



What are Raw files?

Redcopters Ltd Info Note

When Redcopters takes aerial photos, we use the professional 'Raw' format. This gives the highest possible quality, and also provides the best starting point for editing, such as colour and contrast enhancement.

We can supply you with Raw, jpgs, or both.

Why are Raw photo files better?

A Raw photo file is as nearly as possible the exact image that passed through the lens. Unlike jpg's, they have not been compressed or limited. Raw allows the image to go further up into white, and deeper down into black.

What are the Raw file extensions?

Canon camera Raw files end with .cr2

Panasonic Raw files end with .rw2

What about file size?

Raw files are about 10 times bigger than jpgs, so a Raw image can be 20MB or more.

How can I view Raw images?

Mac OS *Preview* can open most kinds of Raw files (highlight the image and press the space bar).

On the PC, Irfanview can open Raw files. (It may need the Raw plug-in, from

<http://www.irfanview.com/plugins.htm>).

And of course, the standard photo editing software from Adobe etc will open and edit Raw.

"The Raw images don't look very bright/sharp/clear"

We are used to looking at jpg's from our cameras, phones etc. The jpg conversion program automatically compresses brightness, and also puts in a sharpness function. Professional graphic designers prefer to control all this themselves. Until a Raw image has been properly balanced, it does look very flat. Don't worry, the information is there.

But I just want jpgs for my website, report etc!

We can always supply our pictures in jpg form, if that is what you require. Just contact us, quoting the job number.

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