

MICROFORM ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

In-house standards for images in digital publications

Core Criteria

Digitisation technology enables us to produce images of a very high quality from the microfilm surrogates for which we have digital publication rights. However, publishing images of the highest technically achievable quality does not serve the needs of most users. While keeping an eye on developments in the field, particularly those endorsed by the [National Preservation Office](#) at the British Library, Microform Academic Publishers have therefore established criteria by striking a balance between the following identified variables:

- Achievable image quality
- Typical screen resolution of 60-80 dots per inch (dpi)
- File size
- Download time
- Image scalability
- Readable working-copy printing

Procedure Adopted

As a result, unless where otherwise stated, the following procedure has been applied in all priced digital versions from 1st March 2006 (see note below):

1. Digitise from negative microfilm, creating TIFF files in greyscale at 300 dpi
2. Convert TIFF files to JPEG files, reducing the image dimensions by 50%
3. Alter the JPEG file settings to 150 dpi, thereby returning the image dimensions to those of the corresponding TIFF file
4. Compress the JPEG files by 15%.
5. Import compressed JPEG files into a PDF file for publication.

Sample Images

These sample images are provided as individual PDF files for demonstration purposes to make it easy to increase and decrease the image size on screen:

Resolution reduced, dimensions unchanged

- [JPEG 300 dpi \(1,305 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 150 dpi \(367 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 100 dpi \(186 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 75 dpi \(111 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 50 dpi \(60 KB\)](#)

Resolution unchanged (150 dpi), dimensions reduced

- [JPEG 3 x 3.44 in \(38 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 6 x 6.88 in \(117 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 9 x 10.32 in \(232 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 11.72 x 13.44 in \(367 KB\)](#)
- [JPEG 23.44 x 26.88 in \(1,305 KB\)](#)

Original digitised image (11.72 x 13.44 in)

- [TIFF 300 dpi \(file size 7,389 KB\)](#)

Fitness for Purpose

In adopting these settings, our intention is to optimise the on-screen display of the published images for the purpose of private study and research, at the same time providing for those users who wish to print off temporary copies of individual images within limits analogous to those accepted as “fair dealing” according to the principles enshrined in current UK copyright law.

Individual images at the higher TIFF resolution suitable for scholarly or commercial publication are also available, but must be ordered separately.

Note on Earlier Digital Publications

Please note that copies of digital images originally created for publication before 1st March 2006 may not match the above criteria.

Updated: 2 March 2006