

Resizing Photos Using Picasa



Below I have outlined a simple way to resize your large images if you are using Picasa. As with most computer programs there is more than one way of doing things. As this tutorial is primarily aimed at photographers who use [Findapic](#) to display their photos, I have outlined the methods according to what I believe suits these people best. However, if one particular method suits you better, please use that, as confidence in what you will achieve is the desired result.

****Follow the steps in order and you should have no troubles****

Resizing by Using the Export Button

Step One:

At this stage I will assume you have opened Picasa. If you haven't, do so now.

You will have a screen similar to Fig 1 in front of you.

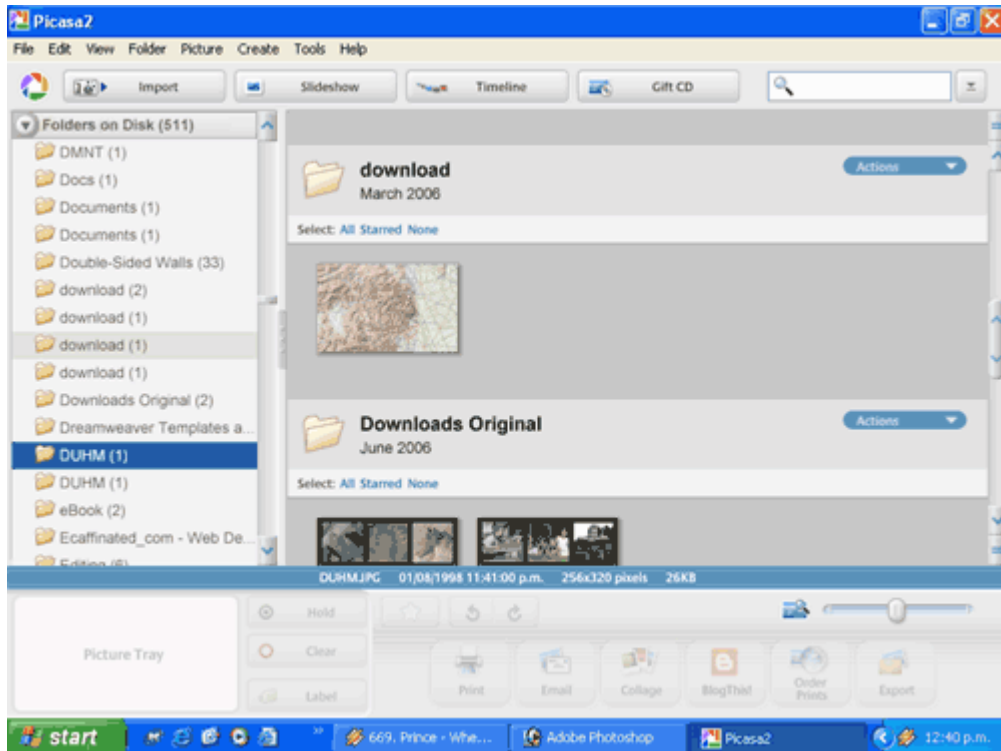


Fig. 1

Step Two:

Navigate to the folder that holds the images you wish to resize for loading into your gallery on [Findapic](#).

When you have found the folder, select the images you wish to resize. There are several ways to select the photos. You can choose to select all by going to the **edit->select all option**, or by using your keyboard and the **ctrl + click** options to select the photos. Use your preferred method.

