

## THUMBNAIL SCALE-VIEW

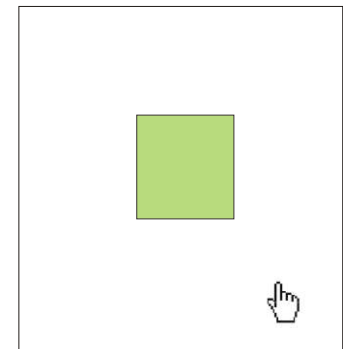
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**THE PROBLEM:** When viewing thumbnails, in *Google Image Search* for instance, you usually want to know how big the image represented by a thumbnail really is, to see if it's worth downloading it. The usual solution is to display the size in pixels but this rather unintuitive measure is little help for most people.

**SOLUTION:** *Thumbnail Scale-view:* On mouse over, white the thumbnail and draw within it, centered, a green box. The white thumbnail will represent the size of the original image, the green box the thumbnail's size. In this way, you explain visually the size relation between **thumbnail** and **original image**.



THUMBNAIL



THUMBNAIL ON MOUSE OVER

ORIGINAL IMAGE

*Sitzender männlicher Akt*  
by Egon Schiele, 1910.

Here the thumbnail is 30% of the original image and thus the green rectangle is 30% of the thumbnail.

The smaller the ■ compared with the thumbnail, the bigger the original image. If the thumbnail and the original are almost of the same size, then the ■ would cover almost all the thumbnail.

**ADVANTAGES:** Size assessment is *intuitive* and *immediate*. No extra space occupied. Clean.

**DISADVANTAGES:** If the original is more than 10x the thumbnail, the ■ is almost a dot already and further size increases are difficult to distinguish. You *have* to move the mouse over the thumbnail.

**VARIATIONS:** The color of the ■ may be used as a further reinforcement of the size relation, varying between, say, ■ and ■. When the thumbnail is less than 10x the original, a ■; the less size difference, the greener. When the thumbnail is more than 10x the original, a ■; the more size difference, the redder.