

File Formats

Scanning Formula: When scanning a picture it is essential that the scan be done at the correct dpi from the start. It is possible to change the resolution within a program, however there is lost information and quality when it is done this way. Although there are many scanning formulas available, the best way and simplest to figure out is to scan at 2 times the lpi when the final image is to be printed. For example if you are printing an image at 80 lpi, the image should be scanned at 160 dpi.

EPS: Stands for Encapsulated Post-Script File and is a standard format for importing and exporting post-script language files. EPS files are meant to be used within another file format or exported. In an EPS, the fonts must be included with the file.

TIFF: Stands for Tagged Image File Format and is designed for raster data interchange. It is a very flexible format and is supported by many programs. The format was designed by developers of printers, scanners and monitors and therefore has very rich colormentry calibration. Excellent high-resolution file for printing. Large file size.

GIF: Stands for Graphics Interchange Format and is a patented process owned by Unisys. This is the most common way that files are stored on the Internet. Images are stored in binary format and there are a few different versions of the GIF file. However, because of the patent, a committee has designed a patent free version called a PNG or Portable Network Graphic.

PDF: Stands for Portable Document Format and is an Adobe file that is designed to be a universal file that can be read from any computer using the free reader software. This is a file that preserves the fonts, formatting, graphics, and color regardless of the program that created it.

JPEG: Stands for Joint Photographic Experts Group the name of the committee that wrote the standards for the files. JPEG is a lossy image that losses information when it is compressed, however, most of the time it is information that is invisible to the human eye. JPEG also has different levels of compression so that the total file size and amount of compression can be adjusted from high quality to low quality.

Lossy Compression: A format that allows files to be compressed to very small sizes and the redundant information or information that is unnoticed by the human eye is lost. It is generally used for video and sound where most viewers will not notice the loss.

Lossless Compression: A format of compression that all the information in the original file is retained and remains in the file after it is uncompressed. GIF files provide lossless compression.