Photographic Workshop

Pixels

Pixels are the smallest unit in a digital display or picture. TVs typically have a resolution of 1,920 pixels wide by 1,080 pixels high (HD TV) or 3,840 by 2,160 pixels (UHD TV). This gives them a total number of pixels of about 2M pixels and 8M pixels respectively. Phones, tablets and computer monitors will have similar resolutions.

The cameras on smartphones can have resolutions from 10M pixels up to 200M pixels.

Taking photos on the phone

Open the Camera app.

Note that you can turn flash on/off manually or set to automatic.

Zoom in/out by pinching, but beware of zooming in too much as this will be a “digital zoom” (the same as cropping a photo).

Viewing photos on the phone

Open the Photos app (not Gallery or similar).

Click on a photo. Note the Share, Edit, Lens, Delete/Bin options along the bottom.

Use Share to send photo(s) via email or WhatsApp.

Use Edit to crop or enhance (or add markup) a photo.

Use Lens to search for similar objects in the photo.

Select multiple photos for bulk actions (long press on the first one, then click on the others). Select all photos taken on a day by clicking on the date.

Transferring photos to Google cloud

In the Photos app, click on the character in a circle top right to show menu.

Is Backup turned on or off? Make sure it is On. Consider changing to Storage Saver mode. Click on Manage Storage to review already uploaded photos.

(Samsung phones also offer backup to Samsung cloud.)

Take a photo (in the Camera app) then come back to the Photos app. See the photo being uploaded by the progress line around the character top right.

Using other cameras

Assuming that it uses an SD card, plug it into a PC using an adapter.

Photos can be uploaded to Google Photos online and/or just stored on PC (see below).

Google Photos on PC

Open Google Photos website (https://photos.google.com) in your web browser.

Look at Storage in the bottom left. Google gives you 15GB for free. Note how much you are using. Click on Storage to see more breakdown of how you are using this space.

Hover your mouse over a photo then click on the tick mark in the top left corner. This selects the photo. Repeat on other photos.

See top right of the window to Share, Bin, and Download (multiple photos are downloaded as a ZIP file).

Click on a photo to view it. Note the icons top right to Share, Edit, Zoom, Bin, Download, Rotate.

Delete a photo then go back to Photos on the phone. You should see a “Review out-of-sync changes” message.

Storing photos on PC

Where to store them?

My Pictures: probably being sync’ed to cloud by OneDrive (5G personal allowance, more with MS 365, 100G starts from £2/month).

Google Drive: need to install app to access with Windows Explorer otherwise just use browser (15G storage for free, 100G total for £1.60/month).

Note: can access OneDrive and Google Drive using apps on phone.

Get organised! Put photos in named folders, add sensible name to photo, delete duff/repeat photos. Use Albums in Google Photos.

In Windows Explorer, right-click on Name and click on Date Created. Now it is possible to sort by date created.

View as large icons to preview photos.

Basic editing

In Windows Explorer, double click a photo to open it in the Photos app.

Note the resolution and file size bottom left.

Zoom is bottom right.

Edit/rotate/delete/print/share/more are top left.

Under More, there are save as, set as and resize image (eg to email).

Click on Edit.

Top left are zoom, reset, undo/redo.

Note the icons across the top middle. The crop icon on the left is underlined (i.e. selected). Drag the thick white lines to crop the photo. Note the rotate icons bottom left and flip icons bottom right.

The other icons across the middle are Adjustment (brightness, contrast, etc), Filter, Mark up (to add lines/text), Erase (remove unwanted bits) and Background (make background blurred/transparent/colour).

Top right are save and save as copy, cancel.