

Simpoz

for Web Developers

About Simpoz

Simpoz is an easy-to-use and uncomplicated tool for superimposing artwork over your HTML pages to check the accuracy of your layout compared with the original artwork.

While there are other similar tools available as browser plugins, Simpoz is completely independent from the browser, meaning you can check the accuracy in any browser – and even in multiple browsers.

This would highlight any “quirks” apparent in the rendering of your pages by different browsers.

It also features an integrated pixel ruler allowing you to measure the distance in pixels between any two points on screen. You can measure diagonally from corner to corner of a rectangle to find it’s height and width.

Of course there are many other uses for Simpoz – you can figure these out for yourself, but I’d be delighted to hear your feedback and any “original” uses you find for Simpoz.

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Developer

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Using Image Overlay

Loading an Image

To load an image into the image overlay, right click anywhere on the overlay pane and choose “Load Image” from the menu.

Choose the required image file, and press open.

Supported file formats are:

- Windows Bitmap (.bmp)
- JPEG (.jpg)
- Portable Network Graphic (.png)



Moving the image overlay

You can move the image overlay by clicking and dragging it around the screen. For single-pixel “nudging” use the arrow keys on the keyboard to push the image up, down, left, or right by one pixel.

Hiding and showing the image overlay

To hide the image overlay, right-click on the overlay pane and choose “Hide Overlay” from the menu. This will minimize the application.

You can also achieve this by pressing the delete (DEL) key twice.

To restore the overlay, simply click the application button on the windows taskbar.

Using Screen Ruler

To access the screen ruler, right-click anywhere on the overlay pane and choose “Screen Ruler” from the menu.

This will hide the overlay pane, and open a new pane for the screen ruler.

You can also access screen ruler by pressing the F12 key.

Measuring on-screen

There are two ways to measure on-screen.

Move your mouse pointer to the point on screen where you want to begin measurement. Use the Screen Ruler Zoom Window to align the starting pixel inside the crosshair.

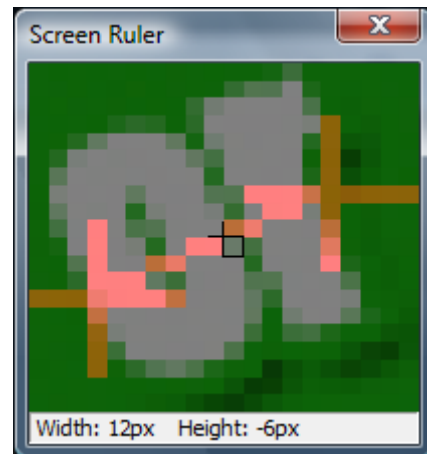
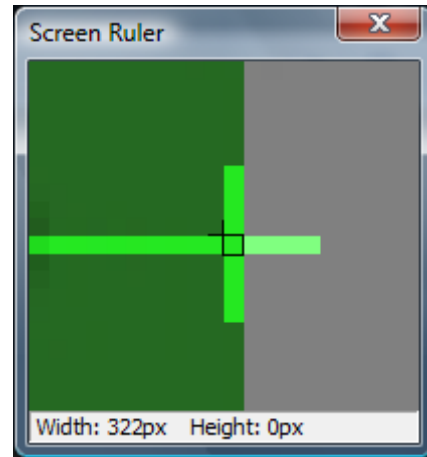
1. Click and drag your pointer to the point on screen where you want to end measurement, aligning the ending pixel inside the crosshair as before. Release the mouse button to complete the measurement.

or

2. Hold CTRL and click on the point on screen where you want to begin measurement, a crosshair will appear. Release the mouse button and CTRL key, and move your mouse to the point on screen where you want to end measurement, and select the pixel by holding CTRL and clicking.

If your line of measurement is exactly horizontal, vertical or diagonal the line will be green. Otherwise, the line will be red.

The horizontal and vertical distance measured will be displayed in the Screen Ruler Zoom Window.

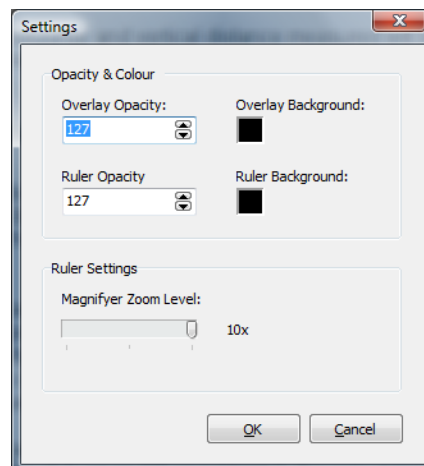


Settings

To adjust the appearance and functionality of Simpoz right click on either the Overlay Pane or the Ruler Pane and choose “Settings”.

You can adjust the transparency of either the overlay or ruler panes by changing the value in the “Overlay Opacity” or “Ruler Opacity” fields between 0 – 255, 0 being completely transparent, and 255 completely opaque.

You can adjust the colour of the overlay pane or ruler pane by clicking on “Change” beside the colour swatch for each pane in the settings window.



By adjusting the Magnifier Zoom Level slider you can set the zoom level of the Screen Ruler Magnification Window to either 2x, 5x or 10x. Use 10x zoom for optimal accuracy and ease of use.

Useful Tips

Note: If you find that your mouse jumps by more than one pixel at a time when aligning the pixel crosshair, you can adjust the sensitivity in the Windows Control Panel.

Go to mouse settings in the control panel, select the "Pointer Options" tab and reduce the pointer speed towards "Slow".

You should also ensure that "Enhance Pointer Precision" is switched on.

