

All about the new HEIC photo format

Introduction

iOS 11 introduced a new photo format called HEIC. This file type creates smaller files than the JPG format. Most things we do with our photos will not be impacted such as email or texting photos. However, HEICs are not yet supported by Microsoft Windows and can cause compatibility issues.

The reason for the new format is that HEIC take up less space on your devices and have a higher quality. This setting can be changed back and forth as you wish but I'd pick a format and stick with it. For devices that already had photos on them prior to iOS 11, these will remain as JPGs. Only new photos are affected.

To change this format for new photos back to JPG on your iPhone or iPad, open Settings, Camera and tap Formats. The High Efficiency format uses HEICs and the Most Compatible format uses JPGs. Why couldn't Apple just say JPG instead of Most Compatible?

Dealing with HEICs

1. Method 1 There is a free program that you can download for free for your Windows 10 PC that can batch convert HEICs to JPGs. It's available at <https://imazing.com/heic>.
2. Method 2 If you want to convert HEICs to JPGs online, go to this web site at <https://heictojpg.com/> or <https://www.apowersoft.com/heic-to-jpg>
3. You can open HEIC files on Windows after installing the free program at <https://www.copytrans.net/copytransheic/>
4. Transfer photos to your PC using this app for iPhones or iPads. You can see it at <https://www.photosync-app.com/>