

Ulead[®]
PHOTO EXPLORER **VERSION 6.0**

USER GUIDE

First English edition for Ulead Photo Explorer version 6.0, May 2000

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Technical support

Registered users are entitled to Ulead technical support. Our Web site has valuable up-to-date information about Photo Explorer, other Ulead products, and free downloads. Visit our Web site at **www.ulead.com**, or send us e-mail at **support@ulead.com.tw**.

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Welcome to Ulead® Photo Explorer

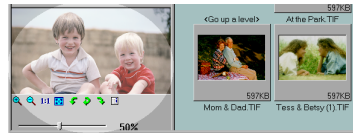
Photo Explorer makes it fun and easy to view images and manage multimedia files in your computer. Get images from a digital camera, memory card reader or scanner directly in Photo Explorer and transfer them to your computer. Create your own color prints with a color printer, or make fun projects for your Windows desktop like wallpapers and screen savers. Present your images in the form of a slide show, or share them on the Web.

What's new in this version

Photo Explorer offers many enhanced features for your image acquisition and file management needs. With its new and powerful Internet tools, making simple Web pages, downloading media files, and sharing images on the Web can all be done in few easy steps.

#1 Get instant preview of files.

Preview Pane -- Get instant preview of a selected image file. Directly play videos, sounds, as well as animated GIFs without having to open another program.

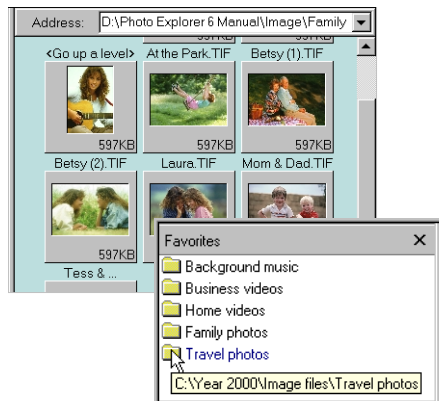


#2 Browse for files and folders with ease.

Browse Pane -- Images, sounds, videos, and GIF animation files can be displayed either as visual thumbnails or in a detailed list much like Windows Explorer.

Address Bar -- Keep track of all the folder names you have entered and quickly return to a previously visited folder.

Favorites List -- Create a collection of folders you frequently visit.



Get a full-size view of images.

#3 **Viewer** -- Display selected images in the Viewer window or in full screen. Advance through images manually or show them automatically on-screen.
Personalize Photo Explorer.



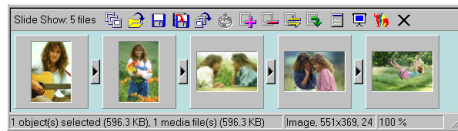
#4 **Customizable toolbars** -- Add toolbar buttons for quicker access to your most desired imaging, file management and Internet tools.



Create slide shows with simple drag-and-drop.

#5 **Slide Show Storyboard** -- Bring together images from different folders into a slide show. Easily shuffle their order with drag-and-drop, and even add sounds.

Get images in a snap.



#6 **Digital Camera Wizard** -- Use this intuitive tool to transfer images from a digital camera or memory card reader into the PC more easily.

Push-model aware function -- Automatically run Photo Explorer and transfer images with the push of a button on your digital camera or scanner. Photo Explorer now offers WDM "push model aware" support.

Share images and download files through the Internet.

#7 Ulead's new **iMira.com** Web site allows users all over the world to upload and share images on the Internet. You can also instantly download images, sounds and videos from your favorite Web site.


System requirements

Before installing Photo Explorer, make sure your computer meets the following requirements:

- Intel® Pentium® processors (or 100% compatible processors)
- Microsoft Windows® 95/98, NT 4.0, 2000 or higher
- 32 MB RAM (at least)
- 12 MB available hard drive space for program files
- Windows compatible pointing device
- True Color or HiColor display adapter and monitor (recommended)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 or higher
- Internet connection (recommended)

Installing and running the program

Installing Photo Explorer is quite easy. Simply follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

To start the program, click the Photo Explorer icon  from the Ulead Photo Explorer program group on the Windows Start menu.

TIP

You can get further information about Photo Explorer using the online help from the Help menu.

Signing up for a free account

The first time Photo Explorer starts, the **Set-up Internet Connection** dialog box opens allowing you to sign up for a free account at iMira.com.

iMira.com is Ulead's image sharing Web site where you can upload your favorite images to share with your friends, relatives, and co-workers. Refer to the section, *Sharing images on the Web*, for more details (see page 22).

Photo Explorer at a glance

Photo Explorer provides two switchable windows. The **Browser** lets you jump from one folder to another with ease, move files between folders, and organize files effectively. The **Viewer** gives you full-size view of images.

