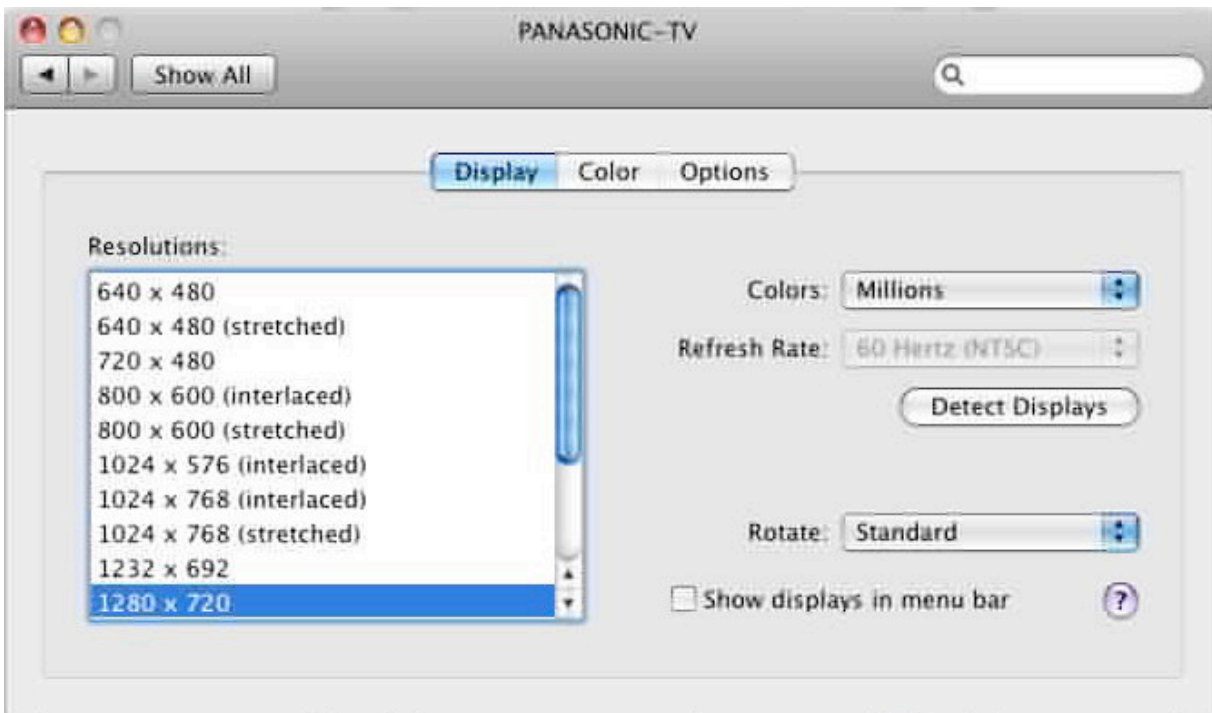


When you hook up a TV as a monitor for your Mac, System Preferences/Display will automatically choose a resolution to match the native resolution of your TV. By default, Overscan will be turned on in System Preferences/Display/Options.



Unfortunately this often results in a display where the Finder window has part of it clipped off at the top, bottom and/or sides. But turning off Overscan usually results in an image that is too small, with an inch or more of black around the edges.

