

iSpring

www.ispringsolutions.com

Quickly convert PowerPoint presentations to flash

what is it?

iSpring is a free PowerPoint to Flash converter that can be downloaded and added as an add-in to PowerPoint 2003 or 2007. According to its web site, iSpring "creates web-friendly Flash movies from your PowerPoint content keeping its visual parameters and animation effects. iSpring Free works within PowerPoint, transforming it into fast and easy Flash authoring tool. Just click Quick Publish and iSpring will generate a Flash movie from your PowerPoint presentation in a few seconds." By converting PowerPoint presentations into flash movies, you can easily distribute your presentations cross platform and cross browser thus making your presentations optimized for the web and accessible to others via the Web or other websites like SlideBoom (<http://www.slideboom.com>).

educational use?

iSpring enables faculty to easily convert PowerPoint presentations--especially those with narration, audio, or video--into Flash movies to easily upload to the web. While PowerPoint enables users to save a PowerPoint as a webpage, these advanced features are typically lost when a user uses this feature in PowerPoint. iSpring however maintains these advanced features when it converts the PowerPoint into a flash movie. Further, iSpring can be used to convert non-linear PowerPoint presentations into hypermedia, flash-based, learning modules. That is, through the integration of iSpring in PowerPoint, educators can essentially create flash-based websites (or learning modules) in PowerPoint.

pros & cons?

The major benefit of iSpring is that its free and easy to use. There are alternatives but they can cost \$100s. The biggest weakness to iSpring is that it's only available for Windows users; this is actually a common trend though with PowerPoint-to-Flash converters in general.

what's it cost?

There is a free version of iSpring as well as a pro version for \$249 and a Presenter version for \$449—each with increased functionality. They offer an educational license as well.

alternatives?

Articulate Presenter (<http://www.articulate.com>) is perhaps the best known alternative; however, Articulate Presenter is very expensive. Other alternatives are authorPoint (<http://www.authorgen.com>) and Impatica (<http://www.impatica.com/imp4ppt/>).

resources?

5 suggestions on how to choose a PowerPoint to Flash converter
http://www.ispringsolutions.com/articles/5_practical_suggestions.html