

Preparing Web Images with WebResizer.com

Crop, Resize and Optimize Your Web-bound Images Online

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=Shortcut =Advice =Caution

Introduction

There are dozens of readily available (even free) applications well suited to the image processing tasks associated with Web publishing. Most of these applications offer tools and functions for organizing, fixing, transforming and sharing images. But while they can be fun to experiment with, many of these tools are unnecessary. When it comes to preparing images for use on the Web, most of us need to do three, and only three, things:

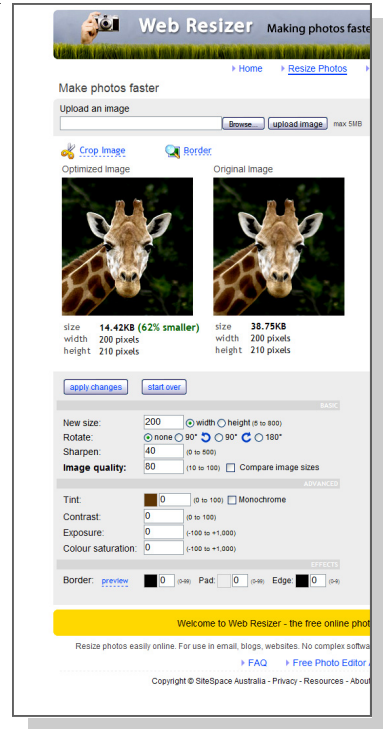
- Resize:** change the pixel dimensions (height and width) of an image
- Crop:** remove portions of an image to change emphasis or orientation
- Optimize:** reduce the size of the image file to decrease download time

While most graphics applications support these basic processes, some are more accessible than others. This document describes **WebResizer.com**, a web-based application (from the land down under) particularly well suited to resizing, cropping and optimizing.

There are three basic steps to using WebResizer.com:

1. Upload (copy) your image file to WebResizer.com
2. Use the online tools to make the desired changes
3. Download (copy) your *revised* image to your computer

Figure 1



Uploading & Optimizing Your File

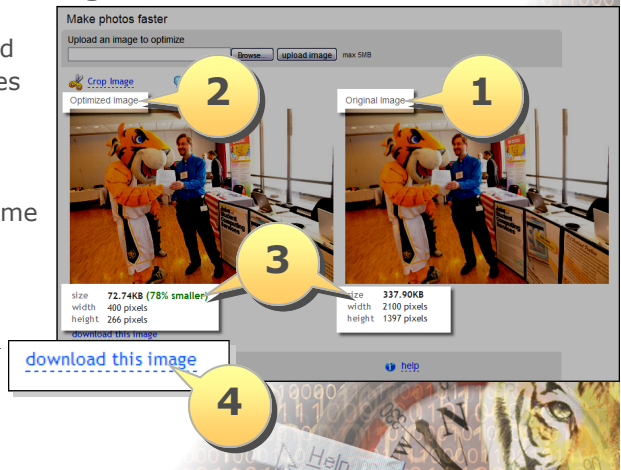
1. Open www.webresizer.com/resizer (Fig 1) with your web browser; Webresizer.com recommends using Mozilla Firefox, but Internet Explorer will work too.
2. Click **Browse...** (Fig 2,1)
3. Navigate to and select an image file
4. Click **upload image** (Fig 2,2)

Figure 2



WebResizer *automatically* optimizes your image to 72 ppi (resolution) and displays before (Fig 3,1) and after (Fig 3,2) versions over their corresponding files sizes and pixel dimensions (Fig 3,3). If you desired no additional changes at this point, you could click **download this image** (Fig 3,4) and complete the process (as described below). However, let us assume that you wish to resize and crop your image also.

Figure 3



Cropping Your Image

1. Click **Crop Image** (Fig 4,1) to display a cropping frame (Fig 4,2) on the optimized image.

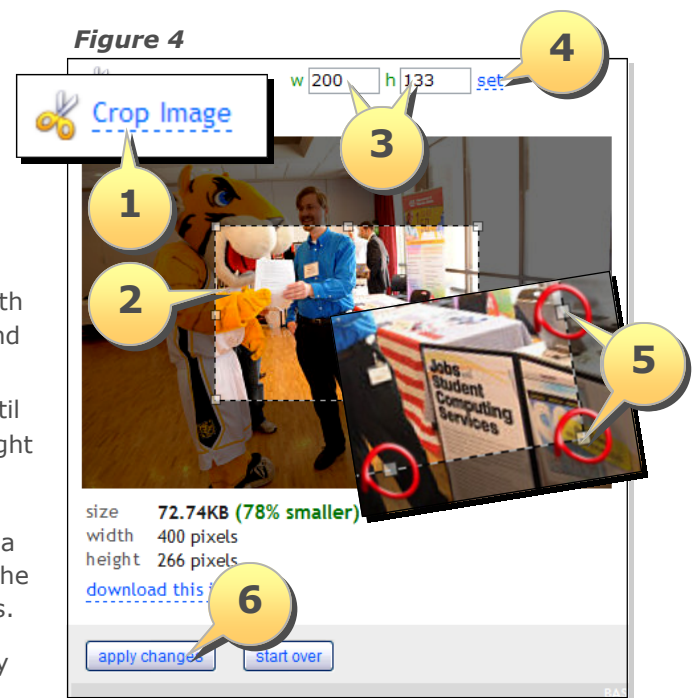
Note that the frame's dimensions appear in the **width** and **height** boxes (Fig 4,3) above the image.

