

Shrinking Pictures

A tutorial in Photoshop Elements

By Patrick Davis 2007

Shrinking Pictures

- Why shrink pictures?
 - When we work with web pictures high resolution is not necessary
 - High resolution is very helpful when we are printing pictures, but slows down our web pages
 - A small picture with low resolution looks **JUST AS GOOD** as a high resolution picture on the computer screen

Shrinking Pictures

- **Myth**

- Often people think they can shrink a picture just by grabbing the corner and making the picture smaller
- This does make the picture “look” smaller
- BUT, in a web page the picture is exactly the same size
- That is why we need to shrink its actual size

Shrinking Pictures

- The screen needs no more than 96 dpi (dots per inch) to look good
- Any picture saved at higher dpi (say 300 dpi, which provides excellent print pictures) is just a waste of space
- To sum up
 - The higher the resolution the greater the dpi and the slower your picture will load

Shrinking Pictures

- A five megapixel camera can make a picture of several megabites
- This picture of my beautiful azalea was 1.4 meg originally



Shrinking Pictures

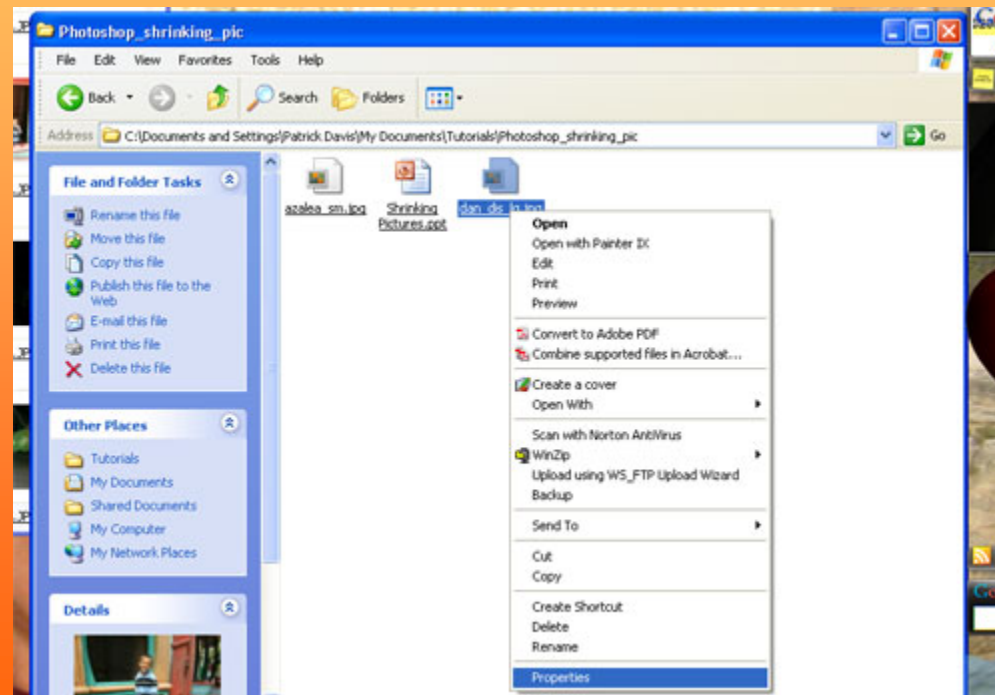
- Originally it was 1.4 megabytes in size
- Now it is 115 kilobytes- Truth is it still took up half the slide space and I had to make it a bit smaller for my presentation

Shrinking Pictures

- If I left it in the original size and tried to load it on a web page, it might take several minutes to load.
- Now that you see the benefit of this tutorial, let's get started

