

Importing Plant Images

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The information in this article applies to:



QUESTION

I want to import photographs of plants that I can't find in the Plant Chooser. How do I do that?

ANSWER

The following steps make use of image files that are not included with the program. You can use image files that are already on your computer, or you can create new ones.


These same basic steps can be used to import other images into your plans such as people, pets, cars, furniture, etc.

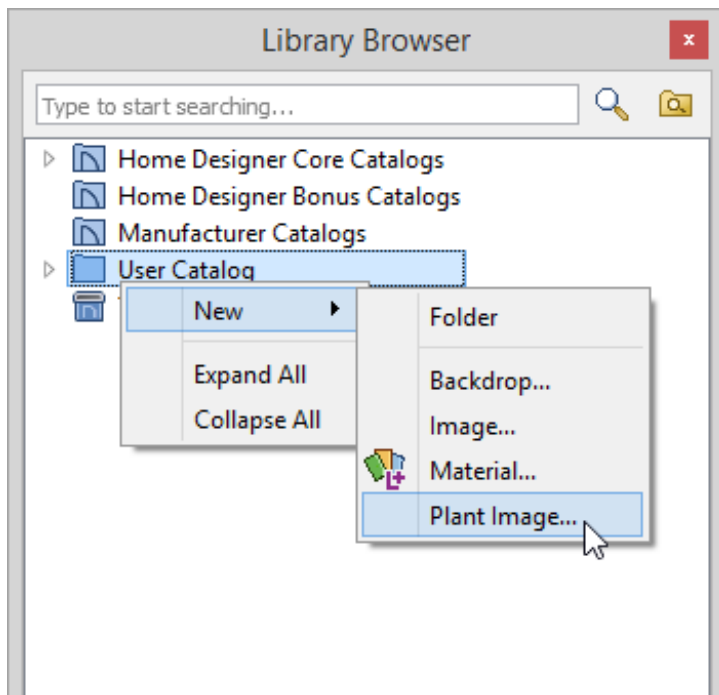


In Home Designer, image objects are more than just 2D pictures. Images have size and height attributes, and can contain transparency information.

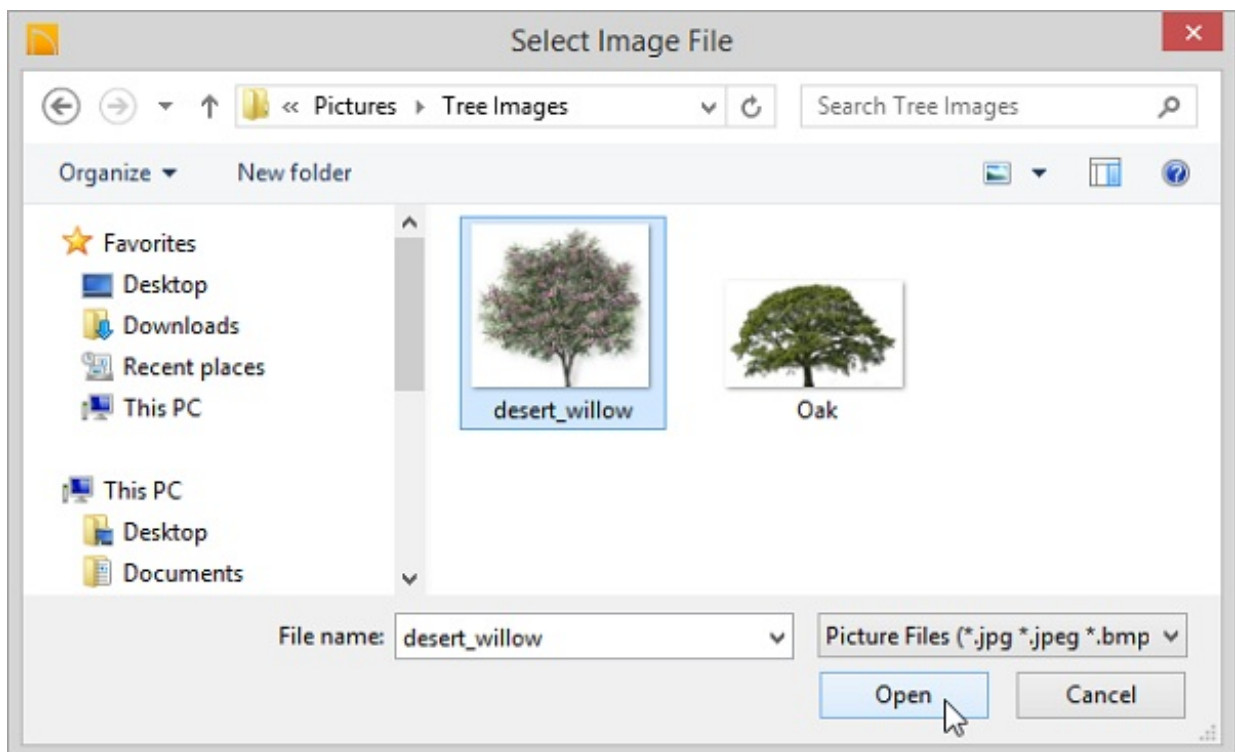
In a floor plan view, they display only as 2D symbols; but in 3D views, the visual information that they contain is displayed.

