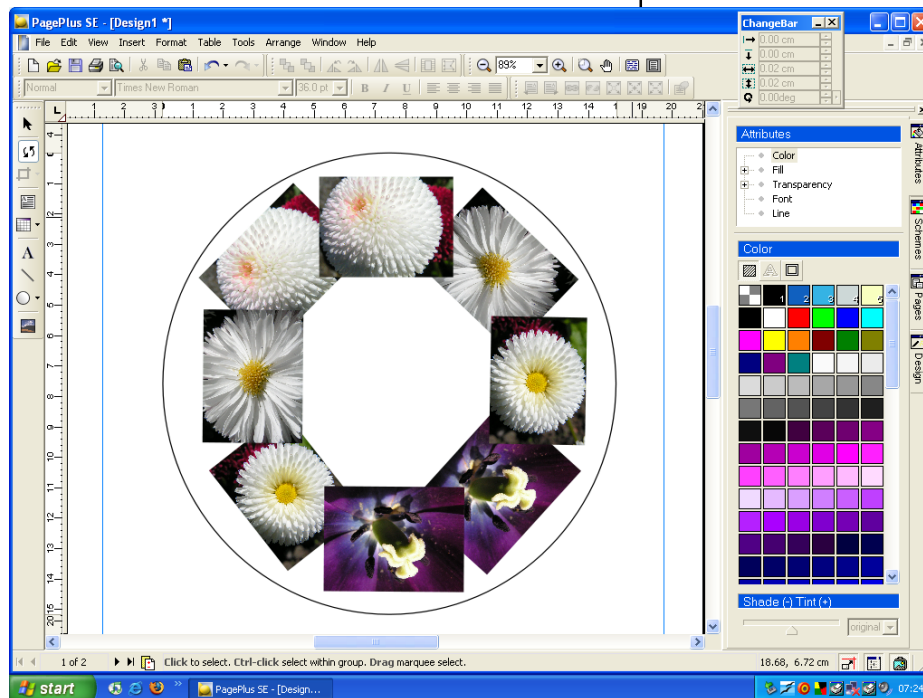
Rotate all the images until they all have the top facing outward.



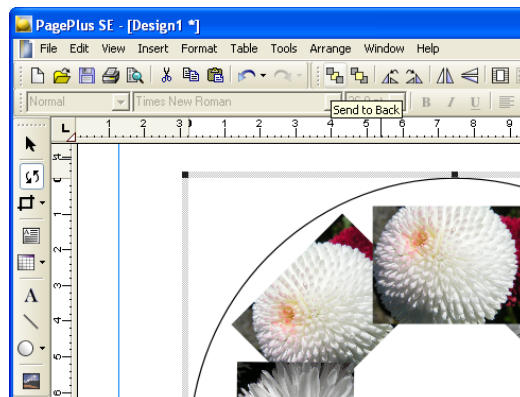
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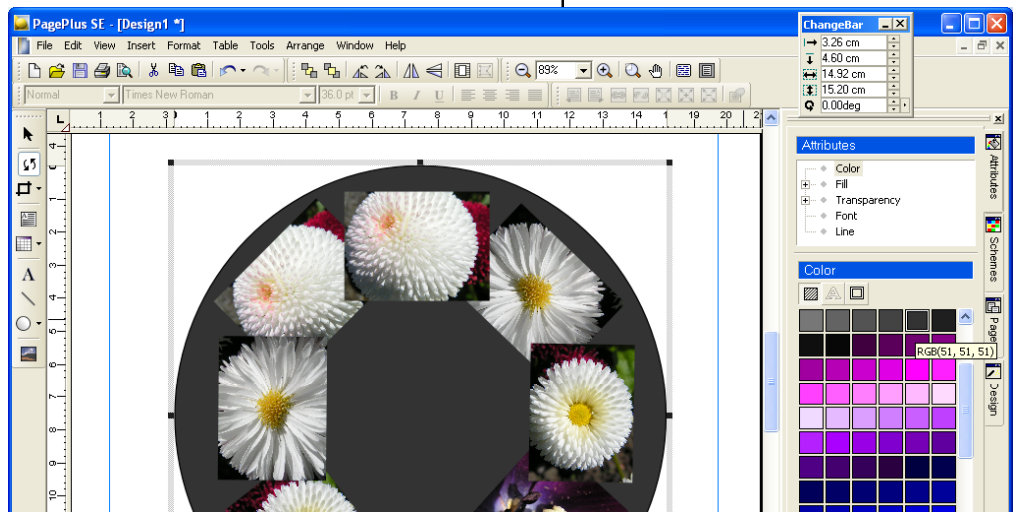
You can add as many photographs as you wish. Here is a finished wheel.



