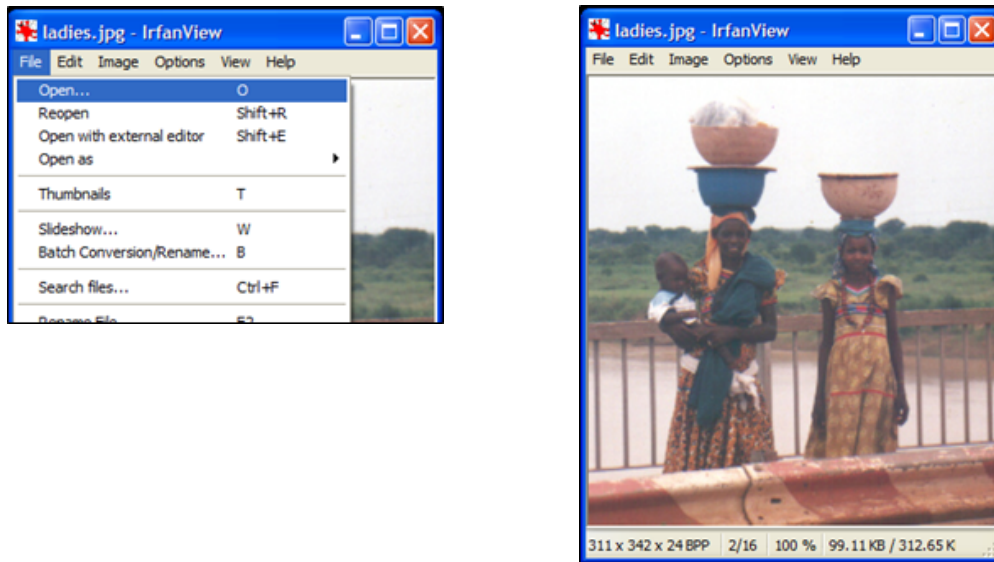


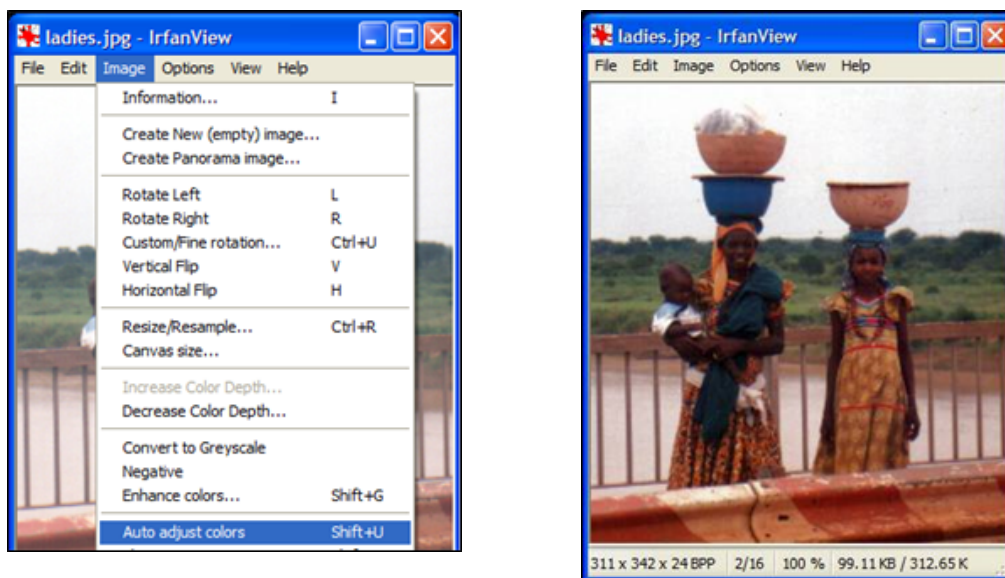
Improving Images in Irfanview

Irfanview is free imaging software, which can be downloaded from www.irfanview.com. It is a user-friendly tool which can be used to improve the quality and reduce the file size of images for your website.

Open an image file by clicking File > Open and select the image.



