

Introduction to Scanning

Types of scanners

These are the major types of scanners:

1. All-in-One printers
2. Flatbed scanners
3. Slide scanners which can scan transparencies including slide or 35 mm film
4. Specialty scanners including the following
 - a. Business card scanners
 - b. Wand scanners made by VuPoint and others

What can you scan

Depending on the type of scanner you can scan the following:

- Photos
- Slides
- Film
- Sheets of paper
- 3-D objects
- Magazine articles
- Newsprint

What does TWAIN and WIA mean?

These are 2 different types of scanner drivers. Most scanners install a TWAIN driver. Search Google if you are curious about these terms.

Methods for scanning

There are several methods including the product and the software installed on your computer. Here are some of them:

- Programs such as the free NAPS2 software
- Use the buttons on your scanner or printer
- Use the Desktop software that can be installed for Canon and Epson products.
- Use free software such as XnView
- Use Photoshop Elements (the Organizer works better than the Editor)

What is OCR?

OCR is optical character recognition. Some high-end scanners include this function but frequently you require additional software. Just remember, you can scan a document and save it as a PDF and open it with MS Word.

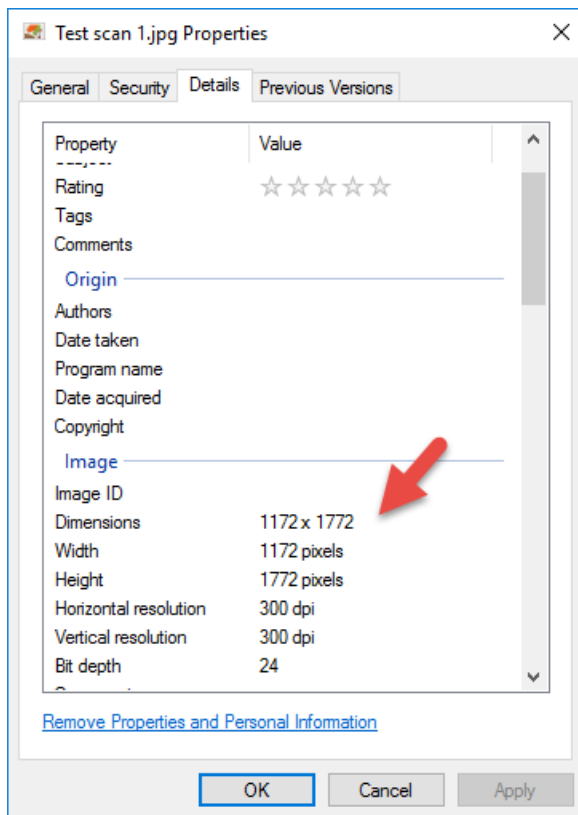
How to tell how large your photo will print

Typically, it takes a scan of 300 pixels per inch to make a quality print. If your print size is 8 by 10 you need a total of 7.2 million pixels commonly referred to as 7 mega pixels or 2,400 pixels wide by 3,000 pixels tall.

For a slightly lower quality print you could scan at 200 pixels per inch giving you a total of 3.2 mega pixels.

Here's an example.:

1. I right-clicked a photo and selected Properties
2. I selected the Details tab and saw the information as show below



3. Since it is 1172 pixels wide and it should be printed at 300 pixels/inch, the width can be roughly 4 inches. The height will be 1772/300 or roughly 6 inches. So, we can print a 4 by 6 print with this image file.

Photo editing software

If you're willing to spend \$79 for the best editing software, then you should buy Photoshop Elements from Amazon. Affinity Photo for \$49 is also a great program and is available at <https://affinity.serif.com/en-us/photo/>. Otherwise, the free GIMP software is available at <https://www.gimp.org/>.

If you use GIMP, I recommend that you go to the Windows menu and select Single Window Mode.