If you would like to add a background colour in the wheel, click on the wheel and use the send to back tool as shown. This basically ensures that the photographs are not buried under the fill colour we are going to add.



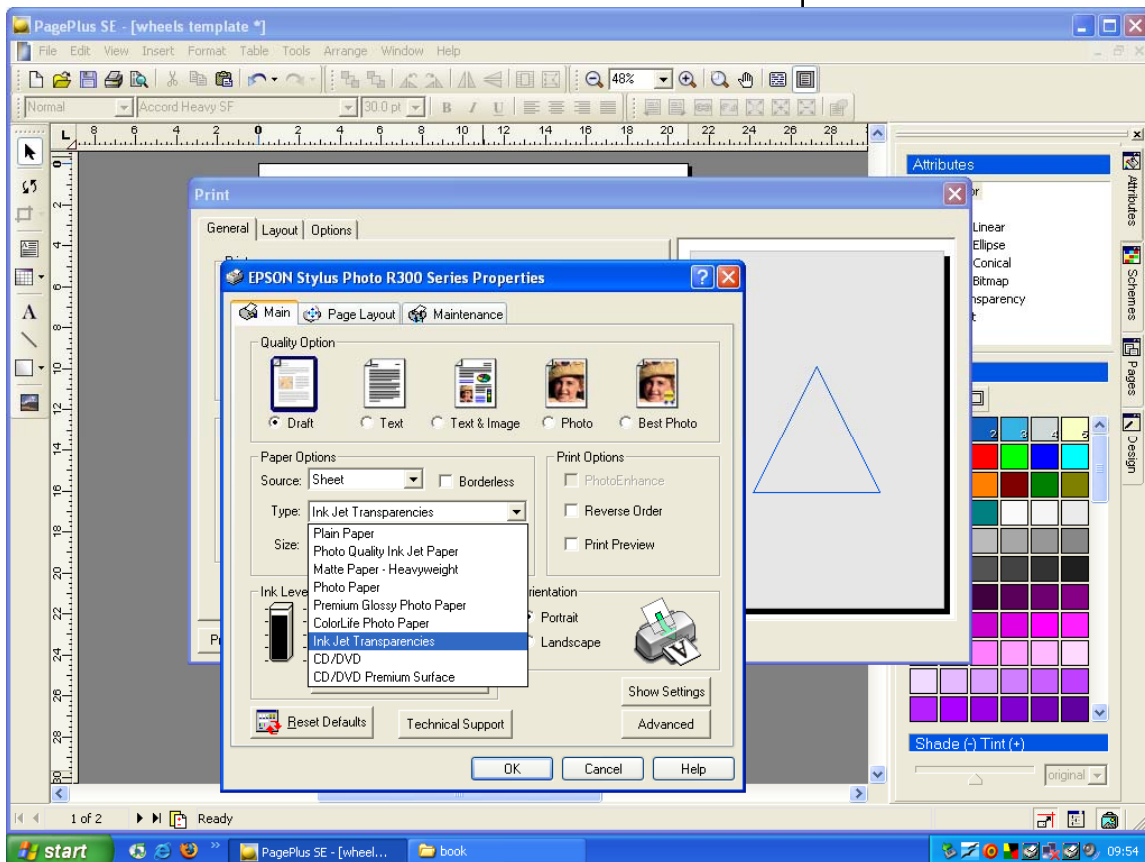
Using the mouse, select a colour from the right hand side of the screen and provided you have your circle selected you should be able to fill your circle. Also try fill patterns and lines for added effect.



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The last thing to consider is printing your wheel. Use inkjet or laser acetate depending on your printer and remember to let the print dialogue know that you are printing onto acetate. You will get varied quality acetate and most printable acetate will be fine for clip art but if you want good quality of printing photo wheels the best I have found the buy 'Epson SO41063' acetate.



Cut the wheel to size and place it into a blank wheel and you are off.

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## Ideas for photo wheels

1. **Faces** - family, staff, friends, male, female.
2. **People** - who help us, we know, famous, activities, holiday.
3. **Transport** - cars, boats, train, airplanes, bicycles, skateboards.
4. **History** - local sites, holidays in historic places.
5. **Plants**, trees, flowers.
6. **Animals** - local animals, pets, from the zoo, wildlife park.
7. **Buildings** - House, school, centre, famous building, inside buildings.
9. **What is it?** wheel with lot's of random photograph's to keep them guessing.
10. **Food** - fruit, favourite food, good bad food and the students have to guess which is which.
11. **Scanned** photographs from magazines.
12. **PECS** Photographs wheels to reinforce symbols used in a students symbol vocabulary.