Choose Image > Auto adjust colors to change the picture

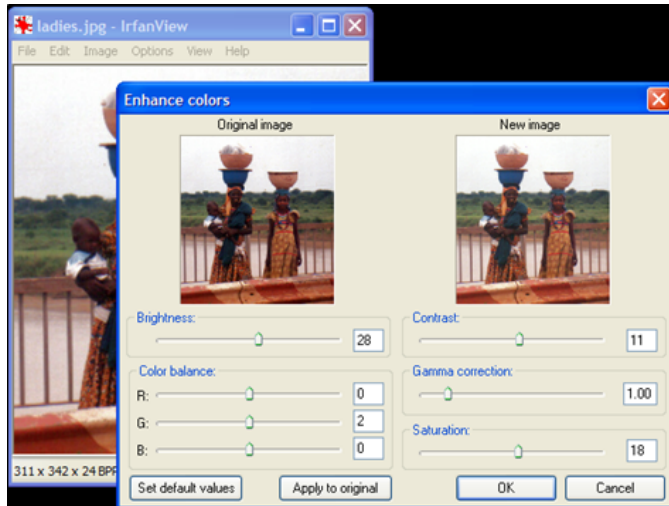


Further adjustments, if necessary, can be made by choosing Image > Color Corrections

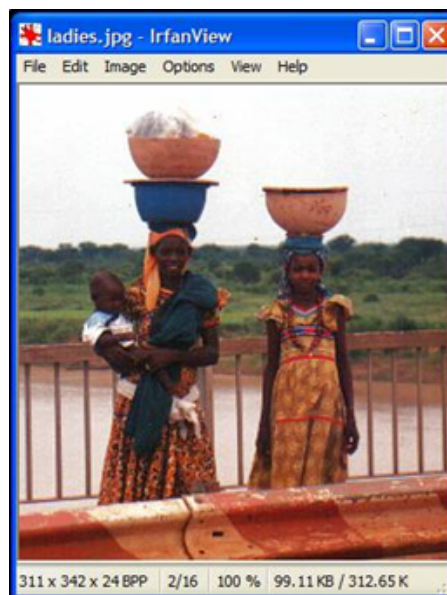
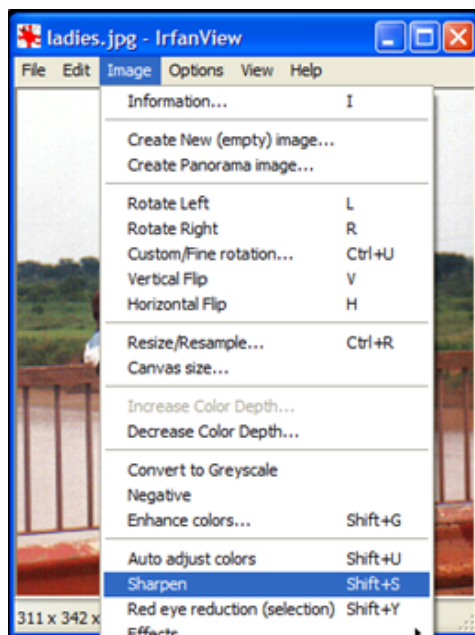
You will have the possibility to change brightness (controls overall lightness and darkness of image), contrast (the difference in colour that makes an object distinguishable), color balance (adjustment of

the intensities of the colours), gamma (adjusts overall brightness of image) and saturation (describes the intensity of color in the image) of the image.

In this case we increased brightness, contrast and saturation slightly, and we increased the amount of the colour green in the colour balance.



To sharpen the image choose Image > Sharpen:

