

EPSON

Knowledge Base

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What are the recommendations for resolution settings when scanning a photograph, to get the best possible print quality on an EPSON Photo printer?

Being aware of the output you require, it is best to define your requirements before scanning. This will avoid your image data being too big and will also make sure your resolution is not too low. It may however mean that at a later stage, if your output requirements change, you will have to scan and process again.

In order to find the correct scan resolution for your job, you can either use the utilities included in your scan program or use the following tips:

- The ideal image resolution range is from 250 to 300 dpi for EPSON Photo printers.
- 250/300 dpi is the best resolution for a 20 x 30 cm photo where the viewer distance is very close. In the case of a larger photo, we usually assume that the viewing distance is equal to the document size. This allows the image resolution to be smaller, which makes the data file smaller. For example, for a 60 X 80 cm photo, 200 dpi image resolution is acceptable.
- Image resolution must also be modified according to the size of the original. In most cases, the original will be enlarged. You can easily find out the correct scanning resolution by applying the following formulas:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{Size of output}) / (\text{Size of original}) = \text{Enlargement factor} \\ &(\text{Enlargement factor}) \times (\text{Image resolution}) = \text{Scan resolution} \end{aligned}$$

Please note that the image resolution is not the printer resolution itself. This is because of the way images are formed by drop-on-demand inkjet printers, like EPSON Stylus printers. Here in principal one pixel can only be Cyan, Magenta, Yellow or Black or any other color that is ejected out of the nozzle of your printer. The eye then mixes the color. In your data one pixel can already be the mixed color. For this reason the resolution you need for your files is far lower than the resolution your printer needs for optimum output.