



Preparing Images for Digital Competitions

1. Digital Competitions and the Club's Projector

Our current projector is 1400 pixels wide by 1050 high. All our future competitions will be run at this size.

The PAGB have move to using 1400 by 1050 - however some external competitions are still run at the old size of 1024 by 768 - if it is a club run competition you need not change your images. If you are entering external completions check their rules.

To get the best quality images follow the guidelines below - always start with a large original image and **never up size** a 1024 by 768 to 1400 by 1050 the image quality will be poor.

2. Create Your Image

Start with a full size original image and use Photoshop or a similar editor to edit/adjust your image until you are happy with your image at full size.

Do not do editing on your images after they have been reduced to projection sizes - the results will always be poor.

Leave adding a border until after the image has been resized

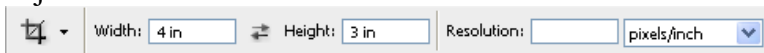
3. Cropping

You should crop your image so that it looks its best.

A 4/3 format will fill the screen - if your image suits this format then this is best. If not crop to a letterbox or portrait.

Cropping to 4/3 Format

To ensure that your final image retains as much detail and quality as possible do not resize your image to the projector's size (1024 by 1050) until you have completed all your editing and adjustments.



If you wish to crop your image into the 4/3-shape use the cropping tool set as follows: Width "4 in" and Height "3 in" Resolution must be left blank. This will crop your image to the right shape but will not change any of the pixels.

Cropping for Landscape and Portrait

If your image looks better in landscape/letterbox or portrait this can be accommodated. Crop your image with Width, Height and Resolution empty.

4. Save your Original Image

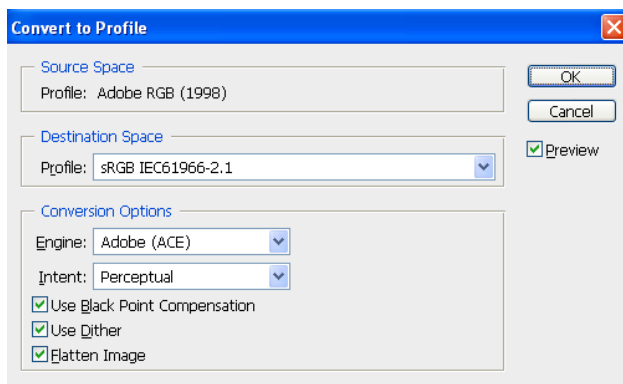
At this point you should save your image complete with its layers so that if you want to make changes you will be doing it on the largest image you have. Editing the resized image will not give good results.

5. Resizing Your Image

If you are using Photoshop CS or later or Elements 7 or later - scripts are available to automate the resizing and saving of your images.

The following steps can be done manually to get your image setup for digital projection.

Change the Colour Space

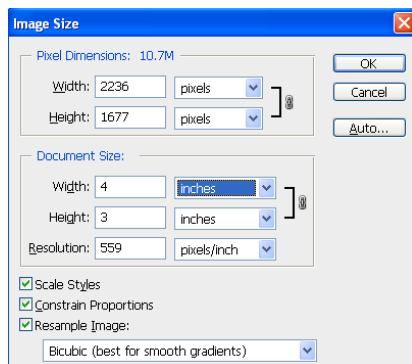


To ensure that your image is always displayed with the correct colours the colour space needs to be set to the Windows default.

In Photoshop select – Edit – “Convert to profile ...”
Select sRGB as the output

Resize for our projector

From the Photoshop menu select “Image! – “Image size...”



Change the width to 1400 and the height will change to 1050.

For portrait images change the height to 1050 and the width will change to the required value.

Landscape/letterbox change the width to 1400

Note: the document size and resolution are irrelevant for projected images

6. Adding a border

Some images may look better if a white border is added

Create a new layer at the top of the layer list

Select the whole image “Select” – “All”

The use “Edit” – “Stroke...” to add the border

Use 1, 2, or 3 pixel width select inside

7. Viewing Your Image

To see what your image will look like projected - change the Photoshop desktop by pressing the F key. This toggles the display mode. You want the mode with the black background.

Now press "Ctrl" + zero key - (fit to screen)

This is the closest you will get to replicating what your projected image will look like.

Try this at various stages of editing your image and when deciding on whether a border will enhance your image.

8. Saving your image and File names

Images should be saved as jpg with a file name that identifies your image.

The ideal file name is

'picture title' by 'your name' of LICH in "your class"

'Happy Bee' by Ian McKinley of LICH in Advanced.jpg

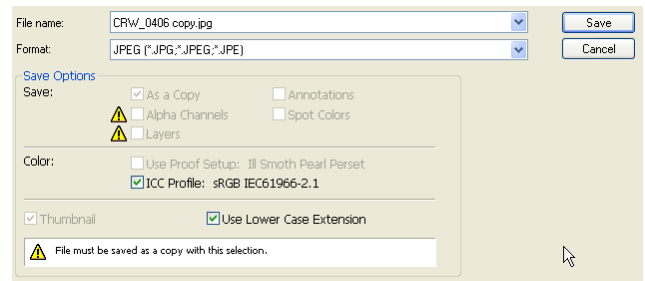
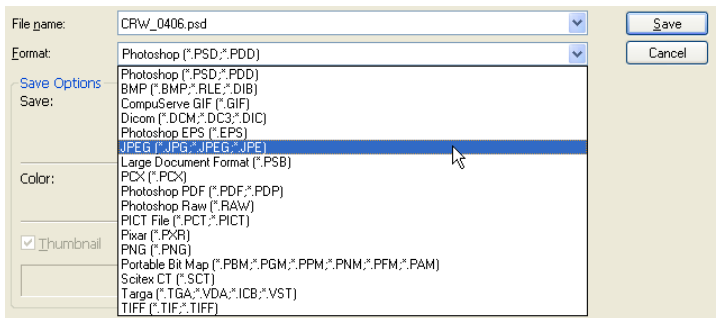
or

'Home by the sea' by James Whale of LICH in Novice.jpg

If you are entering images via the Web Entry System please use the following Format
YourName Title.jpg

e.g. IanMcKinley Happy Bee.jpg

Select "File" – "Save as..."



open the Format drop list and select JPEG

Note: that the Alpha Channel and Layer have warning – they cannot be saved in jpg images

After you click save the JPEG dialog box will be shown

Ensure Quality is set the maximum value 12

Click OK to save your file

For JPG images

