

XING DECOMPRESSION UTILITY

Accessing Low Resolution TIFF Files

To use the low-resolution TIFF files provided on CD-Rom, the Xing-JPEG utility is not required. All you need to do is open or place a desired .TIF file into any application that supports the TIFF format. Examples are Aldus PhotoStyler® or PageMaker®, Ventura Publisher®, Quark XPress®, ZSoft™ PhotoFinish™, or Image-In Inc.'s Image-In-Color.

By using the low-resolution TIFF files in conjunction with any one of these graphics applications, you can visually browse through the PhotoDisc images without decompressing the high-resolution image files.

The low-res TIFF files reside in the LO_RES sub-directory within the PHOTOS directory on your CD-Rom disc.

Decompressing High-Res Files Using Xing-JPEG™

Xing-JPEG™ for Windows is a utility that allows you to expand compressed PhotoDisc files within the Microsoft® Windows™ environment (3.0 or higher), implementing the JPEG international standard for image compression. Some commercial packages like Aldus PhotoStyler© 1.1 have included JPEG decompression modules.

Requirements and Recommendations

Xing-JPEG is a utility that merely expands JPEG-compressed image files; it does not have any preview capability.

Therefore, you will need a page-layout or graphics program that supports .TIF, .TGA or .BMP image formats. Xing-JPEG is a utility that merely expands JPEG-compressed image files; it does not have any preview capability. Therefore, you will need a page-layout or graphics program that supports .TIF, .TGA or .BMP image formats.

To run Xing-JPEG requires an IBM compatible computer with at least an 80286 processor, 2MB of RAM, a hard disk with at least enough free space to hold the JPEG decompressed image (10-20 Mb), and a VGA compatible monitor. Also required is DOS 4.1 or later version, and Microsoft Windows 3.x running in the Standard or 386 Enhanced modes. Operation in Real mode is not supported. For more information on Windows modes, consult the Microsoft Windows documentation.

High color --15-, 16- and 24-bit -- video display cards are recommended for the best visual representation of PhotoDisc images.

Starting the Xing-JPEG Program

To start Xing-JPEG from Microsoft Windows:

1. If the window containing the Xing-JPEG icon is not already displayed, double-click the icon for the "Xing JPEG/JPEG" program group. The window will now appear.
2. Double-click the Xing-JPEG icon. The program will now launch.

Choosing Directory Paths for Finding and Saving Your Images

Before a file can be expanded, you need to specify where the compressed file is coming from (source path) and where the expanded file will be saved (destination path). The Paths command from the Preferences menu allows you to select and lock the source and destination paths whenever you access PhotoDisc images. The source will always be the PhotoDisc CD-Rom, while the destination will most likely be your hard disk.

To set the source path:

1. Select Preferences, and then Paths from the menu bar. The Path Preferences dialog box appears.

CD Rom users: These instructions assume that your CD Rom drive is designated as drive [d]. If your CD Rom drive has a different letter designation, use that letter instead of [d].

2. If you are using Xing-JPEG for the first time, double-click [.] (root) to back up to d:\.
3. Double-click [JPEG] in the Select Source box. The source directory should now read d:\JPEG
4. For subsequent uses of Xing-JPEG, the source path will default to c:\XING. To change this, double-click [d] in the Select Source box. The source path should now change to d:\JPEG.
5. Once you've selected your source directory, check the Lock Source button.

To set the destination path:

1. In the Select Destination box, double click drive [c], or whichever hard drive you plan to use. Remember, you cannot specify your CD Rom drive as your destination path, since files can only be read from CD Rom.
2. Double-click the [XING] directory, or whichever directory you wish to save your expanded file into. Make certain there is enough space on the hard drive you've selected as your destination drive. A PhotoDisc file, once expanded, can occupy up to 18 Mb on some volumes.
3. Once your destination path is set, you may click the Lock Destination button to lock your path.
4. After you've selected and locked the source and destination paths, click OK.

After you have set the source and destination paths, you can switch to File Expand and select individual files within the Source Path directory to expand.

Expanding Compressed PhotoDisc Files

File Expand expands a JPEG-compressed image file from the PhotoDisc CD-ROM and saves it onto your hard disk as a .BMP, .TIF or .TGA file.

To expand PhotoDisc JPEG images:

1. Select File, then Expand from the menu bar. The Expand JPEG to Image File dialog box appears.
2. In the Save Type box, click the desired format you want your expanded file saved in. While the default is .BMP, we generally recommend the .TIF format, since it is one of the more widely supported image formats by graphics programs.
3. In the Files box, a list of .JPG files appears from the directory you specified in Path Preferences. Single-click on a file name. In the Save As field, Xing-JPEG will automatically keep the same file name as the source file, and change the extension to match your choice in the Save Type box.
4. If desired, you may change the file name in the Save As field. However, Xing-JPEG requires that the file extension match the selected Save Type format. If you do not wish to modify the file name, simply double-click on the file name, and expansion will begin immediately.
5. If you did not lock your destination path in the Path Preferences dialog box, you may change directories in the Directories: list.
6. Click OK to execute the file expansion. This process may take several minutes, depending on the final file size. If you do not have adequate space on your hard disk, the file will expand until the disk is full, at which point an error message will appear, aborting the file expansion.

Supported Image Formats

Xing-JPEG for Windows supports uncompressed image files which comply with the file specifications for TIFF (TIF), TARGA TRUEVISION (TGA) and BITMAP (BMP) formats.

Supported TIFF (.TIF) file types are:

- o Class RUncompressed; No Color Map; 24-bit color image.

Supported TARGA™ (.TGA) file types are:

- o Type 2Uncompressed; True-color ; 24-bit & -16-bit color image.

Supported BITMAP (.BMP) file type is:

- o Uncompressed; No Color Map; 24-bit color image.