

Image Processing - Preparing images for the web

The quality of the original images is an important factor. A well photographed work will allow visitors to your site get a more accurate representation of what it looks like. Even good photos will very likely need some pre-processing to prepare them for the web and many improvements can be made to poor photos. The following procedures are likely to be necessary:

- Cropping
- Correction of parallax problems (i.e. the image is not rectangular)
- Color correction
- Resizing of image

- Open the image file: control – O (mac: command O)

Cropping

- Select the crop tool
 - Click and drag to the limits of the image.
 - The edges of the crop box can be adjusted by pulling on them
 - The entire crop box can be rotated by clicking and dragging outside of the corners.
 - To complete the crop double click inside the box

Correction of parallax problems

- Select the entire image: control - A (mac: command A)
- From the Edit menu choose: Transform...Skew
 - Make the window larger than the image by pulling on the lower left hand corner of the window
 - Pull on the boxes at the corners of the image to stretch the image into a rectangular shape.
 - To complete the skew double click inside the box
- Deselect the image: control – D (mac: command D)

Color Correction

- Open the levels box control – L (mac: command L)

The mountains represent image information

- if the mountains do not extend from edge to edge, slide the triangles over to meet the edge of the mountain.

The next step works well if the image has an area of pure white. The color of an image can be corrected by adjusting the entire image based on the color cast (i.e. non-whiteness) of an area that is supposed to be white.

- Click on the white eyedropper in the lower right corner of the levels palette.
- With that eyedropper click on an area of pure white in the image.
- Assuming you like what you see click “OK” on the levels palette.

Resizing the Image

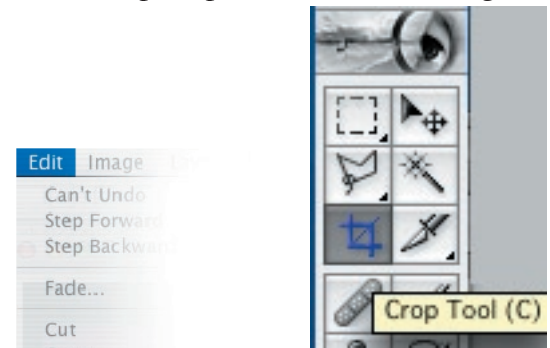
- From the Image menu choose: Image Size...

If the largest dimension in the “Pixel size box is less than 650 then

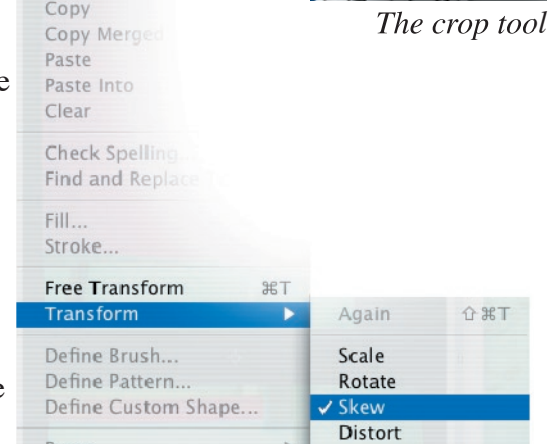
- check “constrain proportions” and uncheck “resample image.”
- The “document size” box “resolution” should read 72.
- Click “OK” to finish

If the largest dimension in the “Pixel size box is more than 650 then

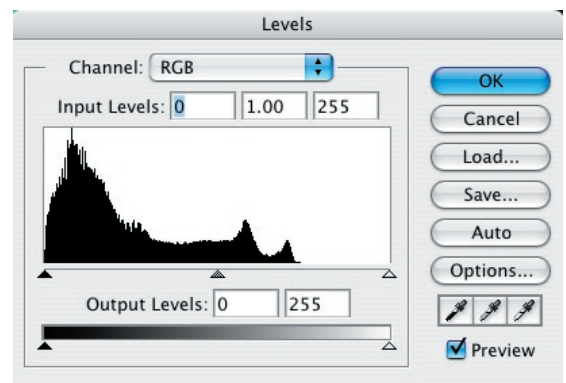
- check both “constrain proportions” and “resample image.”
- In the “document size” box “resolution” should read 72
- In the “Pixel size” box change the largest dimension to 650
- Click “OK” to finish



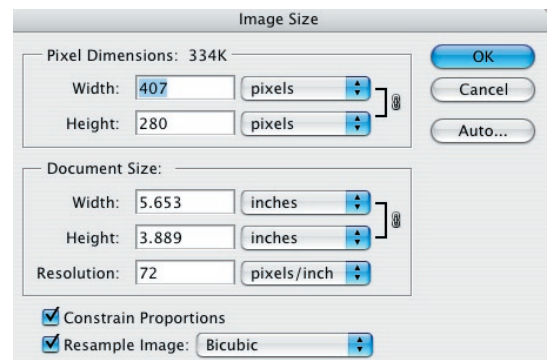
The crop tool



Using skew to correct parallax



The levels tool



The image size dialog box