The Browser

The **Browser** operates much like Windows Explorer. In the Browser window, you will see a **Folder Tree** at the left hand side and your files at the right. What's special about Photo Explorer is that multimedia files can be shown as visual thumbnails for easier identification. Simply click a desired file to immediately get an idea of the file's contents. You can preview images and actually play sound, video or even GIF animation files without actually opening them. In addition, you can bring together images and sounds to create a slide show.



The Viewer

The **Viewer** opens when you double-click an image file or select multiple images and click **View: Open Viewer** in the Browser. You can use it to:

- Get a full-screen view of images.
- Enhance and retouch images, and then save the changes.
- Manually or automatically advance through images.

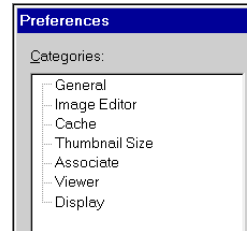
Customizing Photo Explorer

When using any application, it is important for you to set up a work environment that's comfortable and convenient for you. Photo Explorer provides many options that can change the look and feel of what's on-screen to suit your needs. You can also make Photo Explorer as your image viewer and editor.

Setting up your work environment

File: Preferences

The **Preferences** command in the File menu allows you to define settings specific to Photo Explorer. The Preferences dialog box lists different categories which determine the behavior of Photo Explorer, its overall appearance, and the way thumbnails and images are presented. Click a **category** to view and change its settings in the Preferences dialog box.



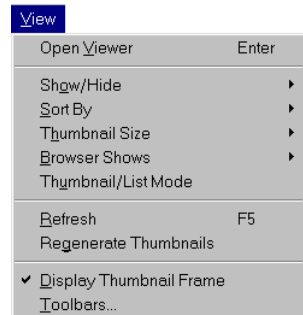
Categories in the Preferences dialog box



If you usually do only simple edits with your images, Photo Explorer can be an ideal image editor. To make Photo Explorer your default image viewer and editor, select the **Associate** category in the Preferences dialog box and select the image file formats that you want to automatically open in Photo Explorer.

View menu

The **View** menu offers commands that determine the layout of Photo Explorer, as well as thumbnail display settings. Use the available commands to change the way files are displayed and organized so that you can quickly identify your files.




Note: See the section "Browsing and managing files" on page 10 for more


Customizing toolbars


Photo Explorer's **Browser and Viewer toolbars** are fully customizable. For quicker access to your most desired Photo Explorer commands and Internet tools, you can add them as buttons on the toolbars and even arrange their order.

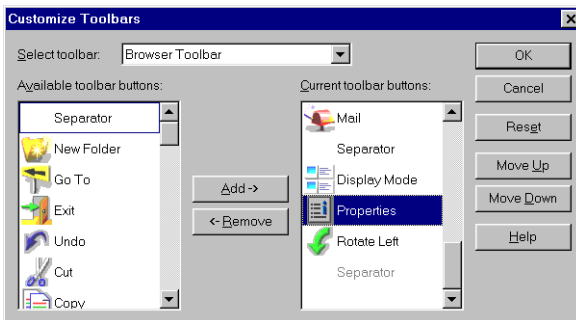
1. Click **File: Customize Toolbars**.
2. In the **Select toolbar** list, choose a toolbar.
3. In the **Current toolbar buttons** list, click the button before which the new button will be inserted.
4. In the **Available toolbar buttons** list, select a new button you want to add.
5. Click **Add** to include the new button to the selected toolbar.

Notes:

 To change the order of toolbar buttons, select a button and drag it up or down in the **Current toolbar buttons** list. You can also click the **Move Up** or **Move Down** button.

 To remove a button, select the button in the **Current toolbar buttons** list and click **Remove**.

 Click **Reset** to change the selected toolbar back to its default form.



Customize Toolbars dialog box

Tips

- Commonly used commands are also easily accessed from right-click pop-up menus. When adding buttons to the toolbar, you can consider adding only those that are not listed in right-click menus.
- To display toolbar buttons with clear label descriptions, click **View: Toolbars** and select the **Text label** option.

Browsing and managing files

With the convenience of thumbnails and the familiar Windows Explorer functionality, Photo Explorer makes it simple and easy to work with multimedia files.

Displaying files in thumbnail or list view

When you select a folder from the Folder Tree, multimedia files are displayed as visual **thumbnails** in the **Browse Pane** on the right hand side of Photo Explorer's Browser window. A thumbnail is a small replica of the actual image or an icon representing a sound file. A thumbnail also shows the very first image that appears in a video or GIF animation file.

To switch between thumbnail and list viewing modes, click **View: Thumbnail/List Mode**.



