

Lightroom Classic: Resizing an image for NCC competitions

These notes cover the process of **Exporting** a resized image from **Lightroom 6** at the size required for **Nairn Camera Club Competitions**. These are – jpeg at a **maximum of 1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high**. Remember - the process of resizing is not the same as **Cropping** – it simply enables the full image to be displayed correctly on monitors and via digital projectors.

Why is there not a resizing option in the Lightroom Menu?

Rather than trying to resize the original image, a much better and safer practice, as used by Lightroom, is to export a new version of the file that has the dimensions you want. Once you have that resized copy, you can do what you want with the copy without any risk to your original image.

Thoughts on Workflow

Decide where you wish the Exported file to be saved. I have a folder labelled “Exports” and use it as the destination for 99% of exports. I do not change the **file names** for files being exported, although I often change filenames during Import so that the name reflects the location or the occasion of the photoshoot.

When the export is complete I move the exported file(s) to where I store my competition entries (folders labelled by year and competition name eg 2020-21 Isolation). In these competition folders I make a second copy of each image (by using Windows to select then copy and paste). I then rename the copy with the title I have chosen for the competition entry. This simplifies the Export process and allows me to easily keep a record of any entry’s original filename and it’s competition title.

Steps

- 1 While in **Library, Grid View** - select the image you wish to Export by clicking on it. You can select more than one image to Export if you wish (on **PC** hold down **ctrl**, on **Mac** hold down **Command** or **cmd**) and click on the required images. Then click the **Export** button (bottom left of the screen).

Alternatively, select your image(s) and use the menu at the top selecting **File >> Export**.

- 2 The **Export dialogue box appears**. This box can be made longer by dragging down the bottom edge and repositioning the box if necessary.
The screenshot below shows all the settings that I use for exporting competition entries.

Explanation of other choices on the Export dialogue box

File settings: the size of the resultant export has never been an issue for me but, if necessary, it would be possible to reduce the file size by reducing quality to perhaps 90% or 80%. For some purposes (perhaps a website or external competition) it would be necessary to enter their stated File size limit and tick the relevant box.

Image Sizing: These values will work for all image shapes, square, landscape, letterbox, portrait.

Output Sharpening: I sharpen my images in the Edit module and tend to leave this blank.

Metadata: I remove all metadata. Competition entries should not identify the author.

Export To: Hard Drive ▾

Preset:

Export One File

- ▶ Lightroom Presets
- ▶ DxO
- ▶ Luminar 4
- ▶ Photomatix
- ▶ User Presets

Add Remove

▼ **Export Location**

Export To: Specific folder ▾

Folder: P:\Exports ▾ Choose...

Put in Subfolder: Untitled Export

Add to This Catalog Add to Stack: Below Original ▾

Existing Files: Ask what to do ▾

▼ **File Naming**

Rename To: Custom Name ▾

Custom Text: Start Number:

Example: WellhillCulbin-5674.jpg Extensions: Lowercase ▾

▶ **Video**

▼ **File Settings**

Image Format: JPEG ▾ Quality: 100

Color Space: sRGB ▾ Limit File Size To: 100 K

▼ **Image Sizing**

Resize to Fit: Width & Height ▾ Don't Enlarge

W: 1600 H: 1200 pixels ▾ Resolution: 360 pixels per inch ▾

▼ **Output Sharpening**

Sharpen For: Screen ▾ Amount: Standard ▾

▼ **Metadata**

Include: All Metadata ▾

Remove Person Info Remove Location Info

Write Keywords as Lightroom Hierarchy

▶ **Watermarking**

No watermark

▶ **Post-Processing**

Do nothing ▾

Plug-in Manager...

Export Cancel