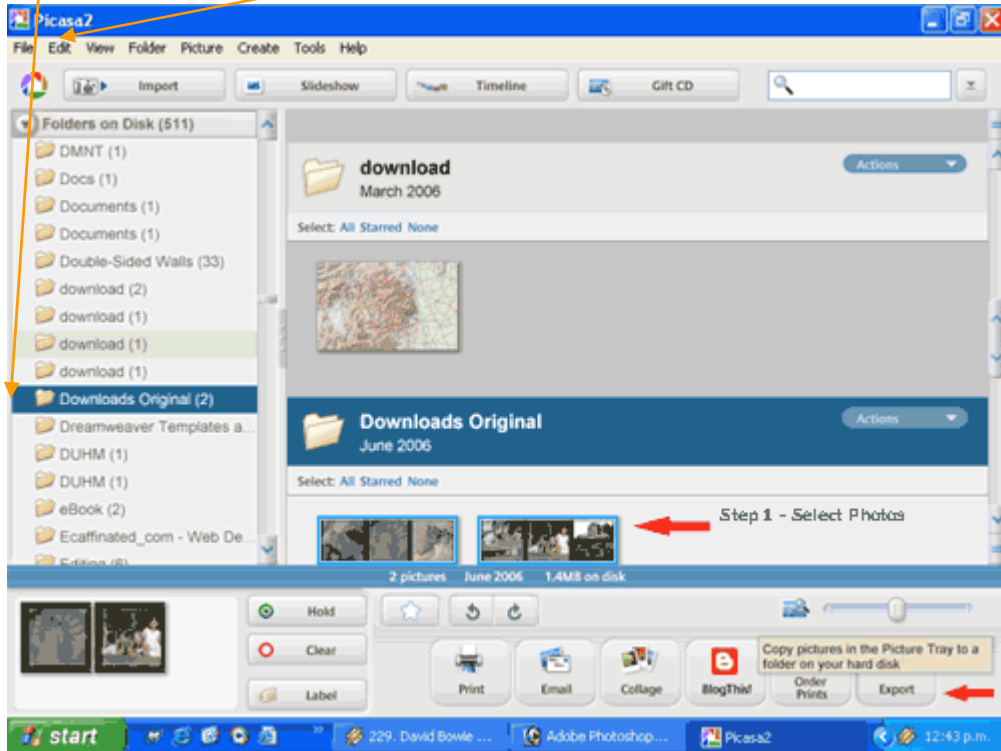


Fig 2

Once you have chosen the photos, click the **Export** button at the bottom right of Picasa. A new window appears (Fig 3). This window is important, as it sets up where your resized images will be stored.

Step Three:

First click the 'browse' button and navigate to the directory and folder where you wish to store your resized images (Fig 4).

DO NOT select the same folder as your originals, as you could overwrite them!

Now you name your exported folder as Picasa will create it for you. My example is name Resize Folder, and I am storing it on the desktop so that it is easy to find. I can move the photos later.