Sample thumbnails

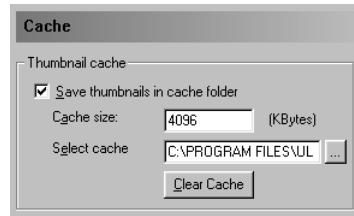
Speeding up thumbnail display

If you have a large number of multimedia files in a folder, it may take Photo Explorer some time to generate thumbnails for the files and display them on-screen. Instead of regenerating thumbnails each time the same folder is accessed, Photo Explorer can store them in a cache folder. The next time you access that folder, Photo Explorer simply loads the thumbnail images from it.

The procedure next page shows how you can customize Photo Explorer to create thumbnail files.

To create thumbnail files:

1. Click **File: Preferences**.
2. Click the **Cache** category in the Preferences dialog box.
3. Select **Save thumbnails in cache folder**.
4. In the **Cache size** entry box, specify the amount of disk space to allot for the cache folder in which thumbnail files will be stored.
5. In the **Select cache folder** entry box, enter the complete path name of the cache folder.



Tips

- ❑ Click the **Clear Cache** button in the **Cache** category of the Preferences dialog box to delete thumbnail files in the cache folder and recover disk space.
- ❑ To ensure that you have the latest updated thumbnails for all the files in a folder, click **View: Regenerate Thumbnails** and manually recreate the thumbnails in a selected folder.

Managing multimedia files

Manage your files in Photo Explorer just as you do in Windows Explorer. You can copy, paste, delete, search for files, and perform other file operations using simple drag-and-drop, point-and-click, or by selecting commands in the **Edit** menu.

In addition, here are special ways of handling images and multimedia files in Photo Explorer:

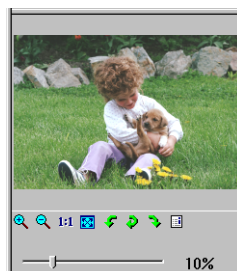
- Double-click an image file in the **Browse Pane** or click **View: Open Viewer** to display selected images in full size in the **Viewer** window.
- Click **Edit: Copy Image Content** to copy the actual contents of an image file. You can then paste the image to your image editor.
- Use the **Photo** menu commands to enhance images.
- Click one of the **Edit in** commands in the **Photo** menu to open an image file in your desired image editor and do more advanced image editing.

Previewing files

When you select a file in Photo Explorer, a preview of the file contents immediately appears in the **Preview Pane**. To change the viewing size, drag the borders of the Preview Pane.

Notes:

- 👉 *Animated GIFs can only be viewed in their original size.*
- ✌️ *The buttons in the Preview Pane varies, depending on the type of file being*



Preview Pane

The types of files you can preview include:

- **Image files** -- Rotate images and directly update their source files. (Photo Explorer provides lossless rotation for JPEG images.)
- **JPEG files with Exif format** -- Many new digital cameras can store extra information (such as the date when a photo was taken) and even include audio. You can view JPEG images with Exif format in the Preview Pane and play their audio attachments.
- **Audio and Video files** -- Play back sound or video, and advance forward or backward within a clip file.

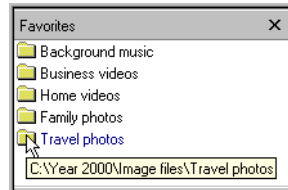
Note: For other file types, select the file and click the **Open** button in the Preview Pane. UES files, which are slide show projects created in Photo Explorer, will be opened in the Slide Show Storyboard. Files of other types will be opened in their associated programs.

Creating a list of favorite folders

If your files are organized in many layers of folders, you may not be able to remember all their locations. It will be more convenient if you can selectively pick out frequently visited folders and “mark” them. You can do so by adding your folders to Photo Explorer’s **Favorites** list.

To add a folder to the Favorites list:

1. Select a folder in the **Folder Tree**.
2. Click **Favorites: Add to Favorites**.
3. Type in a name that easily relates to the contents of the selected folder.



To access a Favorite folder:

- Select a folder from the Favorites menu, or
- Click **Favorites: Show Favorites** or click **View: Show/Hide - Favorites**, and then select a folder.

Note: To change back to the Folder Tree, double-click a favorite folder, or click the **Close** button at the top right corner of the Favorites List.

Accessing right-click pop-up menus

In Photo Explorer, you will find pop-up menus by right-clicking on:

- A **folder** in the Folder Tree. Displays commands for organizing folders and adding folders to the Favorites List.
- **Selected thumbnails and files** in the Browse Pane. Displays commands for source files as well as thumbnails.
- **Previewed file** in the Preview Pane. Displays commands for viewing a file. The available commands vary, depending on the type of file.
- **Slide Show Storyboard**. Displays commands for creating a project and organizing images in a slide show.
- **Viewer** window. Displays commands for editing and displaying images.