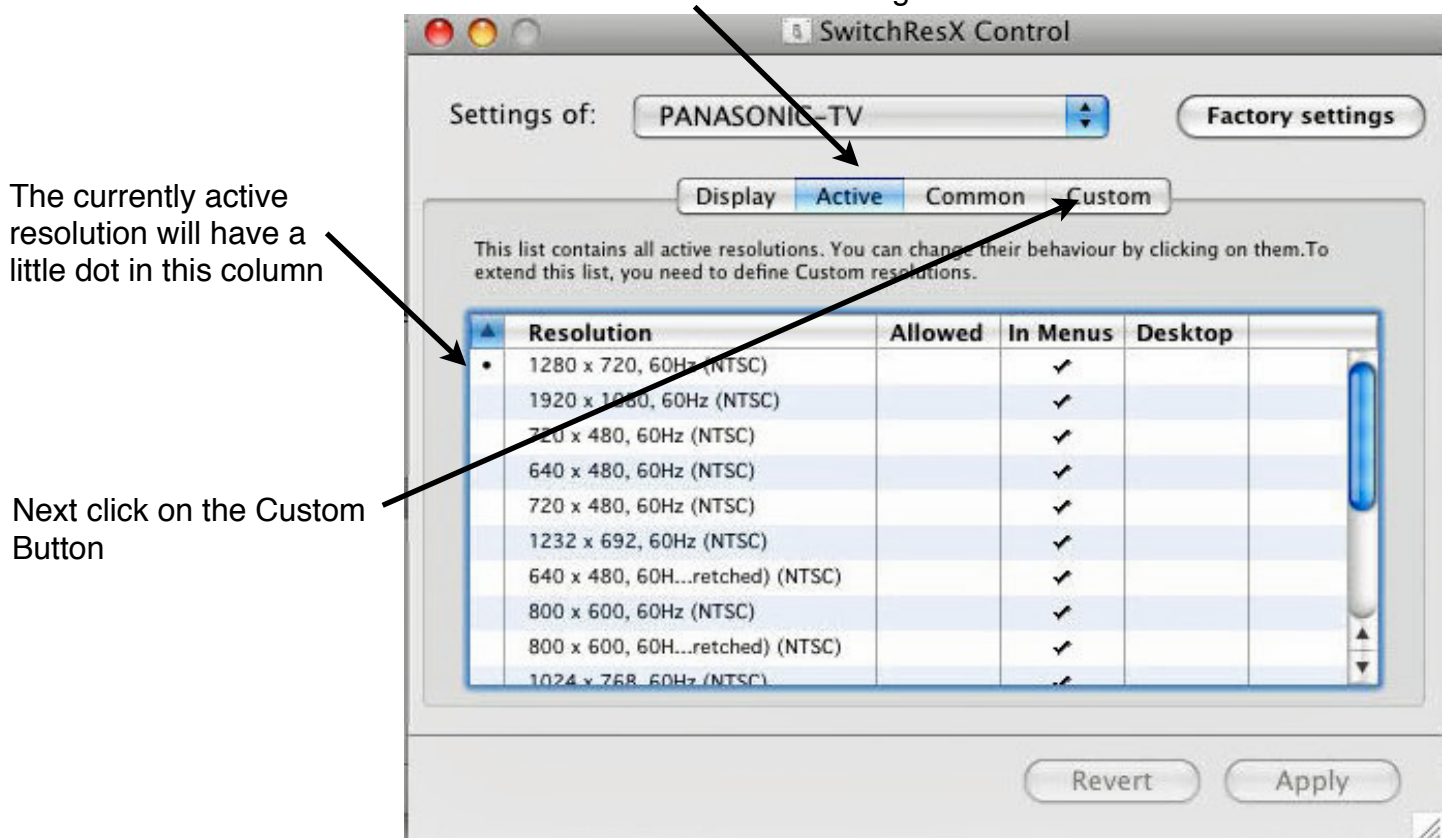
The solution is to create a custom resolution that just fits the screen. This can be done by modifying the existing default resolution. The application I used to do this is **SwitchResX Control**. (Shareware, \$15) [1].

Warning: SwitchResX is a very powerful application that modifies things at a pretty deep level. It is possible to make mistakes in creating a custom resolution that result in the complete inability of your computer to display *anything* on your monitor. In this case you have to reboot in Safe Mode [2] go into SwitchResX, delete the offending custom resolution and start over.

Step-by-step Guide to creating a custom resolution.

Note that you want to shrink a resolution that is too big with Overscan on. Trying to expand the too-small image with overscan off doesn't work. There is just not enough adjustment available.