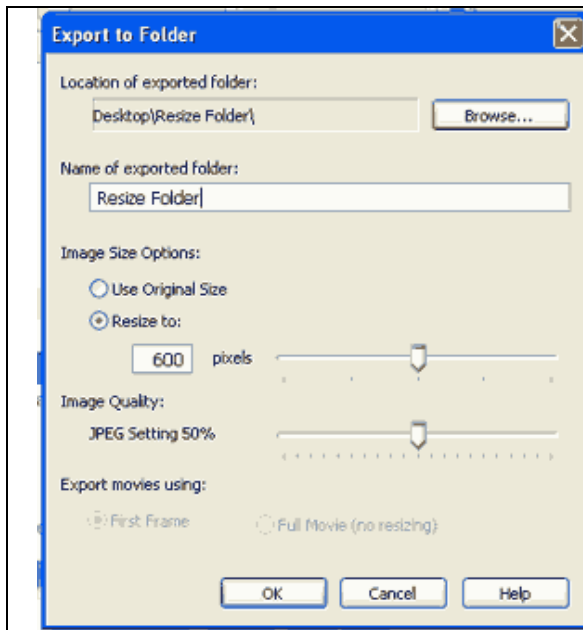


Fig 3

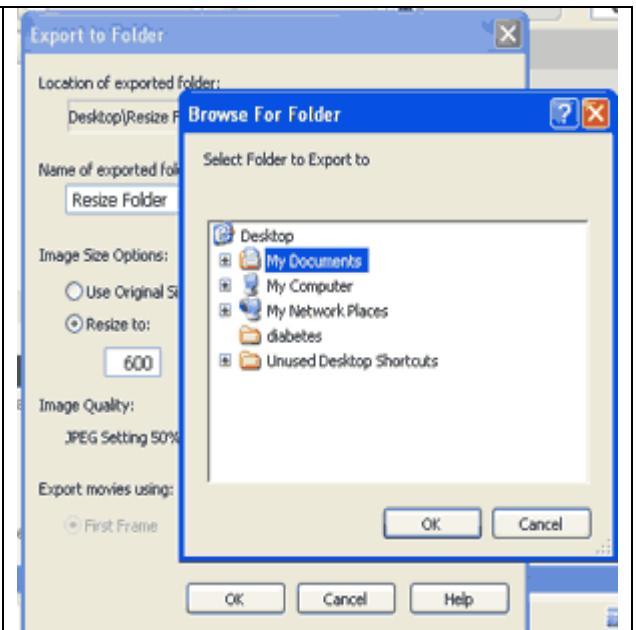


Fig 4

Next you need to make sure the 'resize to' option is selected.

In the example (Fig 3) I have chosen 600 pixels for my size and 50% for my jpeg settings. If your original photo is already less than this, Picasa keeps the same picture dimensions, but reduces the file size dramatically. The photo I resized to build this tutorial kept dimensions of 534 x 188, but changed size from 707kb to 15.4kb which is excellent for loading fast on a website, and hasn't lost too much quality.

I recommend that photo files uploaded to Findapic should be under 50kb, but if you can manage, keeping files under 35kb is even better. It will give the website users a faster and therefore better experience when viewing your photos, and thus increase the chances of them buying.

Step Four:

Open the folder you saved the resized photos to, using Windows Explorer or whatever method you prefer. By clicking on the photo filename and reading the properties you can see the new size of your photo. ([Fig 11](#))

Step Five:

Experiment with these settings to see your results. You may find that in some cases Picasa does not reduce the photos as expected, but as a FREE tool it does a fairly good job.

Step Six:

This process is very fast for resizing images, and even when I have selected 200 photos to resize at once, the process has not taken too long. This is of course dependent on the power of the computer you are running.

Resizing by Using the Main Menu

Step One:

This process is exactly the same as using the 'Export' button, but you start in the top menu by selecting:

File->Export Picture to Folder

or for people who use the keyboard commands

CTRL + Shift + S

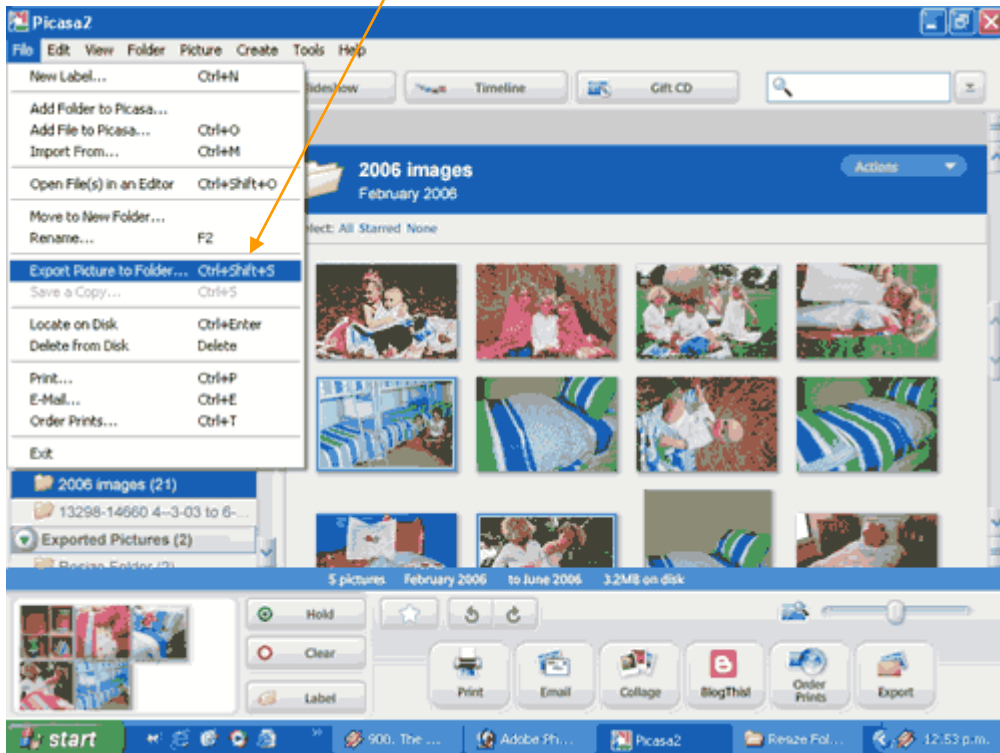


Fig 5

Now follow the same processes as outlined in the ['Resizing by Using the Export Button'](#) Section above.

