

SOFTWARE

info

COMPANY

Fixer Labs

WEB

www.fixerlabs.com

PRICE

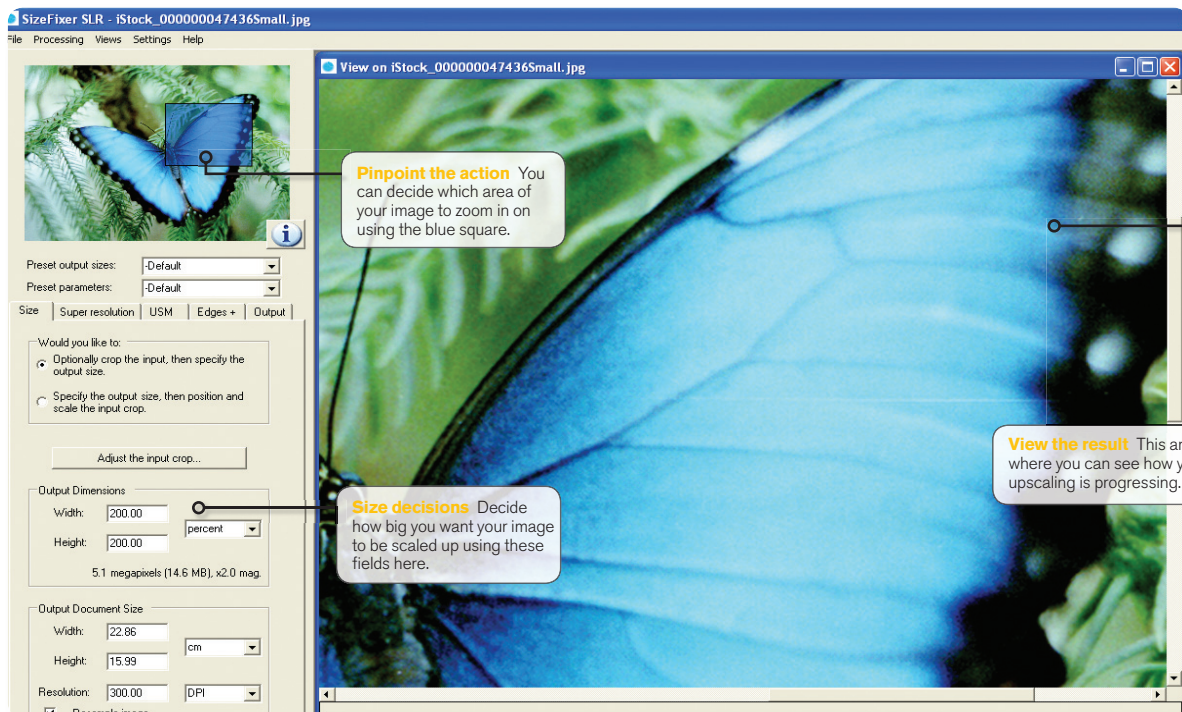
SLR £149  
XL £249

OPERATING SYSTEM

Mac and PC  
XL is only available for Mac

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Mac: OS X 10.3,  
1GHz G4  
  
PC: Windows XP,  
500MHz or higher

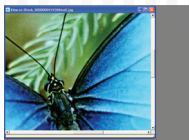


# Size Fixer SLR

Scaling up images without losing quality is the holy grail of the digital world. We see whether Size Fixer SLR gets you closer to the dream

## DETAILS

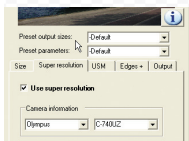
Take a closer look...



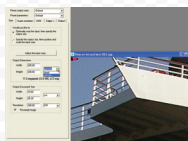
**Zoom in on an area** If you don't want to enlarge the whole image, you can just choose a selection and adjust the large preview window until you have just the section you want.



**Move the selection window** You don't have to keep to the original area you have chosen. By dragging the blue square in the thumbnail preview on the left-hand side, you can select another.



**Super resolution** If the EXIF data is attached to your picture, the Super Resolution option will be available so you enhance the quality.



**Precise enlargement** Choose the exact output dimensions in percent or pixel and then select the output resolution that you require.



Trying to enlarge images without making them look blurry and grainy can be a time-consuming and often pointless task. Photoshop can

do a lot of things, but it can't take a 4-inch picture and turn it into a 40-inch picture without losing some quality. Thankfully the Size Fixer plug-in aims to do exactly this; rescuing images you might have otherwise deleted.

The concept of Size Fixer is simple – load up an image that's lacking in the size stakes and then use the various functions to bump it up. The plug-in claims that you can enlarge an image up to 400% and still keep its quality. We put this to the test and took a small image measuring 2cm by 3cm and enlarged it by 400% to 8cm by 12cm. The results were impressive and, as the program claimed, it retained its sharpness. If you do try and adjust the Output Dimensions in a way that reduces the sharpness you will be warned and the image will be reduced to a size that does not compromise quality. A further strength of the plug-in is that you can work with RGB, JPG, TIFF, 8-bit and 16-bit photographs.

Fine-tuning in Size Fixer produces images of the sharpest quality. For your image to appear at its best resolution make sure JPEGs or TIFFs

are of maximum quality and uncompressed when they are brought in. You can choose to enlarge the whole image or focus on a specific portion and dragging the blue square in the thumbnail image allows you to select another part of the picture. Adjusting the size of the large preview window can then change the size of the area. The Preset Parameters dropdown menu is particularly useful if you want to find the optimum settings for your image quickly. For the best results the Very Good Quality setting in the Super Resolution box is particularly effective. We found that processing the final results could take a little while to complete but the output image is worth waiting for. If you do want to make this quicker, setting the Speed/Quality control to Fastest or Draft helps. We used Size Fixer SLR on a PC, which enlarges images up to A1 size at 300 dpi. However if you want unlimited enlarging try using Size Fixer XL (only available for Mac OS X).

If you have an image taken with a digital camera that still includes the original EXIF data attached, you will be able to access the Super Resolution feature. This ensures that you get the best quality in the final image and is another feature that makes this an excellent solution to the age-old problem of making an image stretch further.

PROS

- Create enlargements that keep their quality and sharpness
- Super Resolution mode further enhances quality
- Easy to understand interface helps you get on with the task in hand

CONS

- Size Fixer XL is only available for Mac
- Settings in the Super Resolution panel can take a while to show up in the preview image

VERDICT

8.5

- Does an excellent job of enlarging images without also causing a loss of quality