

Stock Photo Submission Checklist

Before uploading your photos to stock websites, run through this checklist to make sure each image meets the most common platform requirements.

- ☐ High resolution (minimum 3000px on the long side)
- ☐ Sharp and in focus
- ☐ Proper exposure and white balance
- ☐ No visible noise or grain
- ☐ No watermarks, text, or branding
- ☐ Clean background or composition
- ☐ Relevant metadata (title, tags, description)
- ☐ Releases are included/attached (if people or private property are visible)
- ☐ Cropped for versatility (room for text if needed)
- ☐ Saved in JPG format, max quality



Shoot in RAW vs JPEG

Shooting in RAW gives you more control in editing, especially with lighting and color correction. It's great if you plan to tweak your images before uploading.

JPEGs are quicker and easier to work with but offer less flexibility. If you're using a smartphone or want a faster workflow, JPEGs are fine as long as the image quality is strong.

Resolution Requirements by Platform

shutterstock

Minimum 4MP

St Adobe Stock

Minimum 4MP, 300 dpi recommended

alamy

Minimum 17MB file size uncompressed, which usually means 6MP+

iStock.
by Getty Images

Varies, but aim for at least 3,000px on the longest edge