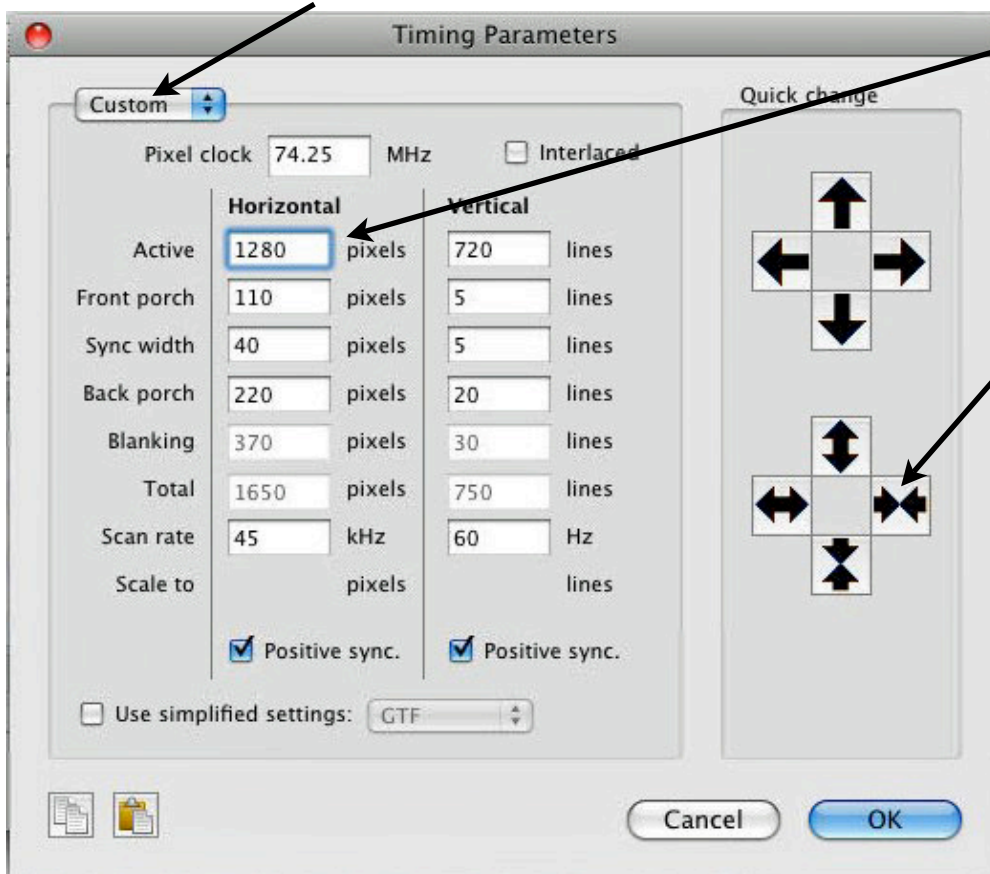
First go to System Preferences/Display and make sure you are in the resolution you want to modify, then launch SwitchResX Control. Click on the Active button to get this window.



[1] <http://www.madrau.com/html/SRX/DL.shtml> You want to download the Control Panel only and the pdf documentation. (The SwitchResX Universal Installer installs even more powerful software that you don't need for this task.)

[2] Shut down your computer holding down the power button. Restart by briefly pressing the power button. As soon as you hear the startup sound immediately hold down the shift key. Keep holding it until you see the Apple Logo with the spinning wheel beneath it.

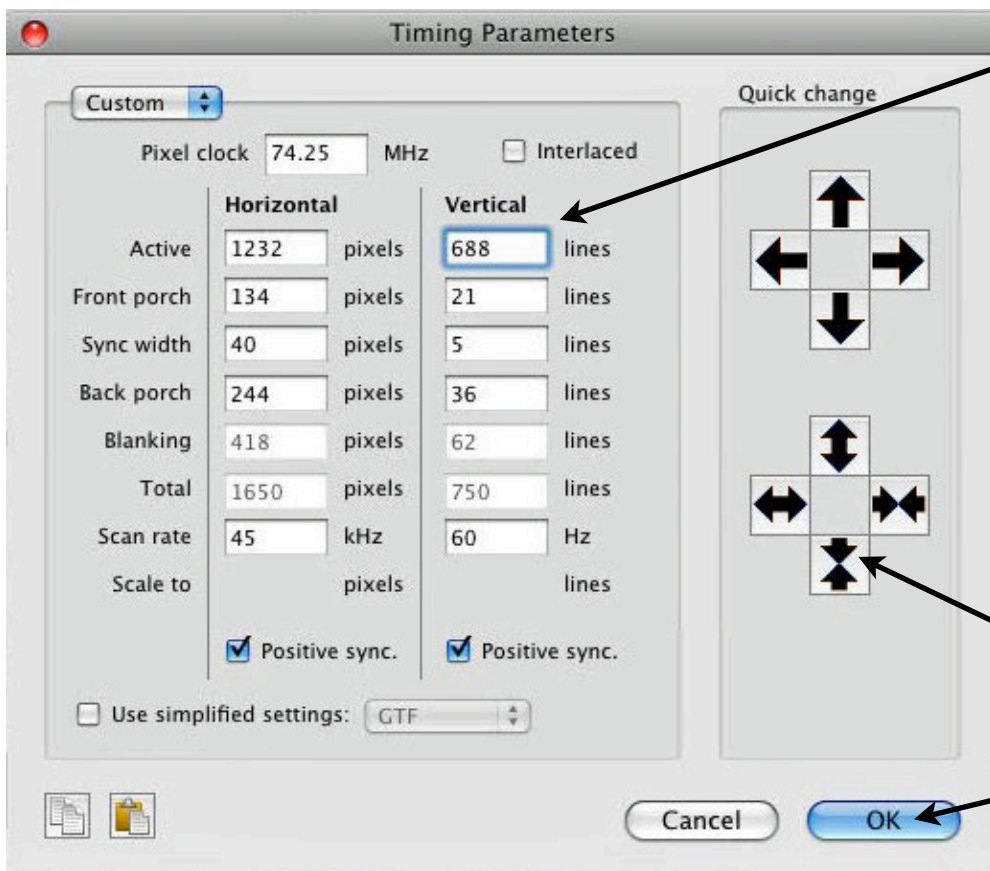
If the window that comes up doesn't look like this, click on the button here and select Custom.