Creating a new plant image and saving it to the library

1. First, launch your Home Designer software, and open the plan in which you want to place your custom plant image.
2. Next, select **View> Library Browser** , right-click on the User Catalog folder, and navigate to **New> Plant Image**.



3. On the **IMAGE** panel of the **Plant Image Specification** dialog, click the **Browse** button and browse to any image on your computer.

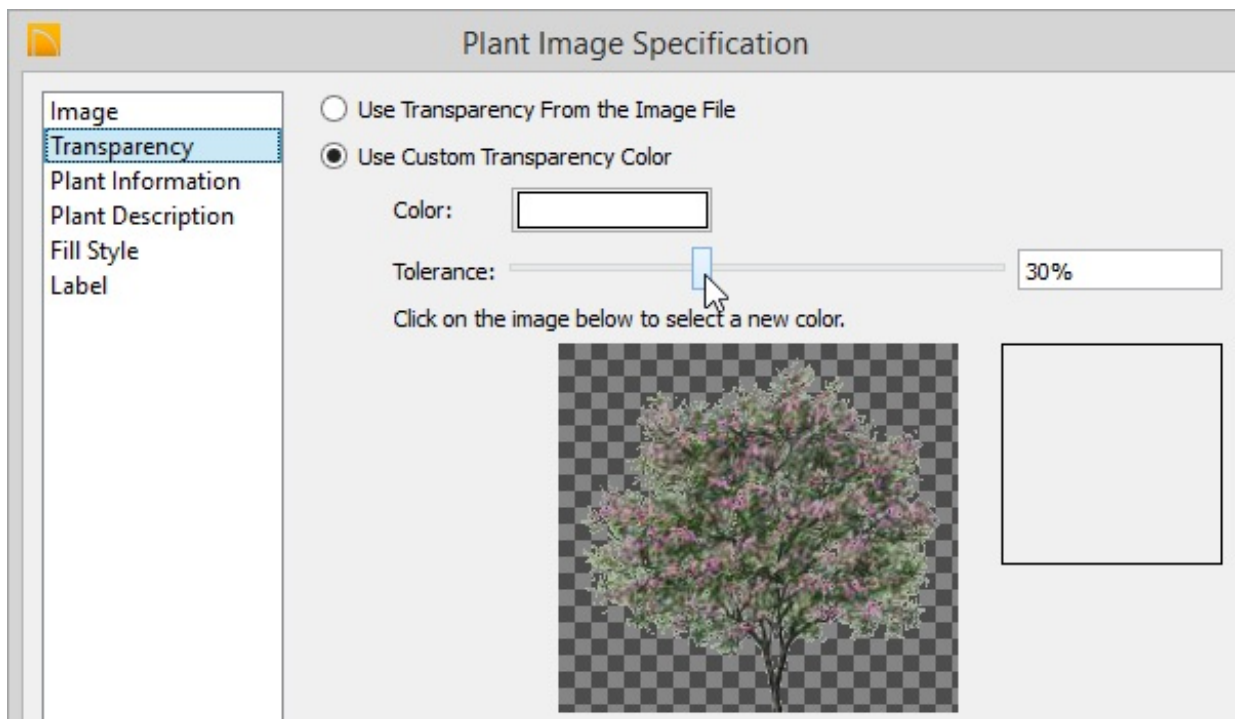


- In this tutorial we will use a file which already has transparency information associated with it.

Keep in mind that if you want it to display like the other plant images in

Home Designer, that you may want to crop it appropriately and set the transparency information within a photo editing program before bringing in the image.

4. Click the **Open** option to return to the **Plant Image Specification** dialog.
5. On the **IMAGE** panel, enter the **Height** or **Width**. Adjusting one will adjust the other, maintaining the correct proportion.
6. Enter a **Height Above Ground** value to specify the elevation at which the image displays.
 - A value of 0 inches works well in this case, but if we knew we would be placing this plant into a flower box, for example, we may want to enter a different value here instead.
7. The **TRANSPARENCY** panel is only available in Home Designer Pro, Home Designer Architectural, and Home Designer Landscape & Deck, and it will allow you to either use transparency from the image file, or use a custom transparency color.




- If you choose to use a custom transparency color, for example a tree image that

has mostly a blue sky background, you will want to use the **Tolerance** slider to apply the level of tolerance that you want applied to colors that are almost the same.

8. Select the **PLANT INFORMATION** panel to enter information about the plant such as its common and scientific names, flower and leaf colors, bloom time, etc.
 - Enter any additional information related to the plant, such as a description, lighting or hardiness zone comments.

Setting this information up can be helpful if you are importing a variety of custom plant images that will be searched for using the Plant Chooser.

9. Click **OK** to close the **Plant Image Specification** dialog.
10. Now go to the Library Browser, expand out the **User Catalog** category where you created the plant image, select it, click in your plan to place it, then take a **Full Camera**  view to see the results.

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