Resizing by Using the Export as a Web Page Option

Step One:

This method of resizing images narrows down your options, but for beginners using photo manipulation software; this is fairly simple with the wizard doing everything for you.

To begin choose the photos you wish to resize as outlined on [page 2](#) of this user guide.

Next choose from the top menu (Fig 6):

Folder->Export as Web Page or **CTRL + W** (Keyboard command)

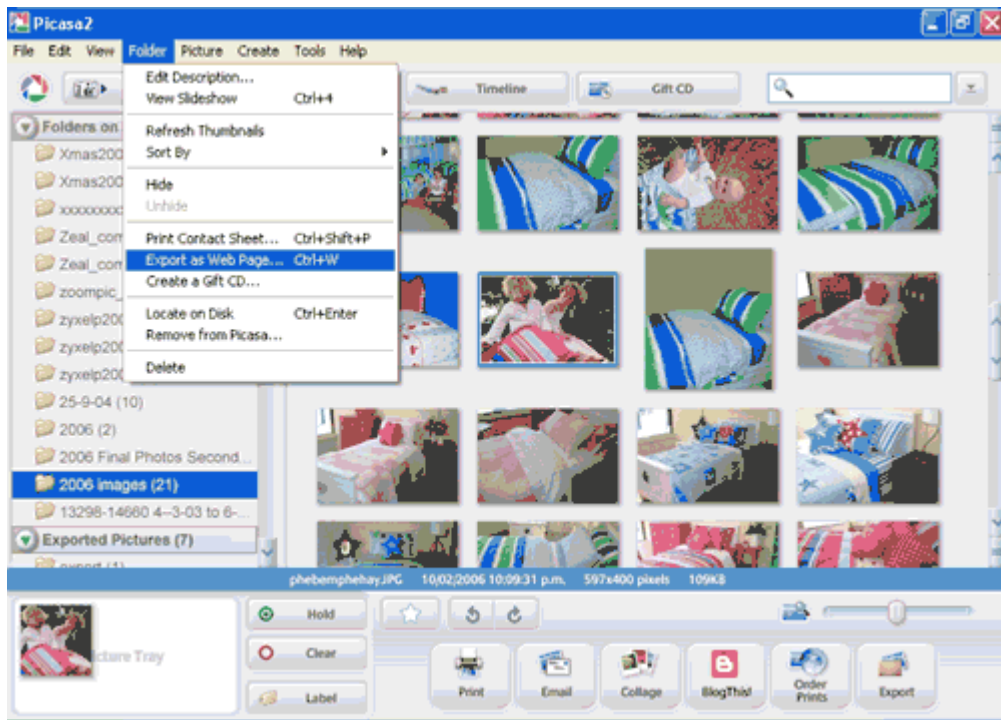


Fig 6

Move to next page for Step Two.

Step Two:

On selecting 'export as a Web Page' a new window will pop up (Fig 7) with the 640 pixels (for web pages) option selected. If you continue with this option, your photos will be about 80kb in file size, but the photo dimensions are quite acceptable.

If you are a dialup Internet user, or aren't too worried about how large your big image is, I suggest you choose the last option 320 pixels (for email). This means faster uploading of photos to Findapic for you, and that the pages load faster for your potential customers.

