

Software Development Unit 2.1

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Candidates should demonstrate the practical ability of sourcing content including using their initiative to find out about and exploit the potential of new ICT tools and information sources.

The images I've used for my website are broken down under several categories which is explained further below. The examples and charts are supported by the files I've attached. Please note that I've used the open source software GIMP to save the files in different formats, unless I've stated otherwise.

Navigation buttons

The navigation buttons I've used are saved in **PNG** format. The reason for this is because the shape of the buttons are curved in the edges and I needed the PNG format's ability to create transparency. This will allow the button to display over the background without looking like a block square image. In addition, the file size was much smaller when I saved the image as PNG instead of JPG. I originally obtained the buttons from the website <https://www.clickminded.com/button-generator/> and later amended the file format in GIMP.

Navigation	JPG		PNG	
File name	Dimensions	File size	Dimensions	File size
button_home	200 x 50 pixels	6.98 KB	200 x 50 pixels	1.64 KB
button_portfolio	200 x 50 pixels	7.49 KB	200 x 50 pixels	1.81 KB
button_about-me	200 x 50 pixels	7.67 KB	200 x 50 pixels	2.33 KB
button_contact	200 x 50 pixels	7.30 KB	200 x 50 pixels	2.08 KB

Artwork

The original art I've made was scanned and saved as a JPG file and the file size was up to 2.6 MB for the largest image, with the widest width going as far as 2464 pixels. I decided that the images were too large for its purpose. For one, I didn't want to upload very high quality photos of my art unnecessarily without a watermark and I also wanted to limit the size for better bandwidth. I then decided to save the images with a width of 1080 pixels, which is the same width as my website.

I also tested changing the format from JPG to PNG on one of the Ponyo Sisters and found that the PNG file came up to 1.04 MB whilst the JPG 303 KB.

Artwork	Original file size		New file size	
File name	Dimensions	File size	Dimensions	File size
Ponyo Sisters	2446 x 1616 pixels	1.31 MB	1080 x 714 pixels	303 KB
Totoro - Anna Legsapi art	2464 x 1608 pixels	1.06 MB	1080 x 714 pixels	251 KB
Witch of the Waste	2452 x 1582 pixels	1.95 MB	1080 x 714 pixels	350 KB
Yubaba Spirited Away	2456 x 1604 pixels	2.57 MB	1080 x 714 pixels	434 KB

Thumbnail

The thumbnails were an even smaller resize of the original Artwork. After testing to see how they would save as PNG, I found that JPG has a smaller file size and the quality of the thumbnail is not visible. I kept the thumbnails as they were originally - in JPG format.

Thumbnails	JPG		PNG	
File name	Dimensions	File size	Dimensions	File size
Ponyo Sisters	360 x 238 pixels	58.4 KB	360 x 238 pixels	139 KB
Totoro - Anna Legsapi art	360 x 238 pixels	48.6 KB	360 x 238 pixels	146 KB
Witch of the Waste	360 x 238 pixels	53.1 KB	360 x 238 pixels	160 KB
Yubaba Spirited Away	360 x 238 pixels	61.1 KB	360 x 238 pixels	195 KB

Other files

I've also applied the same thought process for all the other files. I took into consideration their file size and whether they were better saved as a PDF or as a PNG. Some files like the header banner was saved as JPG, whilst the social icons were PNG and my decision took into consideration the compression and transparency benefits. I've also embedded a video from Youtube instead of uploading my own video to save on bandwidth.