

Crop does not mean Chop

Photographers crop an image to improve it by removing any unnecessary distracting elements, thus allowing the principal subject to tell the story.

Always save your original image and do your computer alterations on a copy.

Cropping is a fundamental tool used to improve or simplify an image.

It is possible to crop out unnecessary information with your camera by zooming in on the main subject. This is the optimal way to go.

If you use a standard lens and zoom is not an option for you, it is possible to eliminate distracting influences by moving yourself to a different location, climbing up, squatting down or moving sideways.

Your next option is cropping in your computer.

Whichever program you use there will be a cropping option.

Learn how to use it and practice cropping images until you are sure you have the image the way you intended it to be when you shot it.

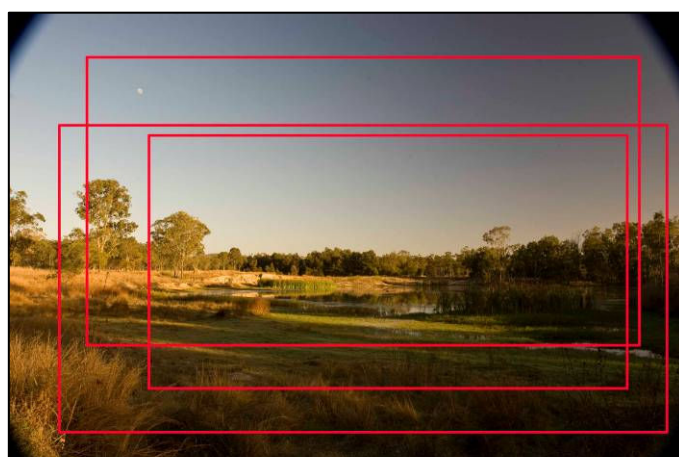
Be careful you do not take out any important information .e.g. don't remove ears, fingers or toes from people or tails off kangaroos.

Do not chop the top off masts, little bits off prows or sterns of boats. If they need cropping, do it so that it looks like you meant to only show part of the boat/ship. The same applies to cars etcetera.

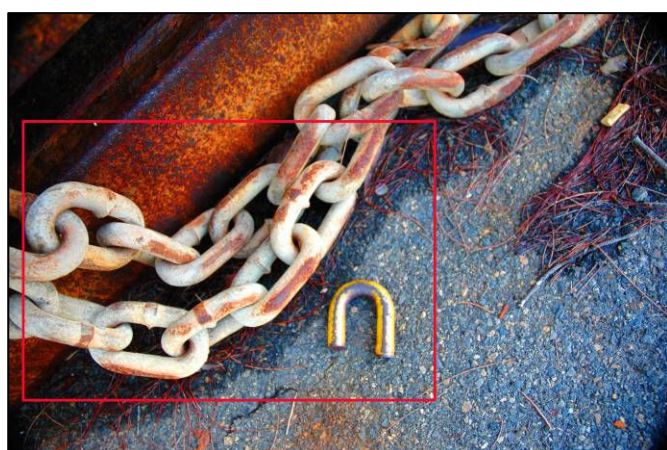
Try to have your subject as large as possible in your original photo, because if you have to crop out more than half of your original image the quality of your cropped image may be pixilated if you enlarge and print it.



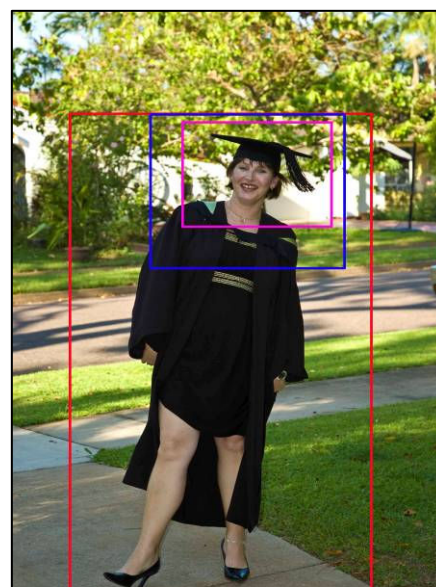
This is all that is Necessary



Many Choices in this Image



Unnecessary Rubbish Cropped Out



Several Choices in this Image