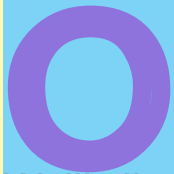


Connecting the dots about...

DPI

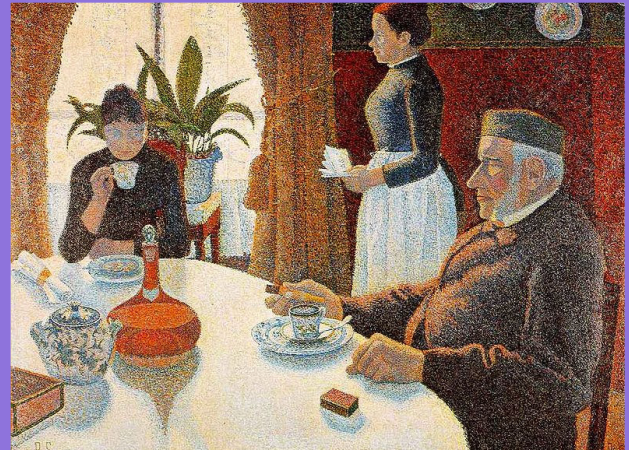


ur subject today is DPI. We'll discuss what it is and how to choose it for your print document. Some designers develop the majority of their early graphic experience creating graphics for displaying on monitors. Learning about the difference between resolutions in print and digital media is one of the first steps to transitioning to being a designer who can work with both print and digital content.

What is DPI?

DPI stands for "Dots per inch", in contrast to PPI for web documents that stands for "Pixels per inch". Dots per inch, means what it sounds like, in any given inch of paper, how many dots fill that inch? To a point, the more dots, the finer the image.

Have you ever seen Pointillist art? Pointillism is how a graphic might look with a small dots per inch value. You may wonder, what is the difference between a dot and a pixel?



Pointillist work
Paul Signac: Breakfast, 1886-1887

What's the difference between dots & pixels?

The dot represents the smallest unit of print on a page. The pixel represents the smallest unit of display on a monitor. The resolution of a monitor is limited by the



size

of the pixels in its display, the resolution of print is determined by how precisely the printer head can place the ink.

How do I choose DPI for my document?

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Melanie Allen
Southern Poly State University