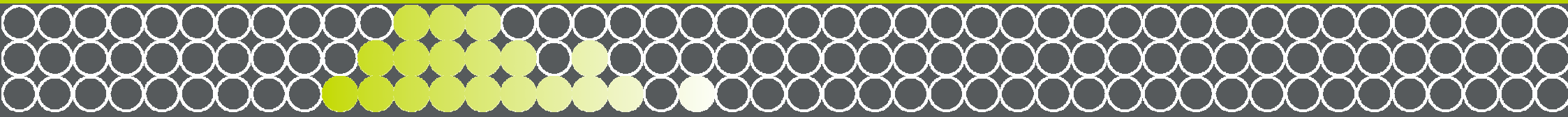
Tips for creating a presentation in widescreen format

PRESENTING IN WIDESCREEN FORMAT



STAGING CONNECTIONS

WIDESCREEN PRESENTATON
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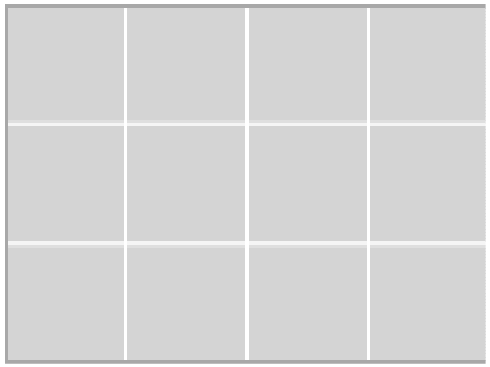
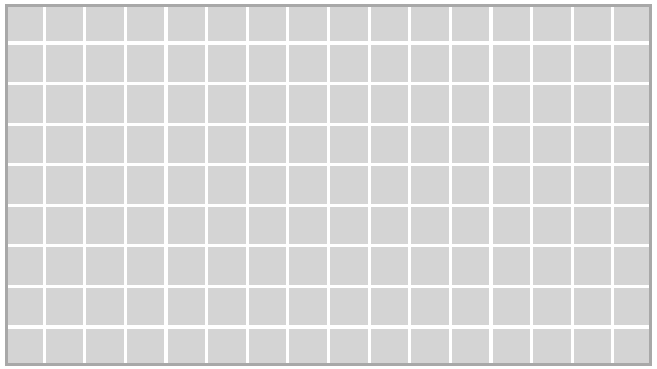
WHAT IS ASPECT RATIO?

Definition: Aspect ratio is the fractional relation of the width of a video image compared to its height.

E.g.. 4:3 (standard TV) or 16:9 (widescreen LCD/Plasma, projectors, computer screens)



4:3 aspect



16:9 aspect

SO WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

16:9 aspect ratio widescreen offers a larger image, and the horizontal orientation is more visible compared to a 4:3 screen.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF USING 16:9 ASPECT RATIO?

16:9 Aspect ratio widescreen format will allow you to show more content on screen, especially in horizontal orientation.

You can take full advantage of latest screen technology used in most hardware today as well as being able to present graphics, video, animation, movies in full widescreen without losing graphical real estate.

In 16:9 environment, you are able to show full 16:9 screen content without resizing, stretching or reformatting into compatible size.

Almost all Hi-definition screen content are in 16:9 widescreen aspect ratio, therefore presentation in power point utilizing the technology has become very popular. So it will be unfavourable to force the content into 4:3 aspect ratio screen where the content can be distorted or trimmed.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CONTENT DOESN'T MATCH THE SCREEN ASPECT RATIO

16:9 Content in 4:3 Screen

Screen will show black bars on top & bottom

(This is called letter box effect)

4:3 Content in 16:9 Screen

Screen will show black bars on each side

(This is called pillar box effect)

TYPICAL SCREEN SOLUTION (PIXELS)

4:3 Aspect ratios

800 x 600

1024 x 768

1280 x 960

1440 x 1080 (HD compatible)

16:9 Aspect ratios

856 x 480

1024 x 576

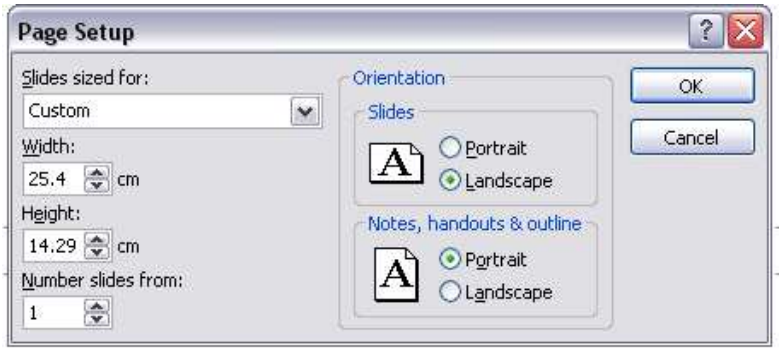
1280 x 720 (HD compatible)

1920 x 1080 (Full High Definition)

These are a typical screen resolutions however, check with your assigned Technical Director whether the hardware is compatible with other screen resolutions.

