

Program Multifoto V.21.11

A lot of households have computers and color printers. In a situation where you need one or two photos it may look like that it is easy to do from home except that you may not fit into a predefined format.

Your printer usually allows for printing of color photos in format 10 x 15 cm. Every picture in Windows is adjusted into using the whole potential space of 10 x 15 cm. But you have to get a picture with dimensions of 3 x 4 cm. What then?

Everything is possible. I tried it once. I made one photo smaller and inserted it into another photo so that there was more photos in the paper format. But outside of intense labor, a human factor may play a role. If you had to do three photos for three different members of your family, you will probably not have to much fun. And it is possible that one of them will declare when all is done that he/she does not like the photo and you can start over again.



On the left is an original photo with 283 x 377 pixels and on the right is the result of the program with 6 photos 3 x 4 cm format. Just cut them out.

With the Multifoto program, even the novice user can handle the photo printing.

1. Adjusting the photo size

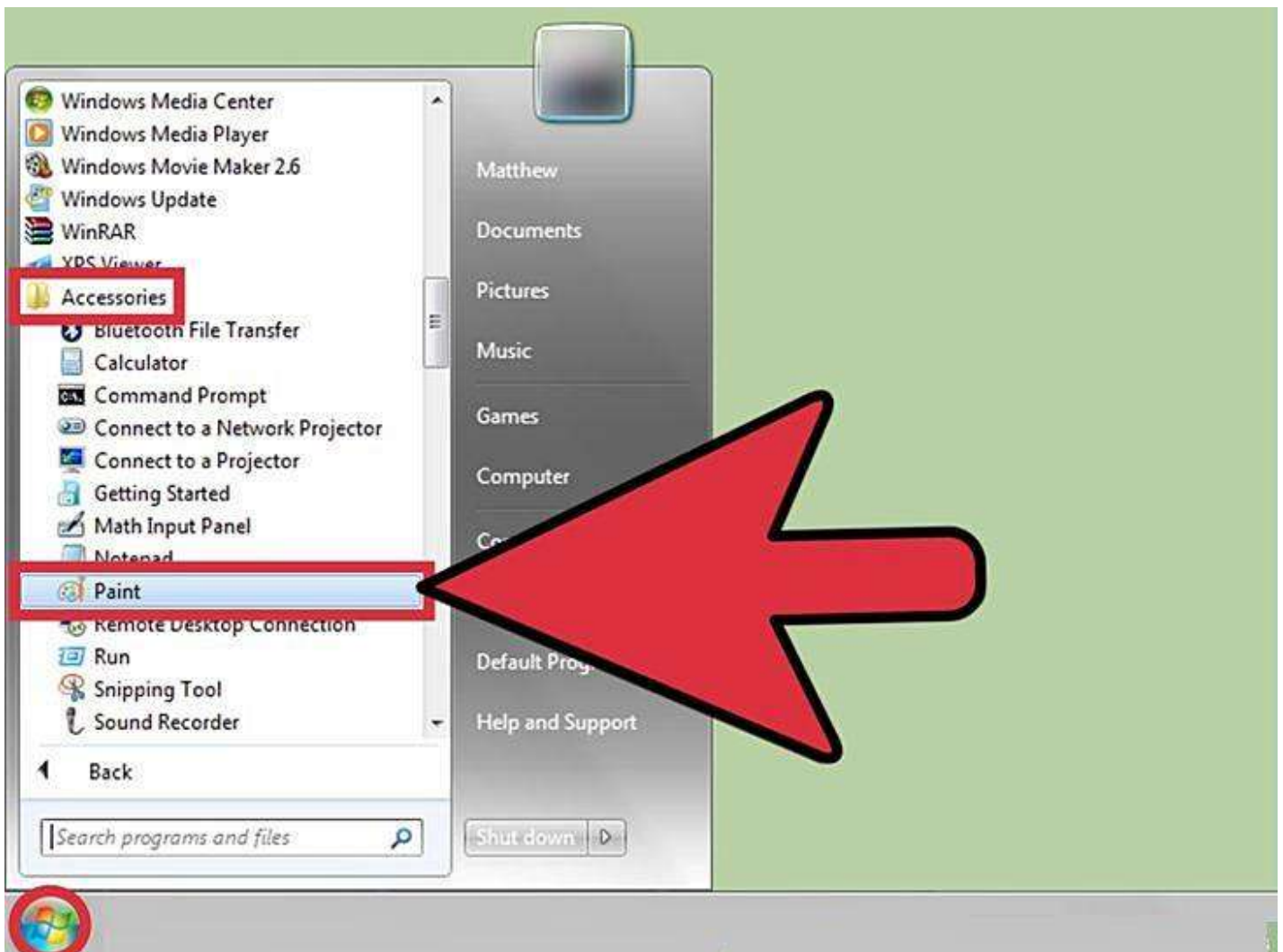
I assume you have a digital photo from your camera. The photos have a large dimension, e.g. 3000 and more pixels in width. Do not worry, it is not a problem. Conversely, do not reduce the photo size.

