

Crop Tool



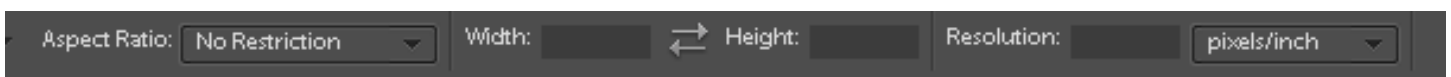
Used for cropping image borders.

Drag a rectangular selection and then press Enter to keep that portion of the image inside of outline. The crop selection borders may be altered before pressing Enter, by dragging on the resizing handles on each side, or the corners. Hold down the Shift key to maintain the height to width proportions when dragging on a corner handle.

You may move the entire crop selection outline by placing the pointer inside the selection, and dragging. To rotate, hold your cursor near the corner of the crop selection until it becomes a curvy arrow and drag in a circular direction. **Note:** you cannot rotate a 1 bit Bitmap mode image.

Useful tip: If you make a selection with the crop tool, and then don't want to crop it, press the **Esc** key to cancel the crop process.


Options Bar for Crop Tool



As you can see, you may choose to crop to a fixed size by typing values into the **Width and Height boxes**. This is useful if you need to fit an image into a particular size spot in a layout. When no numbers are entered in Width, Height, or Resolution you can drag a crop selection to any size. This is the default setting.

How do the Width and Height boxes work?

If you enter 2 in for Width, and 2 in for Height, this does **not** mean that you can only drag a 2 inch square crop outline with the tool. Or, as many people think, a two inch square outline will be drawn on click.

With those settings entered in the options bar, you can drag a crop outline of **any size**, though the proportions will be constrained to those of your settings, in this case, a square. When you accept the crop by clicking the tick , or by pressing the Enter key, the area within your crop outline **will be 2 inches by 2 inches**.

If you have entered your current image resolution in the resolution box, this necessarily involves resampling. If the resolution box has been left empty, the image resolution will increase or decrease to accommodate the new size, and no resampling will occur. If you are cropping images for the Web, or don't want your image resolution changed, this may not be what you want.


If you need to draw the same size crop outline over and over again, and do not want to have your image resized or resampled, or have its resolution changed, use the rectangular marquee selection tool. In its options bar, choose Fixed Size and enter the size you want. Click in the image, and your selection will be drawn to the dimensions you have set. Place the marquee tool within the selection outline and drag to move it into place, or use the arrow keys to nudge it, one pixel at a time. Then choose Image > Crop.

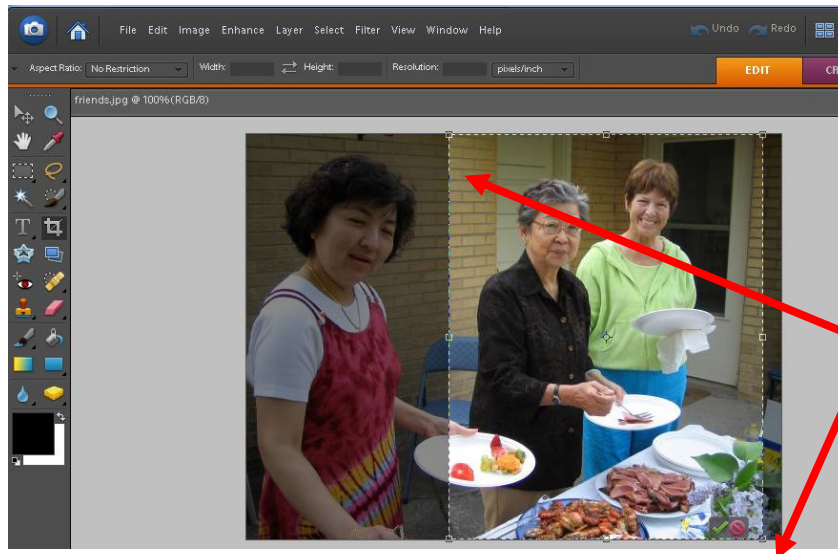
How to Crop

The crop tool is used to take away parts of your picture. You may not want to show the full picture for various reasons. For example, you may find that a stray dog or tourist may have been captured on your holiday photograph and you wish to remove that part of the picture. In this example, I wish to remove the woman at the front of the photo.

1. Open the picture you want to crop. (File > Open > My documents etc..)



2. Click on the Crop Tool.  It looks like two pairs of scissors stuck together. While in Crop Tool mode, drag a selection over the part of the picture you wish to keep.



You can adjust the crop selection area by dragging the handles at the sides and corners of the selection.

Note: The part you wish to keep is noticeable brighter than the rest of the picture.

3. If you change your mind and wish to crop a selection again, press the Esc key (top left of your keyboard).
4. If you are happy with the selection and wish to complete your crop, press the Enter key once.

5. Result