SETTING UP WIDESCREEN SLIDE IN POWERPOINT (MS OFFICE 2003)

In a new presentation, go to File -> Page Setup. Set the page width to 25.4cm and 14.29cm as height.
Orientation stays as Landscape. Press OK.



There you'll have a 16:9 widescreen presentation slide. Save the file as *[a different file name, e.g.. Widescreen.ppt]* and keep it as a back up for future use.

With the current slide, you can create master slide by selecting View - > Slide master. There you'll be able to insert graphics and content areas (such as text area, top banner, logo etc.).

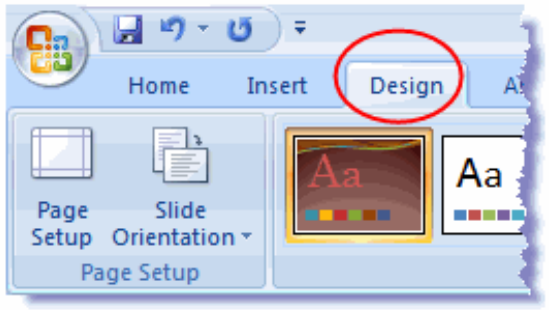
Make sure to follow this step and not in reverse.

That is, if you set the page setup from 4:3 into 16:9, all of your graphics in the presentation will be stretched to fit 16:9 widescreen format.

Note: Your Staging Connections Sales Representative can put you in touch with our Styling and Design team to help you create dynamic PowerPoint presentations and full multimedia services.

SETTING UP WIDESCREEN SLIDE IN POWERPOINT (MS OFFICE 2007)

In a new presentation, select 'Design' on the tool bar.



You'll see the icon buttons on the left hand side of the menu, 'Page Setup' and 'Slide Orientation'

Simply, select Page Setup and you'll be able to insert the slide width 25.4cm and 14.29cm as height.

Make sure to follow this step and not in reverse.

That is, if you set the page setup from 4:3 into 16:9, all of your graphics in the presentation will be stretched to fit 16:9 widescreen format.

SETTING UP WIDESCREEN SLIDE IN KEYNOTE (MAC. iWORK 09)

When you run Keynote, you'll be presented with a Theme Chooser. There are you can set the slide size and pick a theme template.
You can choose the preferred template or pick 'White' to start fresh.

If you aren't able to find the desired slide size, you can set the slide size by clicking 'Inspector' icon at the top right hand corner of the tool bar (next to media, colors etc).

In the Inspector window, click the first icon which is the 'Document'. Then select Slide size or input a custom slide size as necessary in **pixel resolution** (not mm or cm). Then press OK.

Make sure to follow this step and not in reverse.

That is, if you set the page setup from 4:3 into 16:9, all of your graphics in the presentation will be stretched to fit 16:9 widescreen format.

Note. Inspector window will also allow you to set other settings such as transitions, media (e.g. QuickTime).

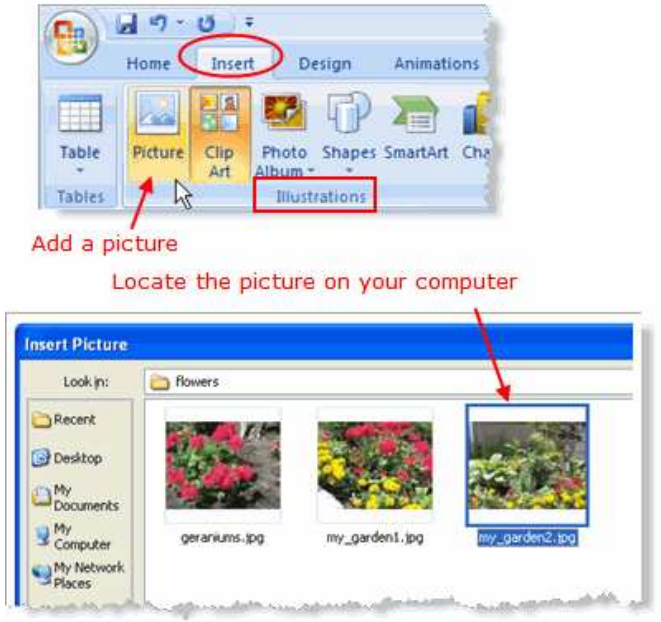
IMPORTING / INSERTING GRAPHIC IMAGES INTO PRESENTATION

When inserting graphic images into your presentation you must take into consideration, the quality of images.