2. **Move** the cropping frame (if necessary) by clicking *inside* the frame and dragging.
3. **Resize** the cropping frame in one of the following ways:
 - Enter pixel dimensions for the frame in the **width** and **height** boxes above the image (Fig 4,3), and then click the **set** link (Fig 4,4)
 - Click and drag the frame's handles (Fig 4,5) until the desired values appear in the **width** and **height** boxes (or until it looks "right").

★ If you are preparing the image for insertion on a page based on the **official TU template**, see the reference table on Page 3 for suggested dimensions.

Click the **apply changes** button (Fig 4,6) to display the optimized image in its cropped state.

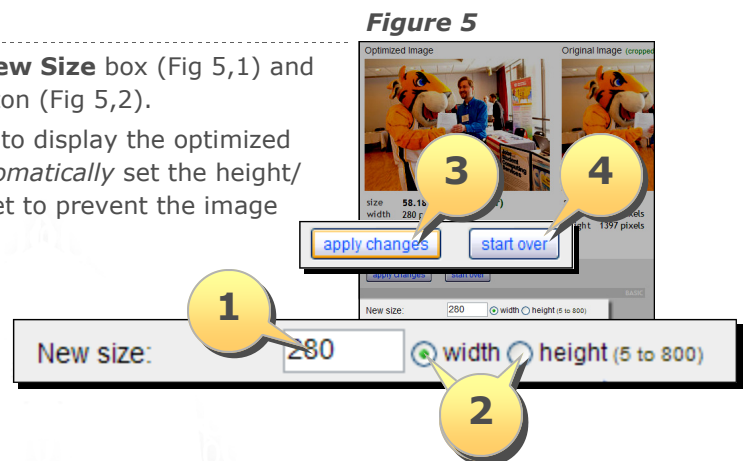
Note the new pixel dimensions of the optimized image. If the dimensions reflect your desired size, proceed to the **Downloading Your Image** section below. Otherwise, proceed to the next section.



Resizing Your Image

1. Enter the desired width or height in the **New Size** box (Fig 5,1) and select either the width or height radio button (Fig 5,2).
2. Click the **apply changes** button (Fig 5,3) to display the optimized image in its new size. WebResizer will *automatically* set the height/width that corresponds to the value you set to prevent the image from distorting.

★ If you are preparing the image for insertion on a page based on the **official TU template**, see the reference table on Page 3 for suggested dimensions.



The Ubiquitous Undo

If at any time you wish to "take a Mulligan" and start over, just click the **start over** button (Fig 5,4).

Downloading Your Optimized Image

Because Internet Explorer's download process is a bit different from that of Mozilla Firefox, we'll describe each in turn. Just choose the one you use. (Or is it use the one you choose?)



Firefox

1. Click **download this image** (Fig 6,1)
2. Select **Save to Disk** (Fig 7,1)
3. Click **OK** (Fig 7,2). Firefox will open its Downloads dialog (Fig 7,3).

Note the download location at the bottom of the dialog (Fig 7,4); this is where you will find your new image file when finished.



Internet Explorer

1. Click **download this image** (Fig 6,1)
2. Click the **Save** button (Fig 8,1)
3. Navigate to your desired folder
4. Click **Save** (Fig 8,2)

Figure 6

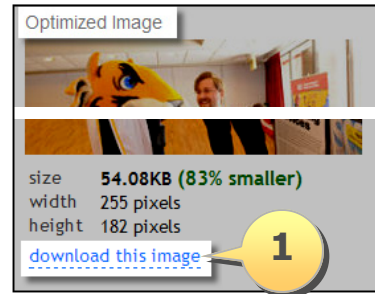
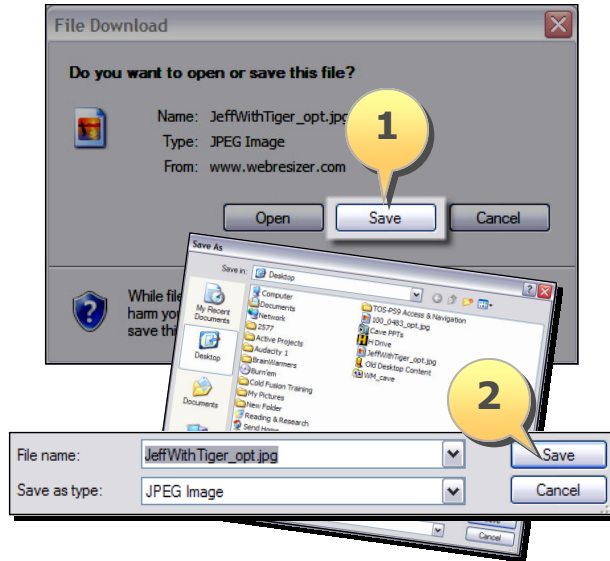


Figure 7



Figure 8



If you are preparing the image for insertion on a page based on the official TU web template, you may find these suggested dimensions useful.

Recommended Image Sizes for Use with the TU Web Template

| Page Template | Image Pixel Dimensions | Reference Link |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Main Template | 225 x 160 vertical or horizontal | http://www.towson.edu/main/templates/ |
| Academic Department Template Option 2A | 188 x 250 vertical | http://www.towson.edu/main/templates/depts/index2a.asp |
| Academic Department Template Option 3 | 556 x 200 horizontal | http://www.towson.edu/main/templates/depts/index3.asp |
| Faculty/Staff Bio page | 150 x 200 vertical | http://www.towson.edu/main/templates/depts/faculty_detail.asp |
| Contact Us page | 120 x 160 vertical | http://www.towson.edu/main/templates/depts/contact_us2.asp |
| Portfolio and Profile pages | 115 x 115 | http://www.towson.edu/main/admissions/ |
| | 75 x 75 | http://www.towson.edu/art/portfolio/studentwork/index.asp |