Resizing Images for Digital Projection

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In order to submit images for projection they must be resized to be the same as the pixel count of the projector. Our current projector has 1400 x 1050 pixels.

This note deals only with the resizing of images before submission. The instructions for uploading your images to the Competition Secretary are to be found on the WPS website. (Competitions> Monthly projected> Guidance re DPIs)

The easiest method of resizing your images is to use some software from 'FastStone'. I would thoroughly recommend the FastStone Image Viewer, which not only has an excellent image browser, but also includes resizing. If you only want to use the resizing option, there is another piece of software called ' FastStone Image Resizer'. Both items of software are FREE!
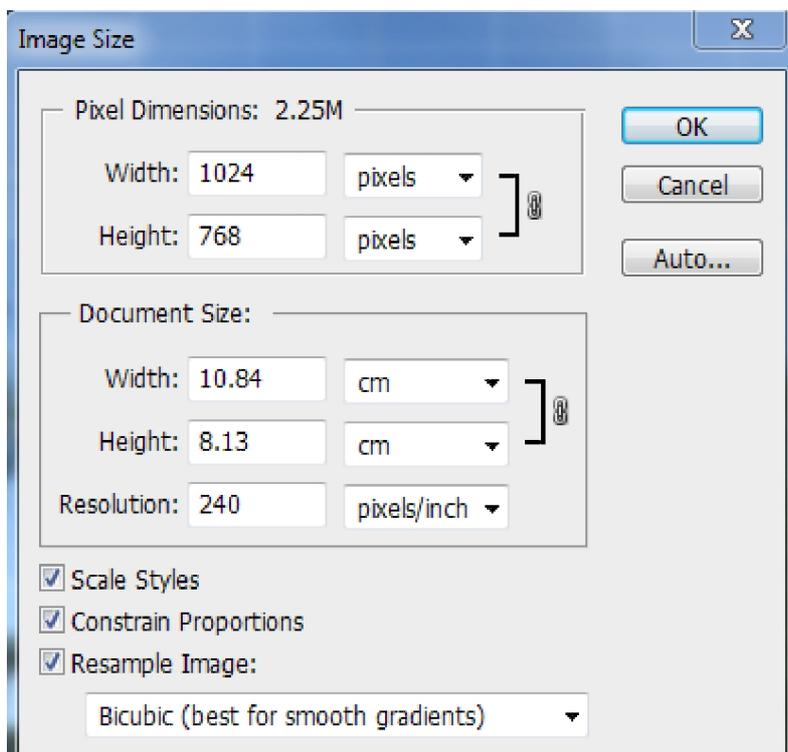http://www.faststone.org/

Adobe Photoshop also provides the facility to resize your images. Whichever version of Photoshop you are using. All versions present you with the same dialogue box. But each version has the dialogue box in a slightly different place!.

Elements - Image>Resize>Image size. Shortcut=(Alt+Ctrl+I)

Photoshop - Image>Image Size. Shortcut= (Alt+Ctrl+I)

Either way you will end up with this dialogue box: (The numbers in the boxes will not necessarily be as shown)

At the bottom of the box are 3 tick boxes. Leave all three ticked.

You now need to change the numbers in the 'Pixel Dimension' Box area. This is different depending on whether the image is in portrait mode or landscape mode.

Landscape mode: Change the dimension in the 'Width' box to 1400. (Ensure the box to the right of the dimension box shows 'pixels'. If it doesn't, click on the down arrow and select 'pixels'. When you change the width, you will also see the 'Height' dimension change. This is normal - do not change it. If it is greater than 1050 you must consider the image as a Portrait image.

Portrait mode: Change the dimension in the 'Height' box to 1050. (Ensure the box to the right of the dimension box shows 'pixels'. If it doesn't, click on the down arrow and select 'pixels'. When you change the 'Height', you will also see the 'Width' dimension change. This is normal - do not change it. If it is greater than 1400 you must consider the image as a Landscape image.

You have now changed the image pixel dimensions. Click 'OK' The image on your screen will now have the correct image dimensions. (If it is too small on your screen, Press CTRL+0 to make it full screen)

When you changed the image dimensions you may have noticed that the opposite dimension was not as required. This is normal. (You may have cropped it so it is no longer a 4:3 aspect ratio, or your camera produces images of a different aspect ratio). When the image is projected however there will be a space around the outside of the image. The projector will make any 'spare' space grey. Whilst this is not unacceptable you may like to make this space black (or any other colour.) (The FastStone software will do this for you and apply a 'stroke' if you want it to). Otherwise follow my **TIP** below.

Ensure the image is an 8 bit image, (Image>mode>8bit)

Finally ensure there you have flattened the image to one layer, and save it as a JPG file with the image quality set to maximum (12). Whatever you do DO NOT overwrite your original image with this modified one!

(If when come to save your image as a JPG file, the JPG option is not shown, you have not changed the file to an 8 bit file.)

TIP:

To fill any spare space with a colour:

1. In Photoshop select File>New. Make the dimensions of the blank image 1400 x 1050 pixels.

2. Using the paint pot, (make sure you are using black paint), fill the new blank image.

3 Save this image as a JPG and call it '1400x1050 blank image' so you can use it again.

4. Open the image you have resized. Another tip is to give the picture a border. This is called 'stroking'. Press CTRL+A to select all the picture. From the menu select Edit>Stroke.

5 Use a border width of 2 at least pixels. (One pixel is not recommended) change the colour to whatever you want (use white or a colour sympathetic to the picture). Select 'inside' for the location. Click OK.

6 The image will now have a coloured edge to it. (It may be difficult to see this effect unless you zoom in to a corner.

7 Making sure you still have the whole image selected, press CTRL+C to copy this image to the clipboard.

8 Open the '1400x1050 blank image' file and paste the clipboard to it (CTRL+V)

9 You should now have your image centred in the blank image with a nice fine border around it. It will have placed the clipboard image ina new Layer. Go to Layer>Flatten Image to put it all on one layer.

10   Save this as your digital projection entry, as a JPG, using the file naming convention described in the WPS website instructions, and set the image quality to maximum (12)