

Using Photoshop to resize your images

If you want to size your images correctly for a PDI competition and you use Photoshop, here is the procedure for doing it (you also need to be able to submit a supporting image when entering Print Competitions). If you use Lightroom, please see the other link on the websites Help page.

Open your image, and firstly you need to check that it is in the correct Colour space. This needs to be sRGB, not Adobe RGB. To check that this is correct, go to the Edit menu at the top left of your screen, and scroll down to Assign Profile.

If your image has a radio button against it saying it is in sRGB colour space, this is correct and you can move on to resizing. If not, change it to sRGB and click OK. You will see that if you have had to change it from Adobe RGB, this may reduce the colour saturation of your image, and you will need to correct for this, e.g. by adding a saturation adjustment layer or changing the settings in Adobe Camera Raw until you are happy with the colour balance again.

You then need to ensure that your image is correctly sized. The maximum pixel size for a landscape format image is 1600 x 1200 px. For a portrait shot, the maximum height is 1200 pixels x the width as set by the software, (which will mean the width will probably be around 800 px).

Click on the Image menu at the top left of your screen, and scroll down to Image Size. Firstly, set the resolution, and I suggest setting this to 300dpi.

IMPORTANT -Between the Width and Height boxes there is a link symbol, and this should have lines leading from it to both Width and Height boxes. If it doesn't, click on the link symbol and you will see these appear – this means that Photoshop will maintain the image ratio.

The Resample box should be ticked, and set to Bicubic Sharpener (reduction).

If your image is in landscape format, enter 1600 and select Pixels as the unit of measurement. Check the reading in the Height box – this should be 1200 pixels or less. Click OK. You're done, this is correct for entering it in a competition, so you can save it and email it to us.

If the image is in portrait format, set the resolution as above and check the link icon is set as above. Enter 1200 pixels in the Height box. The width will reduce also, probably to about 800px, and this is now correctly sized for submission in a competition. (If your image is square, it should be 1200px maximum height and width).