Supplemental Photoshop Tutorials: Sizing images to a new canvas
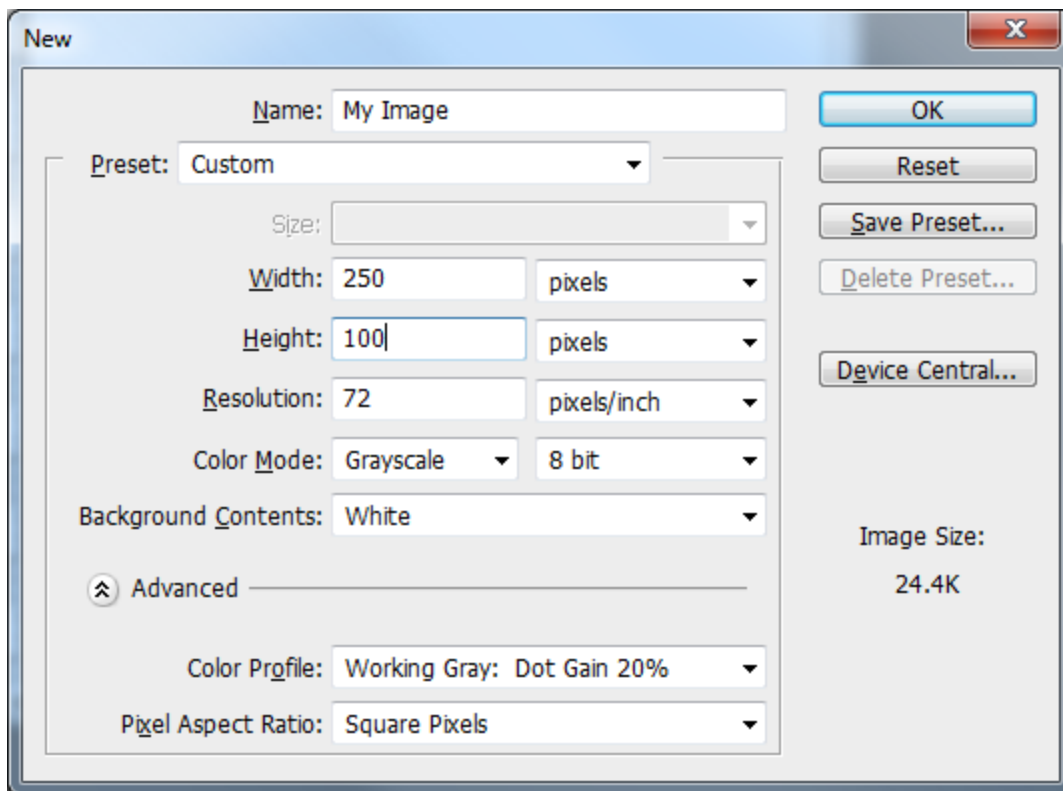
Prepping your Workspace:

Photoshop allows you to customize your workspace as you see fit. For the purposes of this tutorial you will need to modify your workspace to show documents in individual windows, rather than the default tabs. To show documents in individual windows please do the following:

- Edit > Preferences > Interface
- Under the "panels and documents section" Un-check "open documents as tabs"

Create a new Photoshop Document

- File > New
- Enter the dimensions for your new document into the dialog box
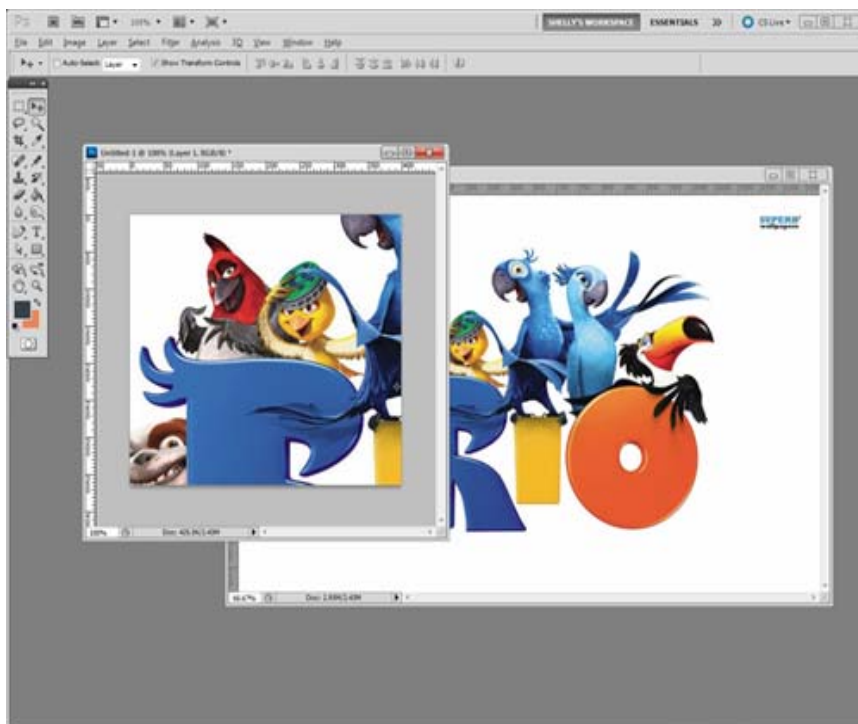
Save your New Document as a .psd File:

- File > Save As > *"path to your image"**
- Make sure you name your file descriptively so you can find it easily in the future

Open the images you wish to size

- File > Open > *"path to your images"* (You may open more than one at a time)
- If you have prepped your workspace you should see these images in individual windows
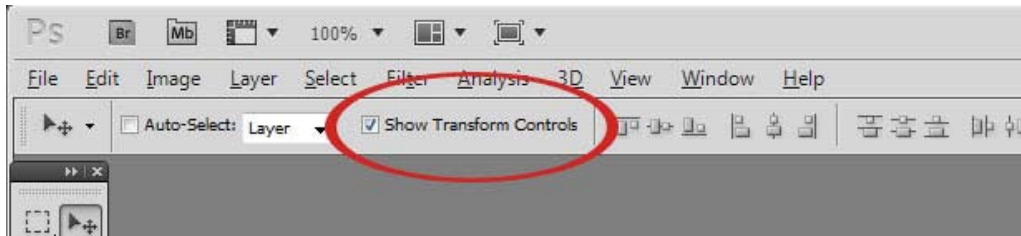
Copying images to your new document

- Place your new document and the image you wish to size side-by-side
- Many times you can simply click and drag the image into the new canvas
- Other Times you must select the image you wish to use (Select > Select All)
- Copy the Image (Edit > Copy)
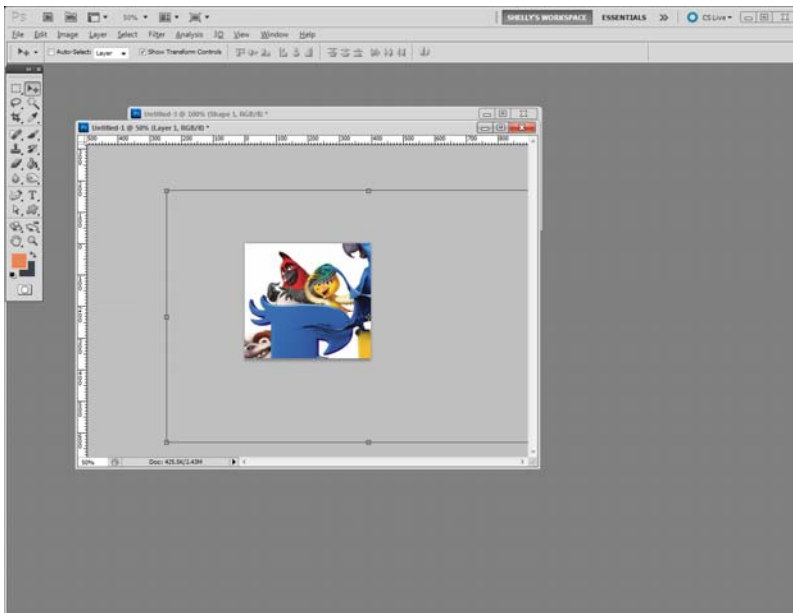- And then Paste it into the new Document (Edit > Paste)

To Scale Your Image

- Check off "Show Transform Controls" at the top of the PS Window

- Zoom Out so you can see the bounding box of the image

- Using the bounding box, scale your image to fit your canvas size
- Tip: To scale proportionally hold down shift while you scale your image.

Save Your Image for the Web

- File > Save for Web > JPG at quality 60 *
- Save as *file_name*.jpg into your asstes/images folder

* You have a few options when saving for the web. You can select a .jpg, .gif, .png-8 or .png-24. Please refer to chapter 6 on images for more information on each image type.

When saving an image it is best to save it at around 60 quality so the file size stays small enough and you don't notice too much degradation in the image.