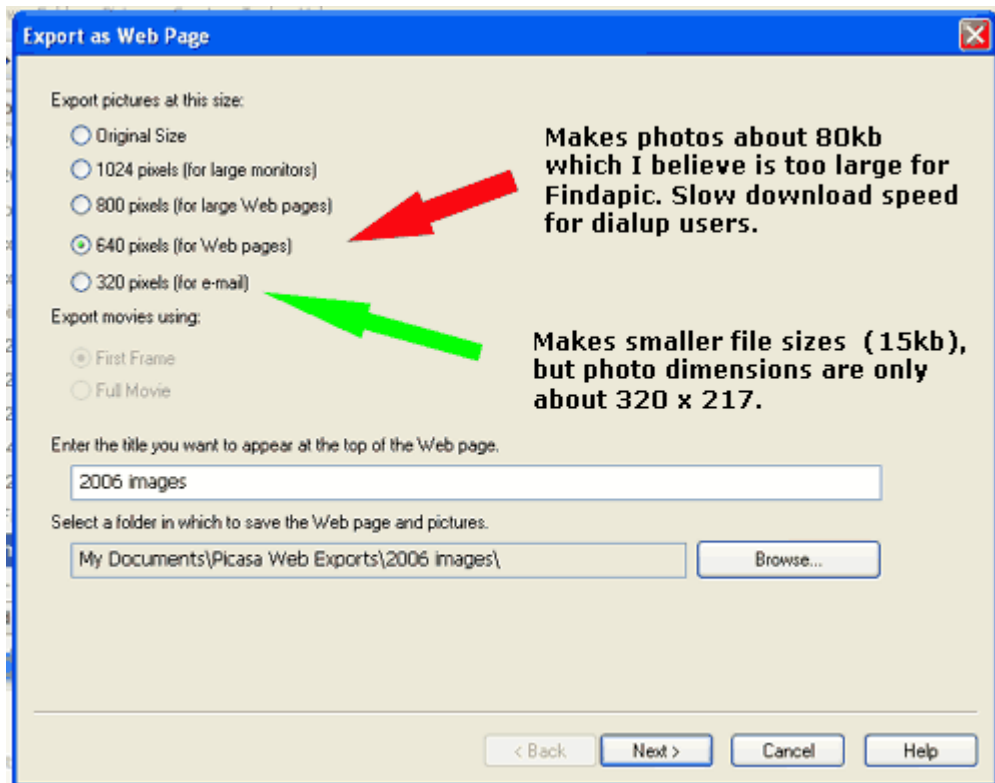


Fig 7

You can change the name of the file to appear at the top of the web pages, but for resizing this is irrelevant, as all we are after are the actual photo files that have been resized.

Choose the 'browse' button and select where you wish to save your photos. Often I use the desktop, since it is easy to delete the unwanted files after.

Click '**Next >**'

Step Three:

This next window appears, and looks similar to Fig 8. If you do want to build a web page, there are various styles to choose from, but as we are only resizing photos in this exercise, click **'Finish'**.

