

Resizing Digital Images

The image files created by most modern digital cameras are usually rather large and, should you wish to email them to family and/or friends, they should normally be reduced in size to provide reasonable upload and download times.

The following procedure to do this assumes that IrfanView is being used and we want to change the picture to 640 x 480 pixels. If you use another program the overall procedure is basically the same but the Menu terminology may be slightly different.

- Load the picture into IrfanView.
- On the menu bar select 'Image'.
- Select 'Resize/Resample...' from the Image menu.
- In the dialog box that opens ensure that 'Preserve Aspect Ratio' is ticked.
- Check that the 'Set new Size' radio button is highlighted.
- Check that the 'Units:' pixels radio button is highlighted.
- Change the 'Width:' number to 640 (assuming we have a horizontal format picture).
- Note that the 'Height:' figure changes automatically.
- Click the 'OK' button to resize the picture.
- Click 'File' on the menu bar.
- In the File menu click on 'Save As...' (DO NOT click on 'Save'. Doing so will overwrite the original picture with the smaller version!).
- In the Save As dialog box note the folder that will be used to save the file, check that .JPG is shown in the 'Save as type:' box, and change the filename. Suggestion: add a lower case letter to the filename. Let's say the name shown is P000999 then add 'a' after the last 9 so that the filename is now P000999a.
- That's all there is to it folks.

Note: The above procedure does not change the original (P000999.jpg) picture but creates a new, smaller picture (P000999a.jpg). Whilst the original will probably be capable of being printed full page using A4 paper, the resized file will be fine for viewing on a computer monitor but will probably only be capable of being printed to a maximum of postcard size (150mm by 100mm).