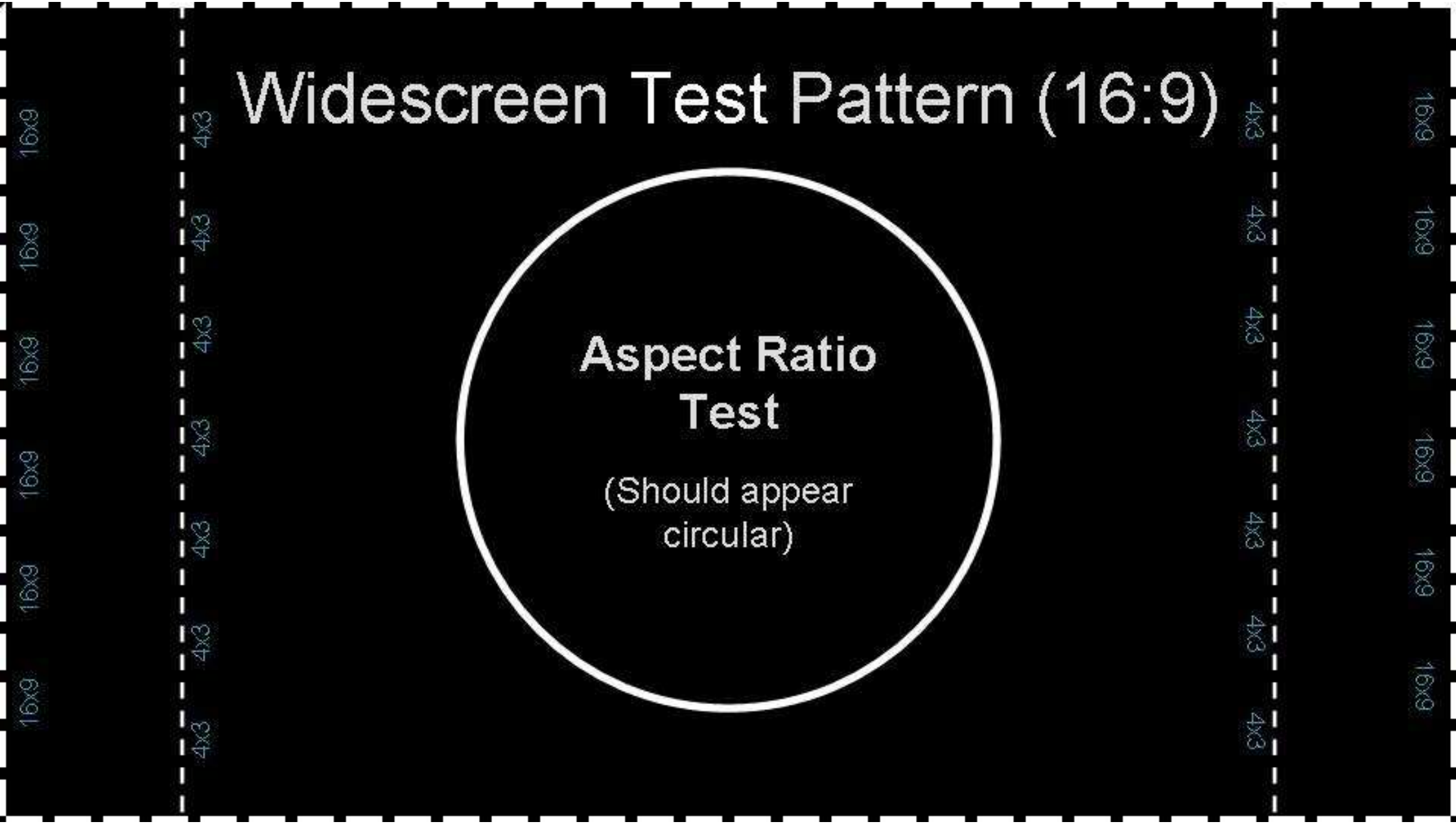
It is recommended that the size of the image is greater than the physical size of the presentation.

Recommended image sizes are anything above 1024 x 576 pixels. At 1024 x 576+ this will give you reasonable quality output on your screen but not always.

You'll need to check the original quality of image. In reality, you'll find that some lower resolution image can also be used (e.g. 856 x 480) without any issues but obviously, an image with 120 x 240 pixels stretched to full screen will only present stretched, distorted and pixilated image on the screen.



Inserting Picture in Power *Point 2007*


Widescreen Test Pattern (16:9)
Aspect Ratio Test
(Should appear circular)
16x9
4x3