

PhotoPixels

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About Your Digital Files

- 1) **Copy your disks to your hard drive first.** (Assuming you have enough hard drive space to hold them) Don't try to read your files directly from the discs, as that can be very slow. Hard drives spin much faster than a CD or DVD disc ever will. Once they are on your hard drive, then access and look at them.
- 2) if you copy the discs now to your hard drive, its a good time to find out if there are any read errors. I dont expect any errors, as I verify each disc as its burned, but **now is a good time to check.**
- 3) **Take care of the discs you have, make copies of all the discs I gave you.** They are your masters. I do make copies too, but I can't guarantee that I will always be here, to get them from.
- 4) The set called **4x6 jpgs** (~2 MB's) are good enough to make 4x6 inch prints. And can be small enough to email someone (depends on email capacities). I would not use them to make prints larger than 4x6 inches.
- 5) The set of files with ".tif" at the end of the file name are the **Master TIF files**. They are what I work with to make sure the quality of the file stays its best thru-out the process. A tif file can be opened, changed and saved without loosing any data. Tif files are also quite big in file data size (~29MB's) and can be slow to work with, on even a fast computer. They also take up lots of space on your hard drive and fill up a DVD quickly. But they are the best file. Great for the biggest photo print you can imagine. Good for cropping and resaving.
- 5) The set called **Big Jpgs** (~8 MB's) are nearly equal to the master Tif files, within a few percent as they are. If opened, changed and resaved they start to degrade. They do not degrade if just copied from one computer to another. These files are capable of making huge prints, just like the master tif files. But are more quickly read on your computer and will take up much less space on your hard-drive than the master tif files do.
- 6) **Cropping.** The format of the original files is 4x6, in making an 8x10 out of it you loose a fair amount. And in making a 5x7 you loose some of the image. See samples. The area in red would be cropped off when printed. What you crop can vary as needed. Other print sizes like 20x30 inch would not need to be cropped.

4x6



5x7



8x10

