

Photoshop Elements – Image Size

The secret to publishing your photos is in understanding pixel dimensions and resolution. Together, pixel dimensions and resolution make up the image size. When you scan a photo or take a picture with a digital camera, you are given options that will affect the file size and quality of the image.

Pixel Dimensions

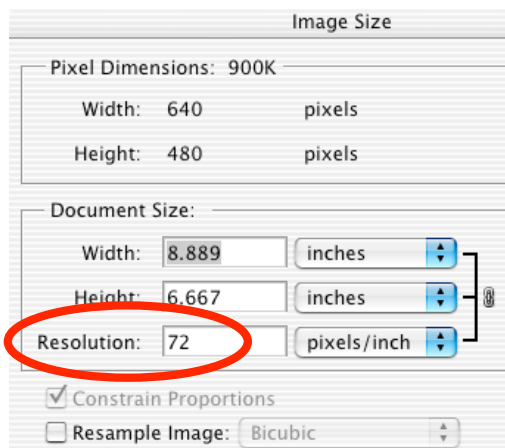
Digital images are made up of tiny dots or pixels. The number of pixels (width and height) in the image is described as **Pixel Dimensions**. The **Document Size** (final output) in inches is calculated by dividing the width and height by the **Resolution** (pixels per inch).

Resolution

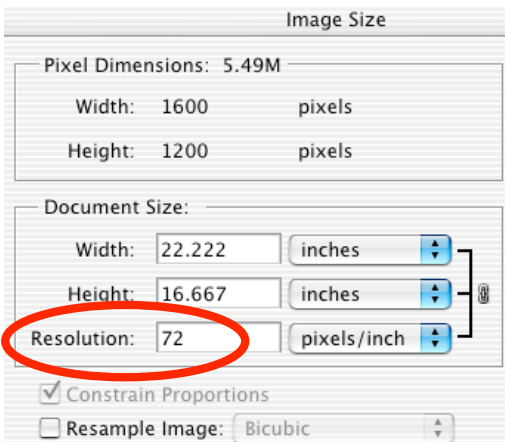
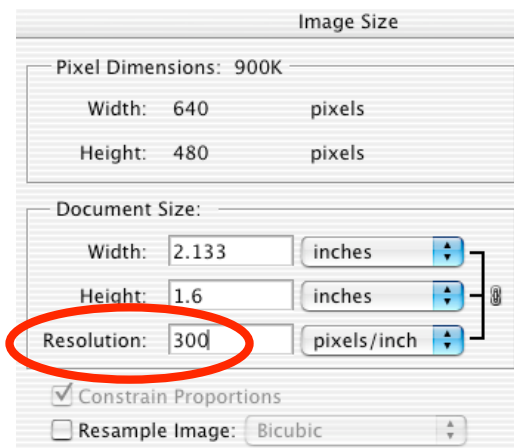
Most digital cameras record images at 72 pixels/inch (dpi). This works well for images that will be viewed on a computer screen. To get a photo quality printed image, you must compensate by using a higher setting for the **Image Size** (e.g. 1600 instead of 640). You will then have enough pixels so that you can adjust the resolution in Photoshop Elements (300 for photo quality).

Scanning resolution can be set in the scanning software to match the intended image output (web page, slide show, printed document, or photo album) before you scan a photo.

To experiment, open a digital image in Photoshop Elements. Go to the **Image** menu and select **Image Size**. **Uncheck** the **Resample Image** box in the **Image Size** window. Type different numbers in the **Resolution** box and watch the **Document Size** change automatically.



Digital Photo taken at 640 Image Size – takes less space on disk or memory stick



Digital Photo taken at 1600 Image Size – takes more space on disk or memory stick