What is important is to maintain the width/height ratio of the photo. Typically, the format needed is 3 to 4. For example, the target photo must be 3 x 4 cm and the appropriate photo will be then 600 x 800 pixels. As it was said before, nothing prevents you from using the maximum of what you can get from your photo. If you do not have an appropriate photo, you'll need the one you want to edit.

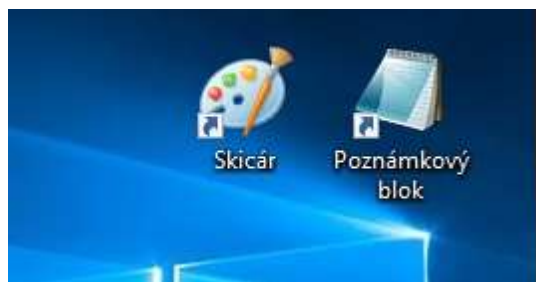
2. Program Paint

Every Windows has a **Paint** program. Of course, there are better programs for editing photos that are easy to use.

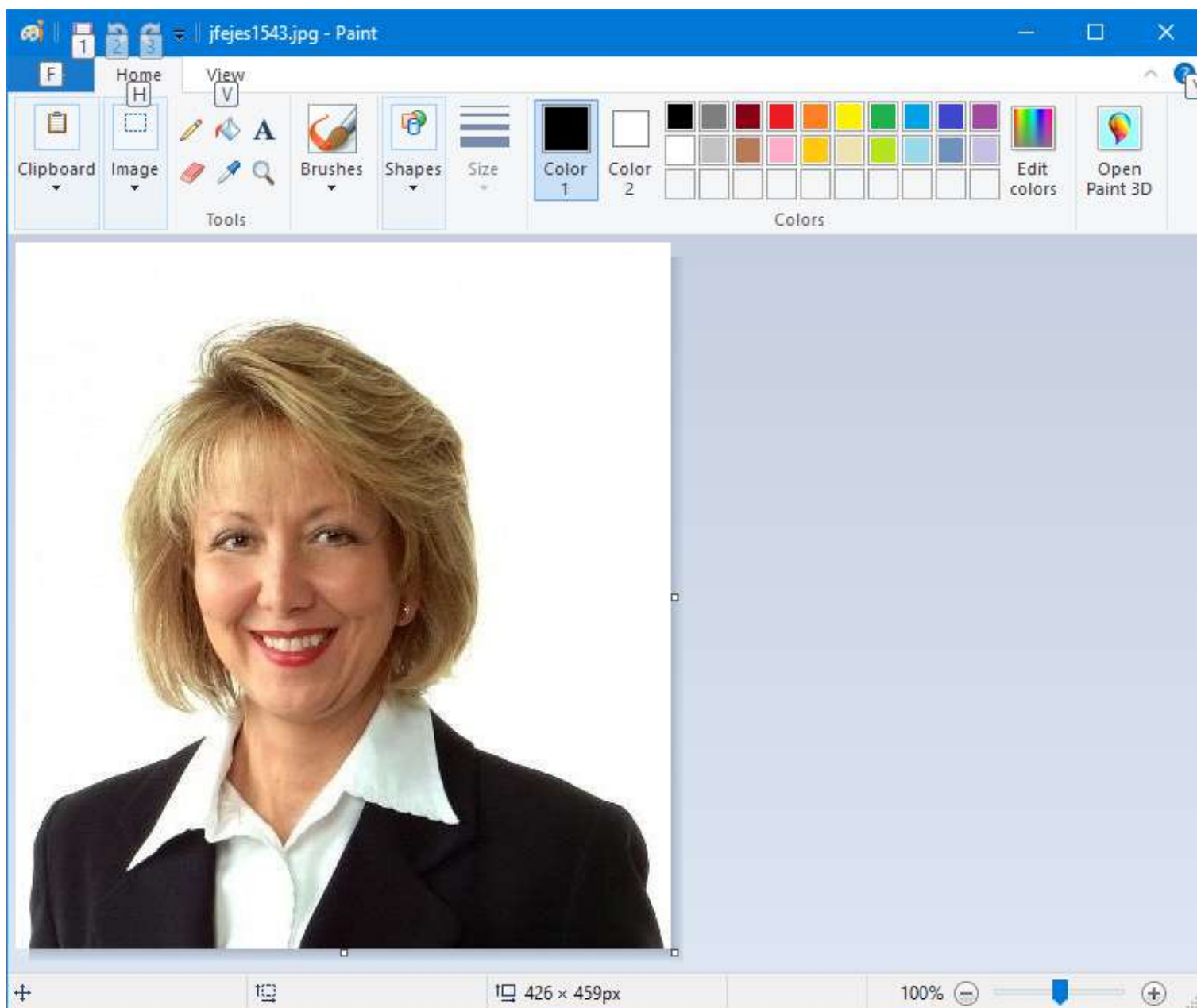
Where to find the Paint program in Windows 7 shows the following picture. In other Windows it is similar. Look under **Accessories** :



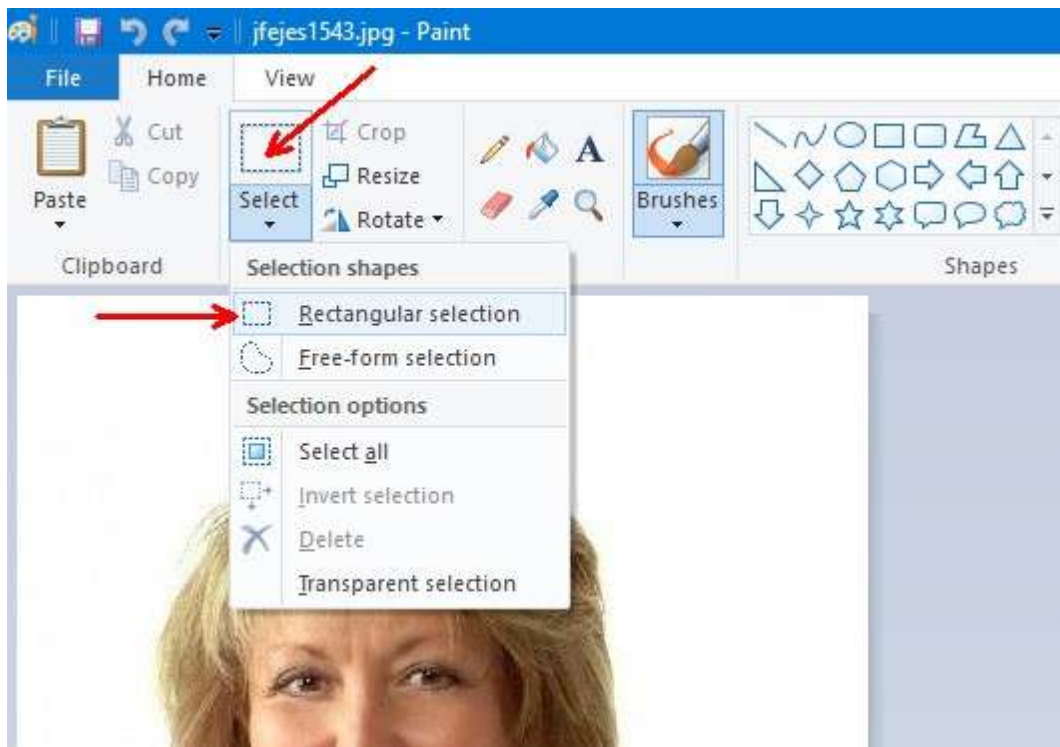
It is possible to put the link to Paint program on your desktop like this:



