

## Screen Resolution

notes

The screen resolution sets the number of pixels that will be displayed. Computer screens have a fixed number of pixels horizontally and vertically.

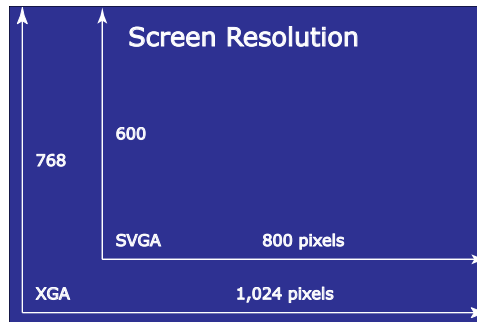
The most common resolutions today are 800 pixels wide by 600 pixels high (SVGA) or 1,024 pixels wide by 768 pixels high (XGA). Some screens have resolutions as high as 1,920 by 1,200 pixels.

When an image is displayed, there is a one-to-one mapping of the pixels in the image to the pixels on the screen. As a result, an image will appear larger on a low resolution screen and smaller on a high resolution screen.

For example, an 800 by 600 pixel image will completely fill an SVGA screen, but take up only about three-quarters of an XGA screen.

When an image has more resolution than the screen, however, only part of it is displayed – you have to scroll the image to see the rest. This can be annoying when large images are sent by e-mail or placed on a web site.

Some software will automatically resize a large image to fit within the screen resolution. It does this by removing extra pixels and reducing the resolution of the image, not by increasing the screen resolution.



### About Screen DPI

*Images for web sites are often sized for 72 or 96 DPI. The concept of DPI does not apply to computer screens, however, and it is often used incorrectly.*

*For images that will be viewed on a computer screen or projected, specifying a 300 DPI resolution is incorrect (and impossible to calculate without the dimensions for printed output).*

*Instead, specify maximum pixel dimensions that are appropriate to the screen or projector resolution being used (for example, "no more than 800 pixels on the longest side").*