

Photo Gallery Image Optimization

To get the best results from your custom photo gallery it is important to make sure the photos you place in it are optimized for the web. This allows photos to download faster and at a consistent size.

Photos will display best if they are around **45 kilobytes (45k)** or less. The smaller the file size an image is, the faster it will download.

This can be accomplished by reducing a photo's physical size by resizing and reducing resolution. A photo for the web should be saved with a resolution of **72dpi** (dots per inch). Resizing a photo to a width and height of no more than **400 pixels** will also fix a photo's size.

For example:

Width = 400 x Height = 300

or

Width = 320 x Height = 240

Finally, the photo should be saved as a copy of the original with a reduced quality. This allows the original photo to stay in its original size while saving a copy for the web. Save your picture as a jpeg with as low an image quality as possible. Generally, saving an image with an **image quality of 50% or less** is adequate.

There are several good photo editing programs which will do this process. Adobe Photoshop Elements is an excellent editing program which is available for a low price.
<http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopelwin/main.html>

There are also a few free programs which are downloadable from the internet. One such program is is FastStone Image Viewer.
<http://www.faststone.org>

or

http://www.download.com/FastStone-Image-Viewer/3000-2192_4-10465613.html?tag=lst-0-1

Fast Stone Image Viewer

Adjust Settings

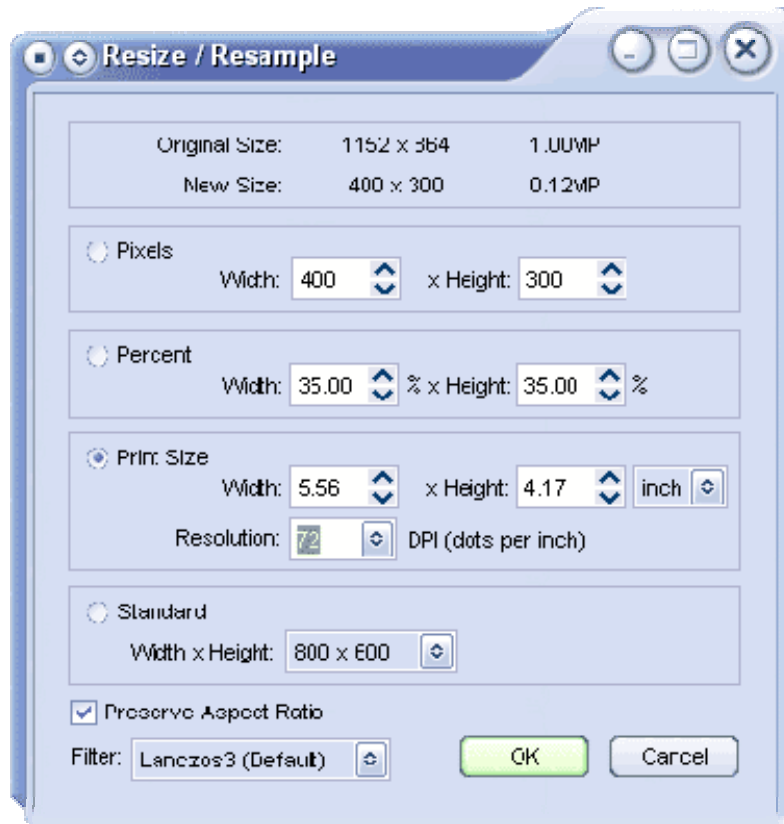
Settings  (F12)

- click on JPEG tab
- move the slider to 50% or less (depends on the quality of photo you want)
- click OK

Resize the Image

Resize  (ctrl + R)

- make sure “Preserve Aspect Ratio” has a check in the box
- click “Print Size” bubble
- change “Resolution” to “72” DPI if it is not already that size
- click “Pixels” bubble
- change the width and height so that it is neither is more than 400
- (example – Width 400 x Height 300)



Save the Image as a Copy

Click File

- choose “Save As”
- rename the photo
- ***Important*** Do not save an image using the same name, or it will overwrite your original photo.
- click “Save”