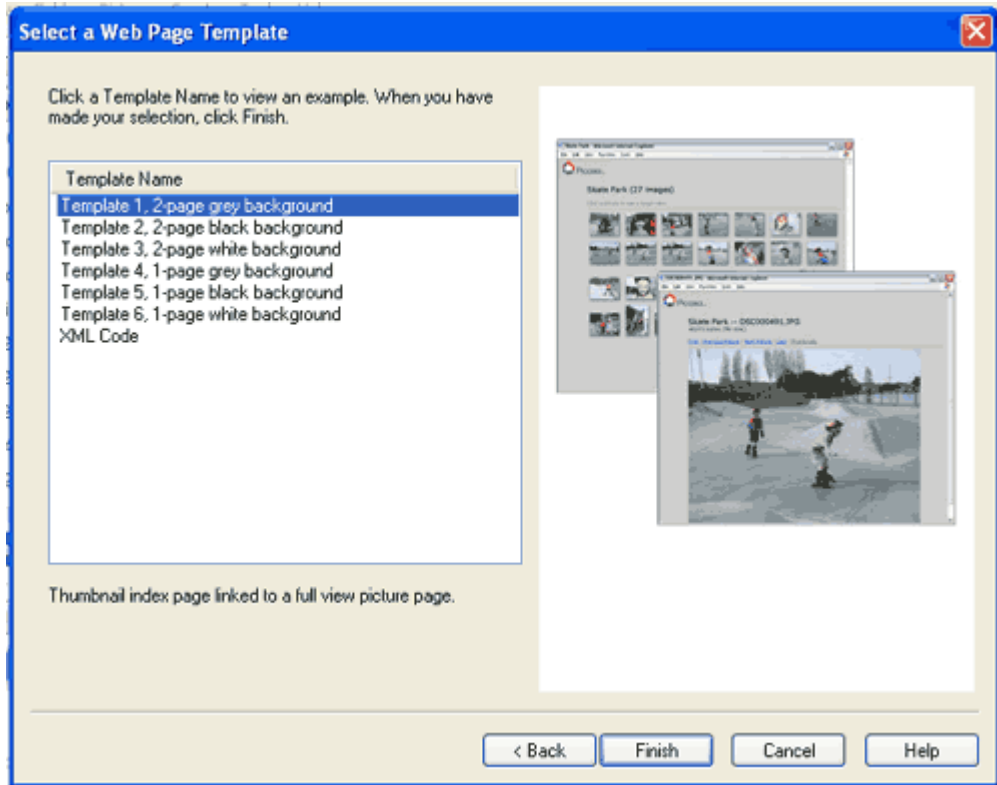


Fig 8

A web page will be automatically generated as seen in Fig 9. You can click on the images to see how large the big resized image will look, else simply close the window.

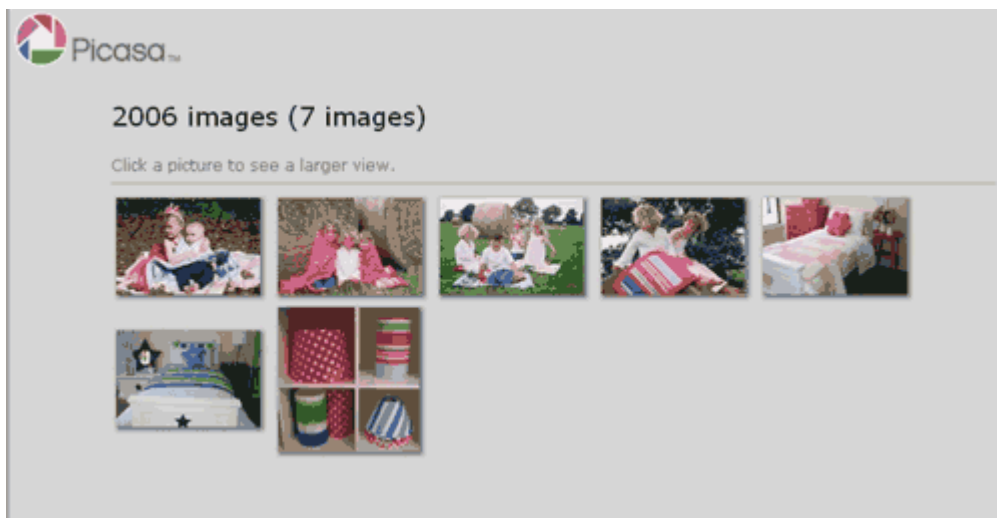


Fig 9

Step Four:

Now you need to locate your resized images. Find the folder where you saved them to, and you will see several folders and website pages (depending on how many photos you resized) as shown in Fig 10.

