



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

FILE TYPES

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JPEG

- ▶ Joint Photographic Experts Group
- ▶ One of the most common file types today
- ▶ Most cameras convert into JPEG upon image capture
- ▶ Very compatible with devices and software
- ▶ Good amount of compression if required
- ▶ Known as a 'lossy' file type
- ▶ Removes redundant (not required anymore) pixels by blending close matches together and can cause blurring when blown up
- ▶ Best to save in a non compression or not as degrading file type first, such as a Photoshop file (PSD)
- ▶ Adobe Photoshop has a sliding scale of 1 – 12 for compression (quality and size of file depending upon user selection)
- ▶ More difficult to recover information from the original image capture as opposed to RAW

RAW

- ▶ Unedited, usually directly from a camera processor recorded into memory without any editing or destruction
- ▶ Camera proprietary file type, in other words, each camera and manufacturer will have their own RAW file saved by their camera
- ▶ Not very friendly for sharing
- ▶ Requires specialist software for editing and converting into other file types, such as Adobe Photoshop with updates for recent RAW files
- ▶ Is not 'lossy' and keeps camera information related to the original image
- ▶ Usually very large file types
- ▶ Used by professionals
- ▶ Best quality available for each camera allowing RAW file types
- ▶ Uncompressed and usually converted into TIFF on the computer

TIFF

- ▶ Tagged Image File Format
- ▶ Uncompressed, although can be compressed and retain information
- ▶ Uses 'lossless' compression system
- ▶ Very large file size
- ▶ Keeps image information even when edited
- ▶ Flexible in terms of colour (CMYK for printer or RGB for on screen)
- ▶ Not very compatible with software and too large to easily share
- ▶ Multiple standards for handling TIFF, so not always compatible
- ▶ TIFF is common for photographers converting from RAW

PSD

- ▶ Adobe Photoshop file format
- ▶ Stands for “Photoshop Document”
- ▶ Owned by Adobe and licensed for some other software
- ▶ Retains information related to Photoshop use, such as Layers etc.
- ▶ Only compatible with Adobe software and licensed software
- ▶ Large file size
- ▶ Quality images
- ▶ Images are usually converted into other file types but the PSD is kept