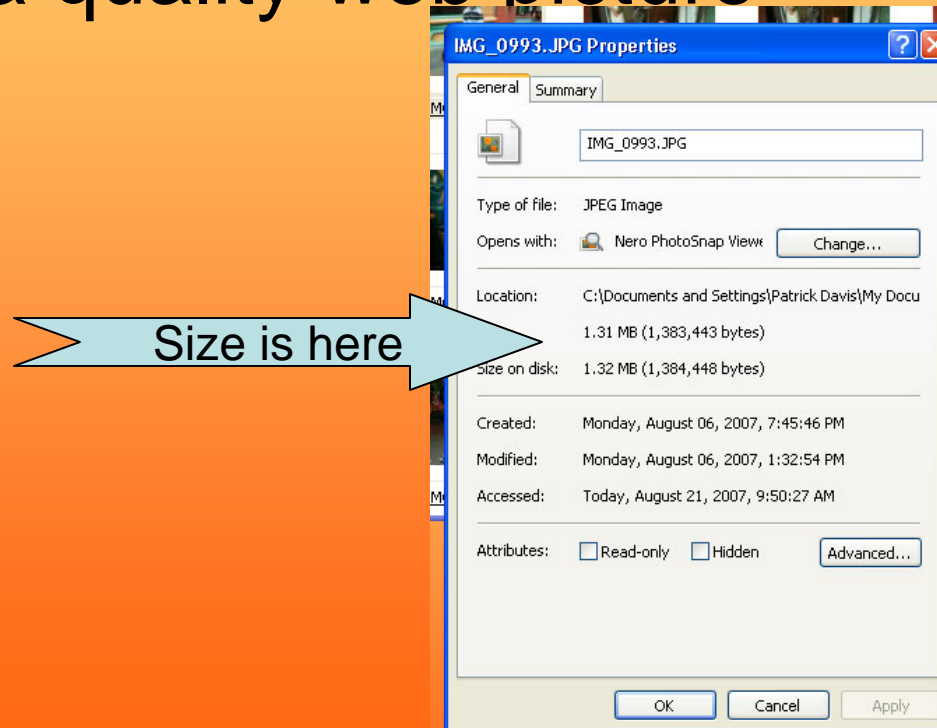
Shrinking Pictures

- Right click on any picture in any folder
- Go to properties and check the size



Shrinking Pictures

- The size of this picture is 1.2 mb
- Let's see how small we can make it and still have a quality web picture



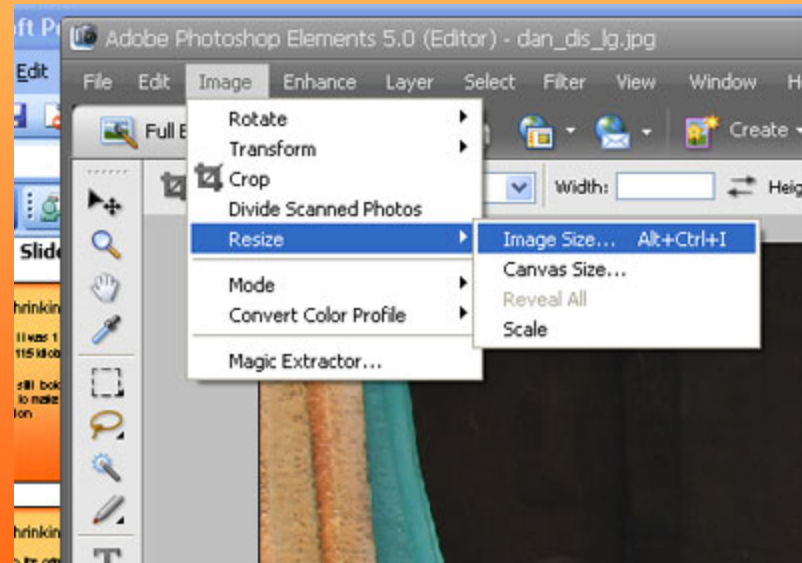
Shrinking Pictures

- Open the picture



Shrinking Pictures

- Select Image- Resize- Image Size



Shrinking Pictures

- Notice the image size

Change width to 500

Check Constrain Proportions

Image Size

Learn more about: [Image Size](#)

Pixel Dimensions: 14.4M

Width: 2592 pixels

Height: 1944 px

Document Size:

Width: 14.4 inches

Height: 10.8 inches

Resolution: 180 pixels/inch

Scale Styles

Constrain Proportions

Resample Image: Bicubic

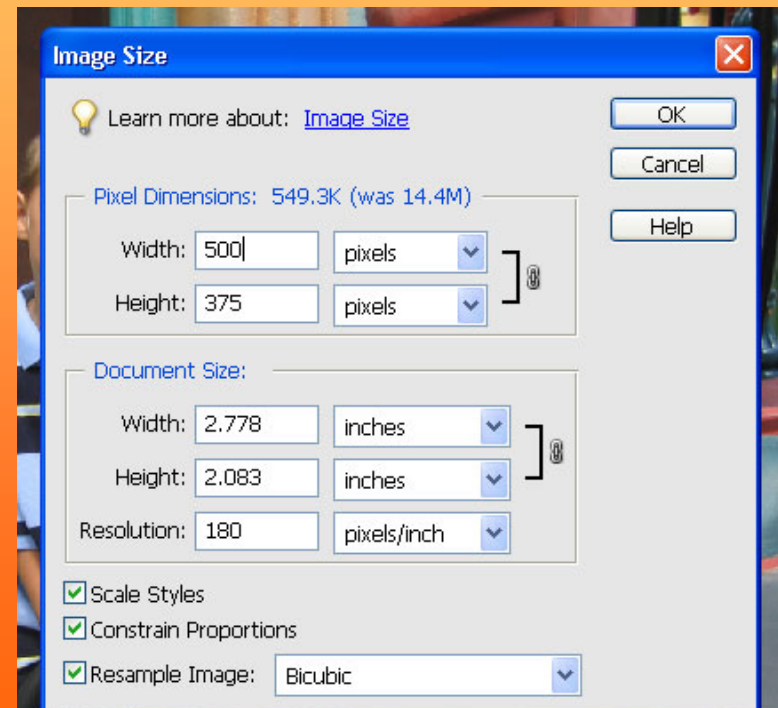
OK

Cancel

Help

Shrinking Pictures

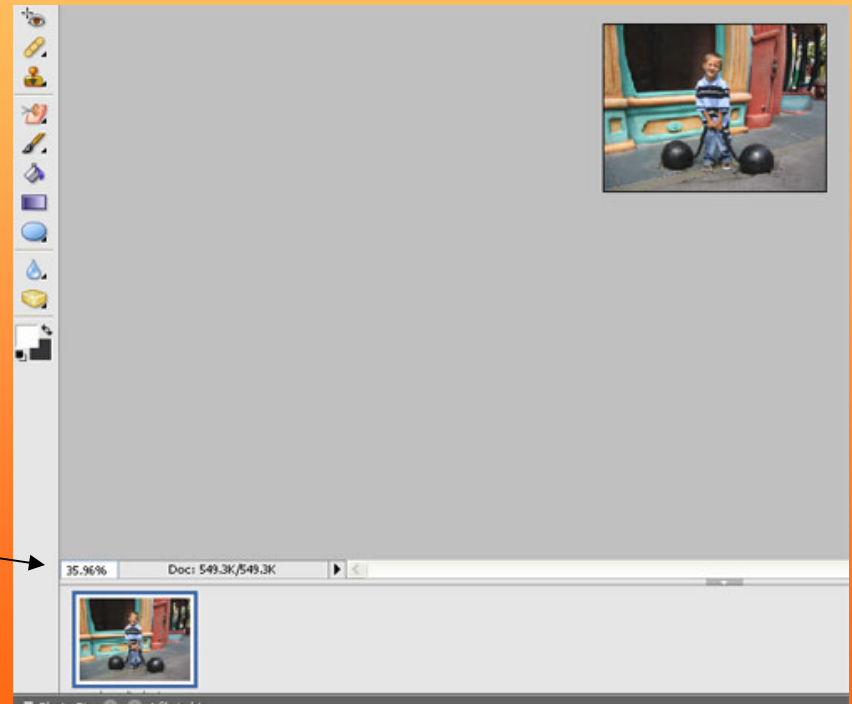
- Notice what happens when it is changed to 500
- The document size went from 14 inches to 2.778 inches