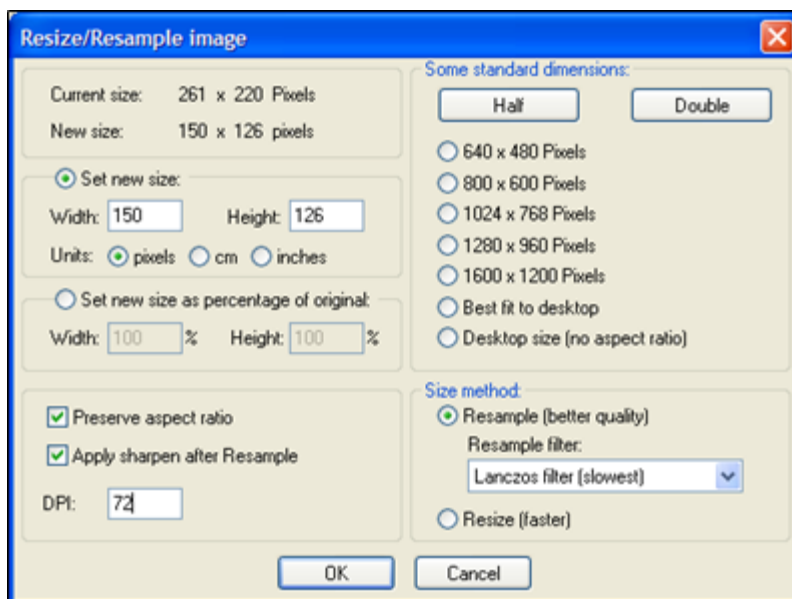


Now we choose the part of the image we want to use on the website. Click with the mouse on one corner of the image, and drag to the opposite diagonal, to create the rectangle of the image selection. In the top left, above the menu bar, you will see the number of pixels selected.

Then click Edit > Crop selection to discard everything outside that rectangle.



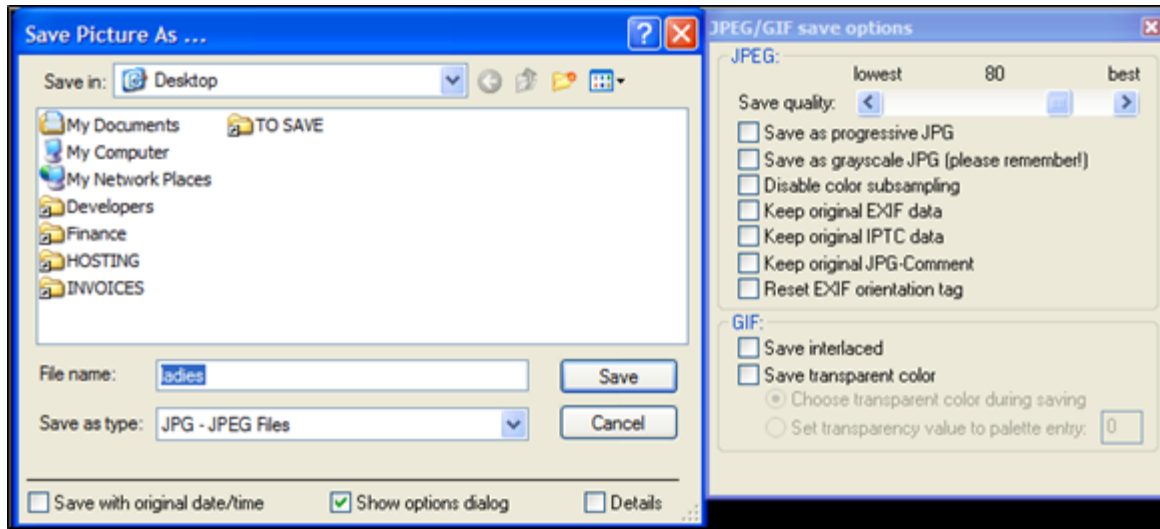
Then choose Image > Resize/Resample to reduce the size of the picture to the actual size we need on the webpage:



In this case we reduced the size of the image to 150 pixels wide. Do not forget to set the “DPI” (which stands for dots-per-inch) to 72, since that is the resolution of a computer monitor. Even if an image has more information than that, it wouldn’t show better on a monitor anyway and only makes the file size bigger.

If your image needs to have a precise width and height, then its often better to crop only the height of an image and keep the full width, then use Image > Resize/Resample to change the height to the required number of pixels, and then to crop the width to the required number of pixels.

Now click File > Save as... to save the end-result:



Photographs are usually best saved as JPEG or PNG files, images with few colours (e.g. logos) are usually best saved as GIF or PNG files. If you need transparency, then GIF and PNG24 are the only options.

When saving a JPEG file you should reduce the “quality” setting to reduce the file size. Normally a value of between 40 and 80 will produce the best trade-off between quality and file size. The file size should normally be less than 20KB, if possible even less than 10KB. In this example we have used a value of 60, resulting in a file size of 8.9KB

The picture is ready to be uploaded:

Original (100KB):



Finalised version (8.9KB):