Select this box to adjust the horizontal width.

Then click here to decrease the width. Each click will decrease the width by a small amount (2,4, or 8 pixels, depending on what values are allowed for your resolution).

If you decrease it too much, you can click on the arrows on the left to increase it again.



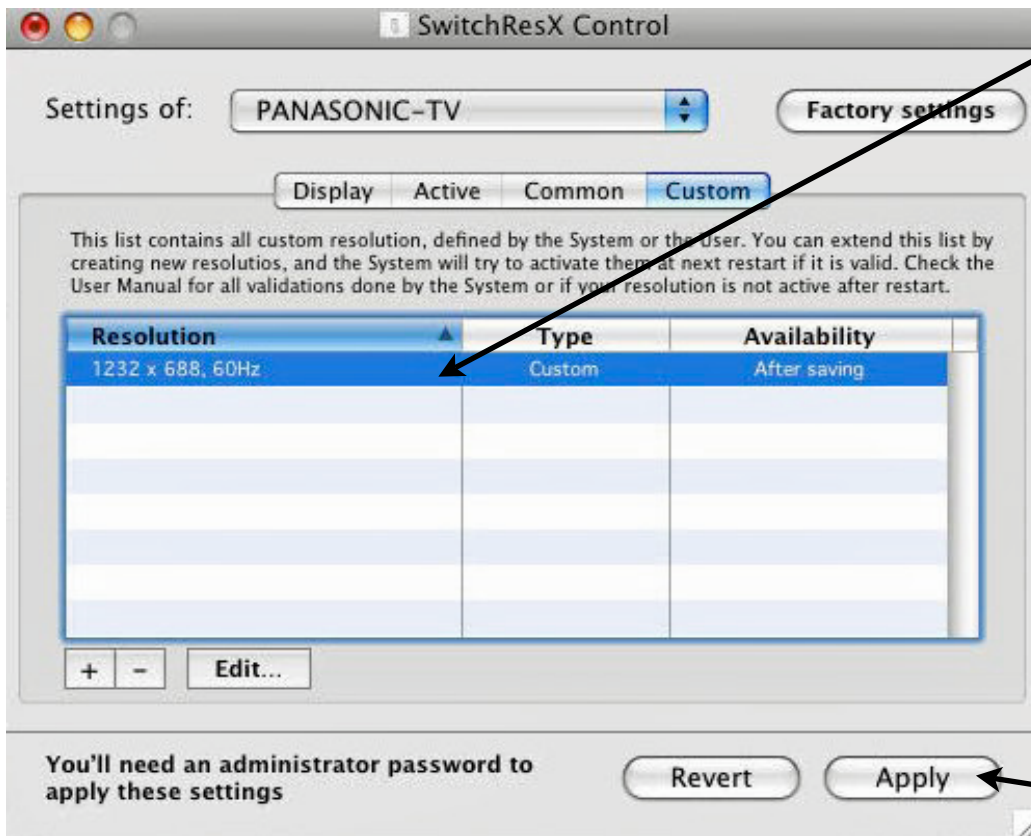
Select this box to adjust the height.

You may notice that the values in the Front Porch and Back Porch boxes change as you adjust the Horizontal and Vertical Active values. This is normal. However, it is very important that you do not change the values manually in the Front Porch, Back Porch or any of the other boxes.

Click here to decrease the height

When you are through, click OK.

This will bring up the window below. If your new resolution is not already selected, click on it to do so.



Be sure to click the Apply Button, then quit SwitchResX Control

Now restart your computer, go into System Preferences/Display and select your new custom resolution. Make sure Overscan is on and see how it looks. If further adjustments are needed, go back into SwitchResX Control and repeat the process above. (It took me about 4 tries to get it right.)