Shrinking Pictures

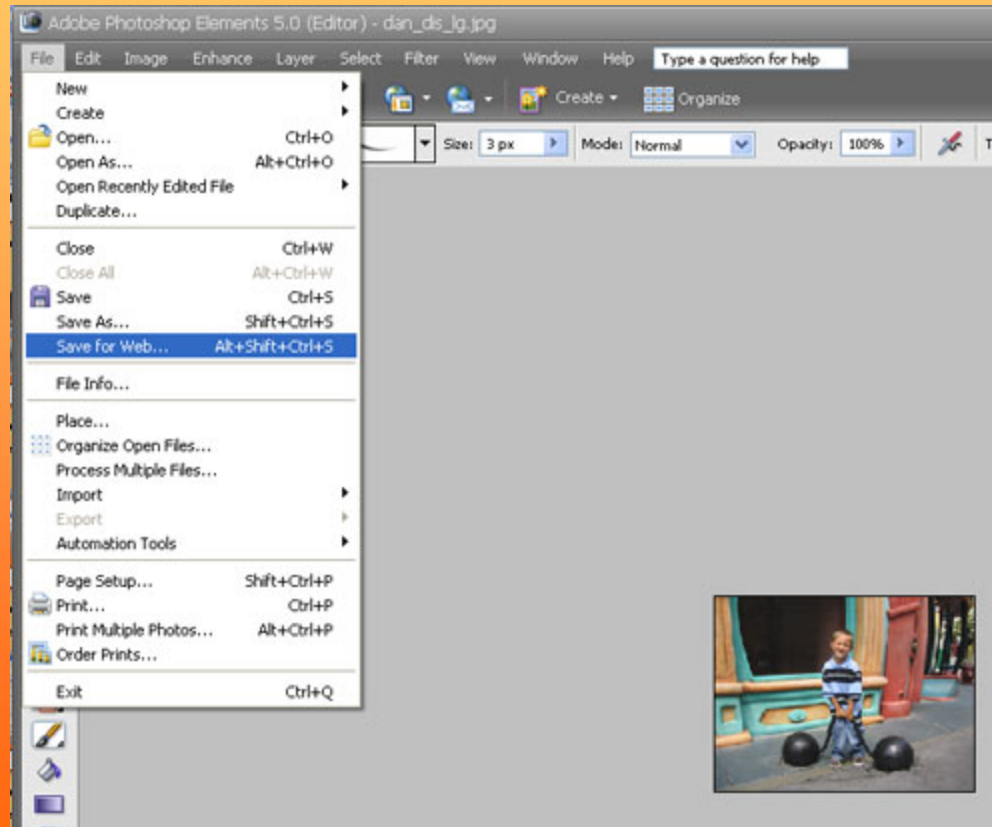
- The picture does look really small
- It is set at 35% of actual size

Change this
to 100% to
see actual
size



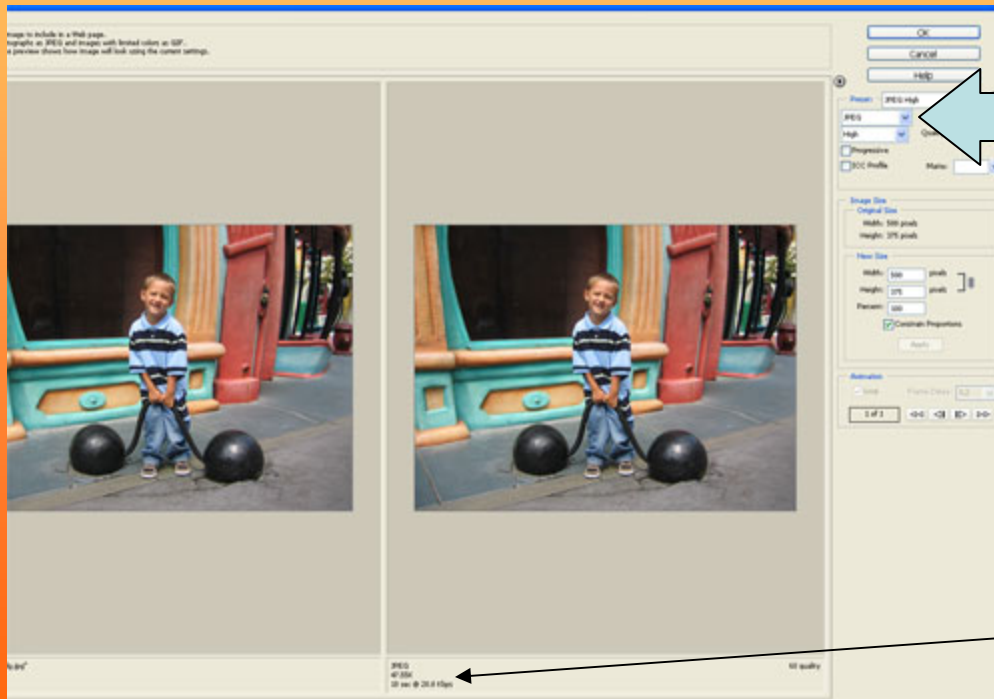
Shrinking Pictures

- Click File- Save For Web



Shrinking Pictures

- The Save for Web Wizard



Set to
JPEG
High

Notice size: 47 KB

Shrinking Pictures

- Give your picture a new name
- Do not replace your bigger picture with this one
- You must give it a new name
- I often add `_sm` after the file name to designate a web-ready picture

Shrinking Pictures

- Congratulations- you have just seen a 1.2 mb picture change to a 47 kb picture
- The picture is about 50 times smaller and easily loads onto a web page
- As far as the monitor screen goes, the eye will not be able to see the difference

Shrinking Pictures

- Presented by Patrick Davis
- Yes, that is my grandson, Daniel

