

# Using Paint Shop Pro

Paint Shop Pro is digital photography software for working with digital photos. The source of the photo can be either a digital camera or a scanned photo.

Paint Shop Pro is made by Jasc Software <http://www.jasc.com/>.

The price for a retail version of Paint Shop Pro 7.0 varies from \$70 to \$109, depending upon where it is purchased. Version 7 is recommended, for the latest tools and features.

See “zdnet Review of Paint Shop Pro” for information on tools and features.

Following are the steps for basic use of the program to improve an image and reduce the file size.

1. Open the Paint Shop Pro (PSP) application.
2. Open a file containing a digital image. By default PSP looks at all file formats, but you can filter the file format for TIF, GIF, JPG, or other formats.
3. Crop the image to eliminate background that doesn't add to the important part of the image. Click the “rectangle with dashed lines” tool, then click the upper left corner of the image area you want to keep and drag to the lower right of the image area you want to keep.



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Click on the “image” menu, then “crop to selection”.



4. Improve the image appearance by changing the brightness and contrast. Click on the “colors” menu, then “adjust, brightness/contrast”. In the middle of the “brightness/contrast” window is an icon of an eye. Next to the eye is an icon of a down arrow. Click on the down arrow. This causes all changes to appear automatically on the original image, and makes it easier to see the results of changes. Click the up or down arrows on the “brightness” and “contrast” controls to change them. In a couple of seconds you will see the original image change. When you are satisfied with the resulting image, click “OK”. This image was changed with 50% brightness and 50% contrast. The two values do not have to be identical. Use the values that make the image appear to be the most realistic to you.



5. Save the image using the “file” menu, then “save as”. Change the name of the image slightly, such as “fudge2”. This preserves the original image in case you make a mistake that can’t be easily reversed. It is better to make all changes in tif format, then save as jpg. To make this newsletter a smaller file size, all changes were made in jpg format, using 50% compression.

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6. If you are going to print the image, you are through with the changes. If you want to send the picture in email, and want a smaller file size, you can resize the image at the resolution of a computer monitor. Click the “image” menu, then “resize”. Use the up and down arrows to set the resolution to “72”. I have read that 72 is applicable for many computer monitors. My fudge image size was 14.4” x 7.4. I clicked in the “width” box and dragged across the 14.4. I then typed “8”. The dimension in the “height” box automatically changed to 4.1”. Click “OK”.
7. Save the image using the “file” menu, then “save as”. Change the name of the image slightly, such as “fudge3”. This preserves image2 in case you make a mistake that can’t be easily reversed.
8. Steps 4-7 were also done for the lilly image. The image was not cropped, but was changed for brightness (34) and contrast (40).



9. This table is a summary of the changes to file sizes based upon the above steps in changing and saving the images.

Name	File Size, KB			
	Tif	Original jpg	50% jpg	72 dpi
Fudge	1429	187	52	22
Lily	1838	504	92	27

10. This is the process for attaching the image to an email. With the image window open and selected, click the “edit” menu, then “copy”. In your email program, start a new email message. Click in the message text area, then “edit, paste”. The image should appear in your email. Add text and a recipient, and send.