Here you may see an unmistakable Paint program icon. And now I'm going to open a photo in the program.



The photo is technically perfect with a great white background, but as a photograph for an ID or passport it is not suitable. We have to cut off unnecessary parts. In the first step, do not worry about the size ratio, for example 3: 4. We will produce a photo with a higher height, but we will fix it in the second step. Below, the program shows a 426 x 459 pixel photo size, but it does not matter now.



Select rectangular cropping and mark the required area.



Here I see a new dimension, the dimension of the selected area.

A skilled user could use a calculator to calculate the correct height for 3:4 format. It can be done like this:

$271:3 = 90.33$, multiply this number by 4 ($90.33 \times 4 = 361$). So we have with 378 pixels a reserve.

If you do not have a calculator at hand, I have prepared it in the installation package as a calculator.html. This file will open your Internet browser. :

Multifoto calculator

I need a photo x millimeters
I have a photo with width pixels

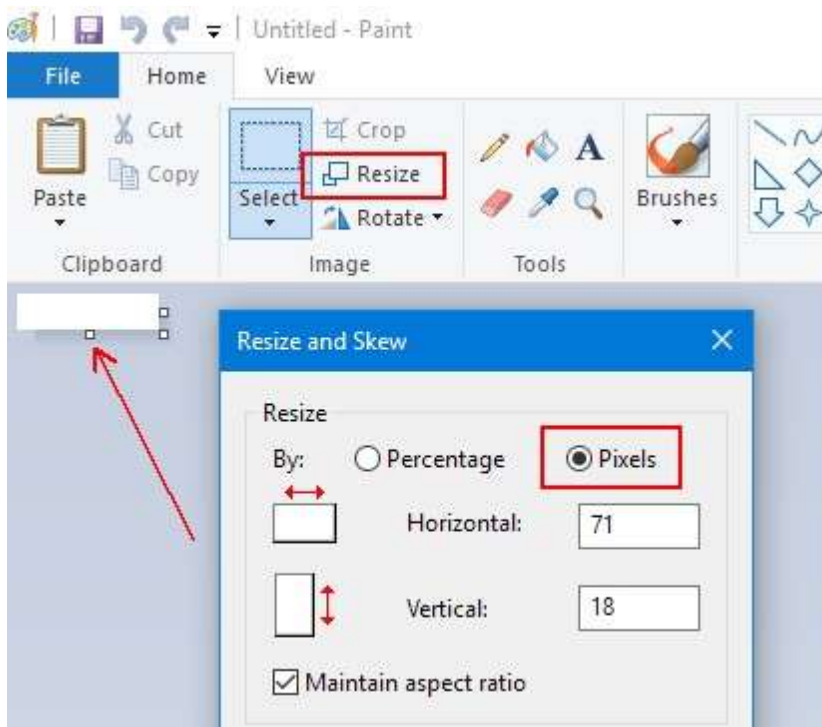
RECALCULATE

Calculated dimension		
	3 x 4 CM	800 x 1064
United States Passport	5,1 x 5,1 CM	800 x 800
United Kingdom Passport	3,5 x 4,5 CM	800 x 1032
Finland Passport	3,6 x 4,7 CM	800 x 1040
Argentina Passport	4 x 4 CM	800 x 800
China Visa photo	3,3 x 4,8 CM	800 x 1160
Mexico Visa photo	3,8 x 4,4 CM	800 x 928

Enter the required resulting dimensions and your width in pixels or click the default dimensions.

Those less skilled should put the selected part in the cache in the Windows Clipboard by pressing **Ctrl C**.

Then click on the new image in the program and the empty area will pop up. It should be smaller than what you need. Set its size in the menu as such :



I got 71 x 18 pixels, so it is alright. Put the content of the cache into a blank white space with **Ctrl V**. The white area will automatically adapt and we have ours slightly higher photo.`

We will now crop height similarly. Let's not care about the width, it will be accepted as is. We will only worry about selecting calculated 361 pixels for height. So we drag the mouse downward.

We will save the final photo. It is not appropriate to overwrite the original photo. The new name should correspond with the person in the photo, not just DSF_4519a.jpg .

There are some random pictures in the distribution package for training purposes. The procedure for adjusting the size dimensions will always be the same.

3. Running the Multifoto program

Multifoto does not have any menus. It needs to know the name of the photo and the width in millimeters of needed photo. A simple **multifoto.ini** file will be used for that. It should have two lines, as such:

jana fejes.jpg
31

In the first line, the name of the photo is already mentioned and 31 is the required width of the photograph for the ID in millimeters, e.g., 31 mm. Open and modify the file multifoto.ini with **Notepad**. Not MS Word!!!

