

Web Tips – Monitor Settings

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While surfing the web, you have probably seen that web sites differ in color and size. You may have seen a notice that reads "This web site is best viewed at millions of colors and 800 x 600 pixels." As a viewer, you can control how you view a web site by changing your monitor's color and resolution settings. Color settings refer to how many colors your monitor will display at one time. Resolution refers to how many pixels (or dots) your monitor displays at a given time. The greater the number of pixels, the smaller the objects appear. The fewer the number of pixels, the larger the objects appear. Monitors are typically set at the factory to either 640 x 480 pixels or 800 x 600 pixels. Newer, larger monitors have settings that go much higher.

Macintosh – OS X

Go to the Apple Menu – System Preferences – Displays
Change the Resolutions and Colors settings

Macintosh – OS 9 or lower

Go to the Apple Menu – Control Panels – Monitors & Sound
Change the Color Depth and Resolution settings.

Windows

Go to Start – Settings – Control Panel – Display – Settings
Change the Colors and Screen Area settings.

Note

If you do not find thousands or millions of colors as options in your settings, your computer may have an old video card. Upgrading the video card or buying a new computer may be necessary to rectify this situation. Also, Refresh Rate (Hz) refers to how often the monitor display is updated. If you notice the monitor flickering you may want to experiment with different refresh rates. If you do not notice the monitor flickering then leave this setting alone.

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