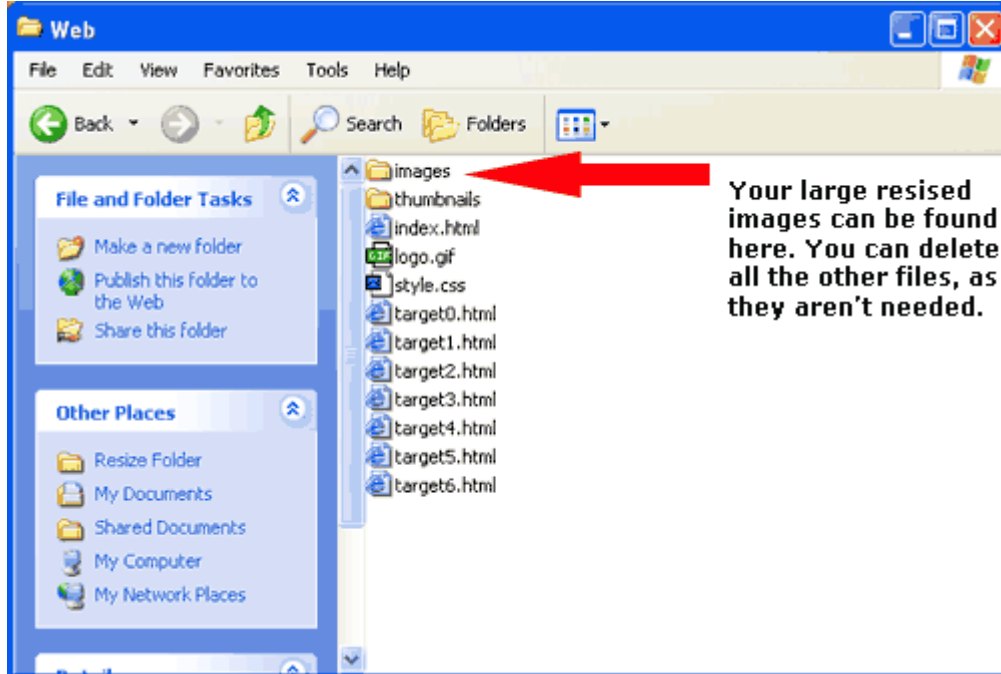


Fig 10

Open the images folder and click on a photo name. You will now see the new file sizes and picture dimensions (Fig 11).

You can keep the 'images' folder for uploading to the Internet, and delete all the others.

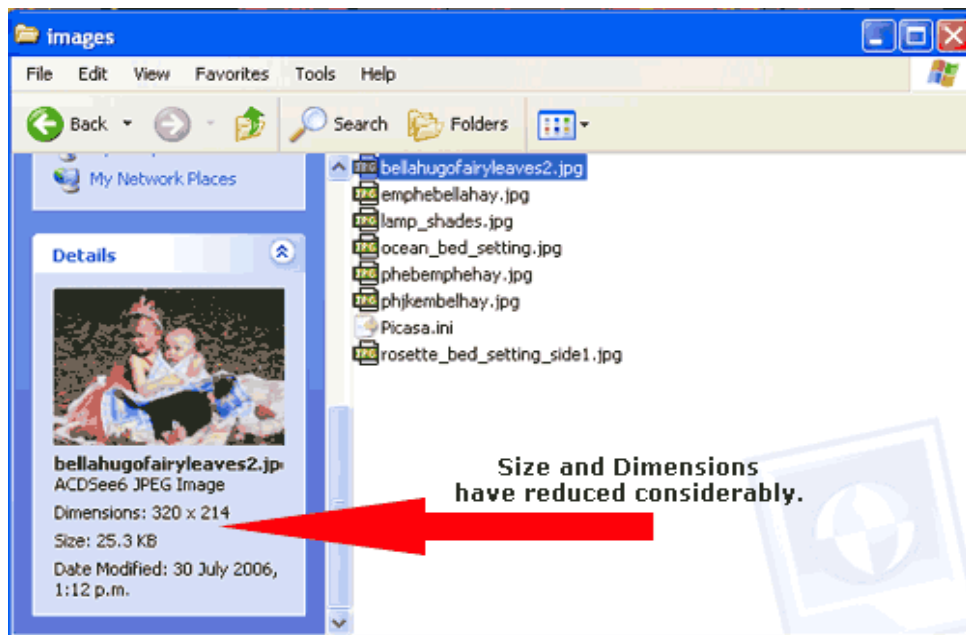


Fig 11

Disclaimer & Handy Links:

This is a simple user guide created to help photographers using Picasa for their photo manipulation to be able to resize their photos. These recommendations are specifically aimed at people using [Findapic](#) to display their photos online.

For people wishing to learn more about how to use Picasa, and many of the other options available, I suggest you visit the [Picasa Forum](#) which can be found here:
<http://groups.google.com/group/picasa>

If you have useful tips for photographers using Picasa that you believe would be valuable to the Findapic community, please post your comments in the [Findapic Forum](#), or alternatively, if you are having problems post those too and someone else may be able to provide an answer.