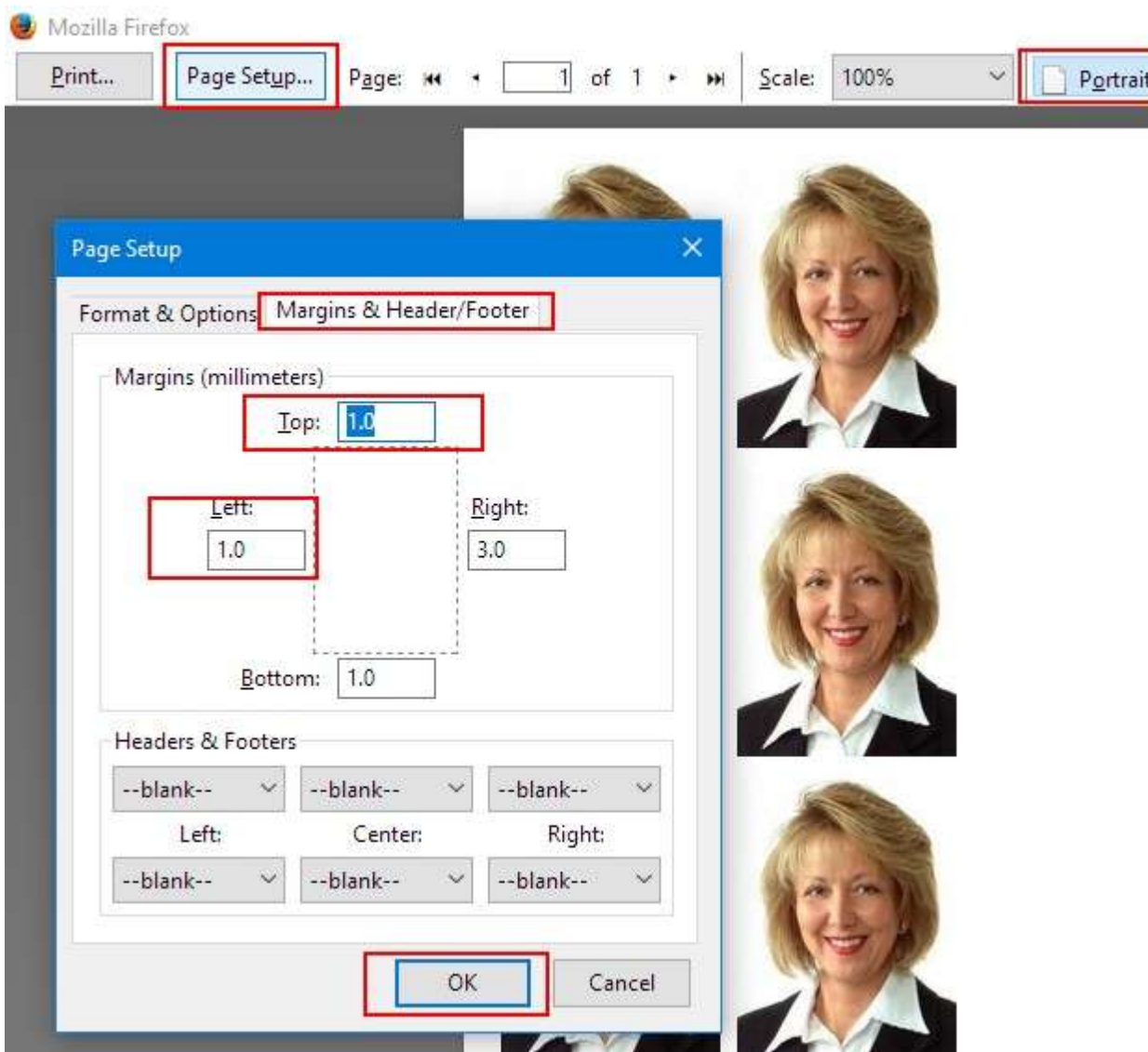
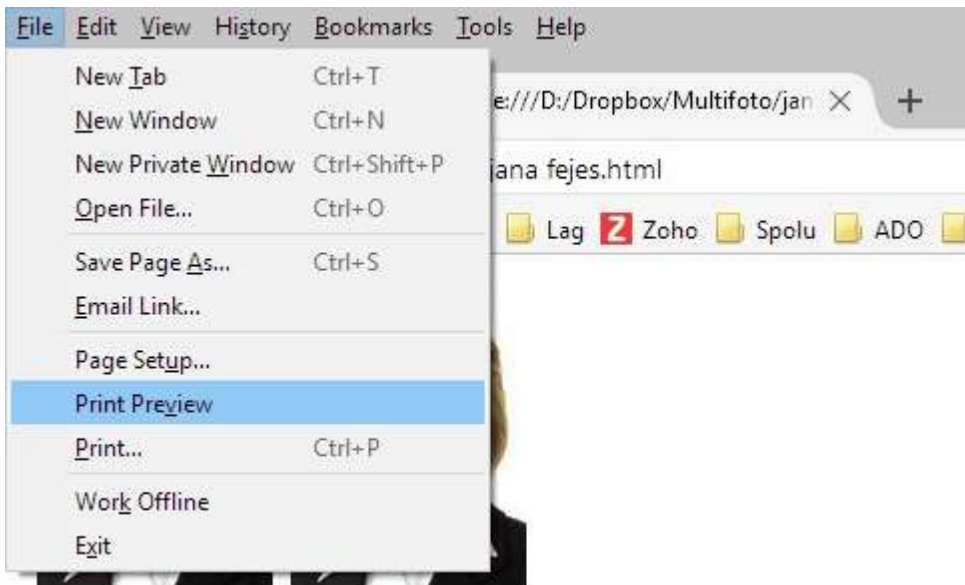
Double click on multifoto.exe will create a file with .html extension and the name corresponding to the name of the photo, so in my case **jana fejes.html** .

