

Graphics Fundamentals

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Q: What is resolution?

A: The amount of information or pixels contained in an image.

Resolution is measured in

DPI (dots per inch) or **PPI (pixels per inch)**. These are literally the number of dots or pixels that can be placed side by side in a line one inch long. **The more dots or pixels, the better the clarity – the higher the resolution of the image.**

Q: What is the best resolution for photos?

A: 300 dpi

Q: What is the best resolution for line art graphics?

A: 900 dpi (Tip: Scan them in black/white—not grayscale!)

Q: What are GOOD sources of image files?

- **Digital camera images** (Tip: Set your camera at the highest or second to highest resolution setting.)

- **Slides or photos prints**

(Tip: Scan them at 300 dpi and scale [enlarge] images to final desired size during scanning stage.)

- **Downloadable high resolution images**

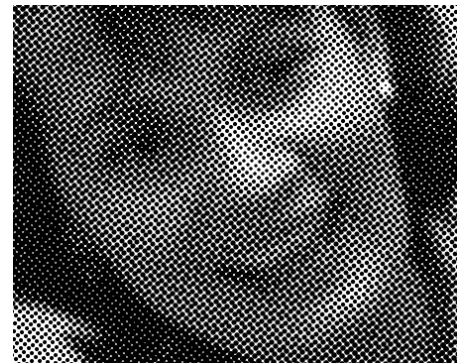
<http://brand.nmsu.edu/photography.html>
<http://bugwood.org/>
<http://images.fws.gov/>

Q: What are BAD sources of image files?

- **Screen captures**
Images on the web are usually only 72 dpi. **They are not intended for print.**
- **Cut or copied and pasted images.** Resolution is very low and image quality degrades.

Q: What is the best way to submit my graphics?

A: Submit each graphic separately, along with your text file. **Don't insert your photos into your manuscript.**



Dots Per Inch (DPI): Zoom in or use a magnifying glass to see the actual DOTS that are used to print a photograph on a printing press.



This image is an example of a line art graphic, as are signatures, forms, and charts/graphs in black/white (with no grayscale).