

## Re: Maximum size of a background file

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2007-01/msg08373.html>

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- *From:* "Shenan Stanley" <[newshelper@xxxxxxxx](mailto:newshelper@xxxxxxxx)>
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I have a novice who doesn't get that using a 4 MB file for his background will cause his computer to grind to a halt. Any thought of what the maximum size of a background file should be. I have looked, but, no success.

Jimbo wrote:

Thanks for defending Gateway, but, I am really looking for a technical answer about the size of the file for a desktop background!! :-)

I don't know that there is a technical answer that wouldn't just go into the 'why would you **\*\*not\*\*** optimize the graphic – make it smaller with little loss – instead of having an xx or xxx MB background image'?

Essentially – you are using up your memory to display it.  
The larger that image file size – the more memory it uses to keep it visible for you.

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Shenan Stanley  
MS-MVP

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