4. Printing Photos

The file **jana fejes.html**, or your file, will print as an A4 page, so you need to set the output format A4. So not 10 x 15 cm !!!

To not waste photopaper, cut out from the regular A4 paper the 10 x 15 cm size paper. Insert the paper into the printer on the left. It is also advisable to set up for black and white printing as you do not have to worry about colors now.

We need to print with a minimal top and left margin. When you click on the .html file, it opens your web browser. I use Firefox where I choose Print Preview



Your settings may vary. When the trial print is successful, you can produce the photos for the ID like on a conveyor belt.

At home, or even elsewhere, check the margin settings before printing for the first time. This can change and then your photos could "come out" from the 10 x 15 cm photo paper.

If you do not have a color printer at home or you do not have one at all, you may need to upload the files to the USB key and transfer it elsewhere.

The .html file does not contain the .jpg photo.

So for one person, you will have to take two files, for example: helena.jpg and helena.html.

The multifoto.exe program itself is not to be installed and you can carry it with you on a USB stick.

5. Number of photos

The fact that the program will allow you to print up to 6 photos at a time is a nice theory. In reality, you usually do not need so many of them. It is not about wasting of paper, but you can not discard the remaining photos in the household waste and you have to shred them.

In the version V.17.06, it is possible to define the number of needed photos in the range from 1 to 6 in the third line of the **multifoto.ini** file as follows:

jana fejes.jpg
31
2

6. Reduction of the number of photos

Depending on the set photo width and assumed 3: 4 side ratio, the program reduces the number of photos printed.

The minimum photo width is 21 mm.

A width of up to 33 mm allows you to print 6 photos.

A width from 33 mm to 45 mm reduces the number of photos to 4.

A width from 46 mm to 50 mm reduces the number of photos to 2.

A width from 51 mm to 90 mm reduces the number of photos to 1.

A photo width of over 90 mm is not accepted.

7. Symmetry

I had a friend who said that symmetry is the geometry of fools. But when something is stored symmetrically, some people like it.

But not everything is symmetrical, for example cars drive on the right and not in the middle of the road.

It is different with companies that produce multifunction printers. I had one from HP and now I have a Canon. On both, the photo paper is loaded on the right side. The paper goes "upside down" and as a result, if I print what **Multifoto.exe** creates for me on A4 paper, I will have it on the top left.

But recently, there have been companies that have a 10 x 15 cm photo paper holder pretty symmetrically in the middle. And my program was next :-)

The new version of **Multifoto.exe** accepts the new center parameter as follows:

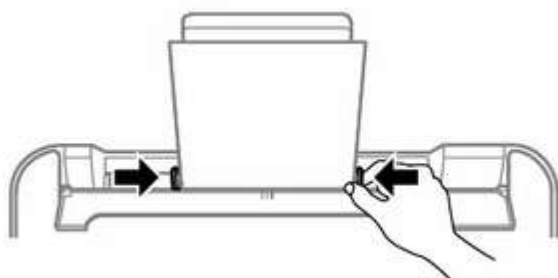
jana fejes.jpg

31

2

center

It doesn't matter if you write center, CENTER or Center there, the output to the printer will be symmetrically in the middle and thus the mentioned printers will be accepted.



EPSON EcoTank L3210

It also has the necessary paper sizes **C6** (Envelope), B5 (17.6x25.7 cm), A6 (10.5x14.8 cm), A5 (14.8x21.0 cm), A4 (21.0x29.7 cm), Legal, User defined, 13 x 18 cm, **10 x 15 cm**, Letter, No. 10 (cover), DL (cover), 16: 9

8. Conclusion

The program is FREEWARE. The author reserves the right to decide where the program will be downloaded. If you plan to download program to another server, please inform the author.

I made the program available as it suits me. If you have an idea how to improve it, write me an email.

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