Note: You can also right-click and drag selected files to another folder. A pop-up menu lets you select whether to copy or move the files.

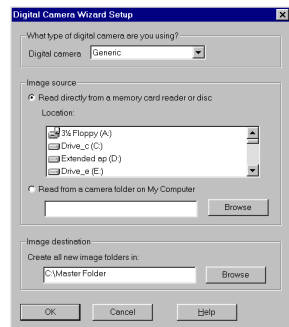
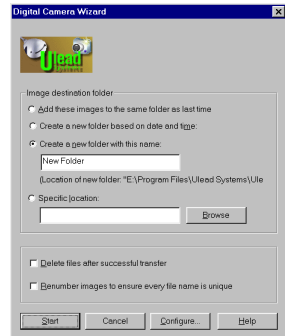
Getting images

Images can come from different sources. With Photo Explorer, photos that were taken with a digital camera can be transferred to your PC. If you have a scanner device, transform photo prints or documents into images directly in Photo Explorer. Once you have all your desired images, easily rename the file names and renumber them based on your own numbering scheme.

Digital Camera Wizard

Getting images from a digital camera can be much faster and simpler if you use the **Digital Camera Wizard**. You can use this tool to get images directly from a digital camera, or retrieve images from a flash memory card that's inserted in a memory card reader. Here's how:

1. Click **File: Digital Camera Wizard**.
2. In the **Image destination folder** section, create a new folder or select an existing location for placing the images.
3. Click the **Configure** button to specify where to get images from.
4. Select the type of your digital camera or memory card reader from the list.
5. In the **Image source** section, select **Read from a camera folder** to get images directly from a digital camera. Otherwise, select the other option to get images from a memory card reader.
6. If you chose to create a new folder in step 2, specify a master folder in the **Image destination** section to store as many new image folders as you want.
7. Click **Start** in the Digital Camera Wizard dialog box to transfer images.

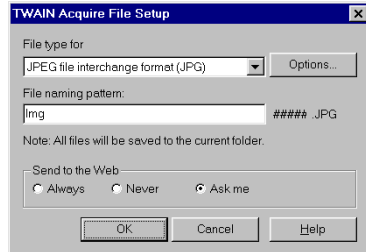


Note: Photo Explorer can read any flash memory card format that follows the JEIDA 'DCF' (Design rule for Camera File System)

Getting images from a TWAIN device

Most scanners and digital cameras come with TWAIN software that allows transfer of images to your computer. Make sure that the TWAIN software for your device has already been installed before you start getting images.

1. Create a new folder where to save the images.
2. Click **File: TWAIN Acquire - Select Source** and choose your scanner or digital camera.
3. Click **File: TWAIN Acquire - File Setup**.
4. Select a **File type**. (To have smaller and compressed files, choose JPEG.)
5. In the **File naming Pattern** box, enter a file name. Each image will be prefixed with this name followed by a counter (e.g. Img0001, Img0002, etc.)
6. Click **File: TWAIN Acquire - Acquire Now** to start getting images.



Tip

In the Acquire File Setup dialog box, you can also choose to share images on the Web after transferring them to your computer. Select the appropriate option in the **Send To Web** section to send your images to iMira.com.

In Photo Explorer, using **File: TWAIN Acquire** is recommended only for getting images from a scanner. For digital cameras, use **File: Digital Camera Wizard** instead. In most cases, JPEG images from a camera will be decompressed and resaved with some loss of image quality through TWAIN transfers. Also, Exif camera information embedded in the JPEG files will be lost. The Digital Camera Wizard can be used with many cameras to avoid the problems associated with TWAIN transfers.

Note: Photo Explorer offers WDM driver support for “push-model aware” scanners. Selected buttons on such scanners can be configured to carry out a list of commands. For example, pressing a button could automatically run Photo Explorer, get an image from a scanner, and save it to the active folder. Because Photo Explorer supports this technology, acquiring images is now


Renaming and renumbering files


After getting images from a digital camera or scanner, you may want to change their file names or renumber their sequence. The **Tools: AutoRename** command allows you to change several file names at once.

To automatically rename your files:

1. Select the files to rename, then click **Tools: AutoRename**.
2. By default, files can be renamed and numbered starting from one. Click the **Quick Rename** button to use this default.
3. Click **New** to define more criteria for renaming files.
4. Specify your renaming criteria by selecting one of the tabs in the Batch Operation dialog box. Click a tab to define settings, then click **OK**.
5. To set more conditions for renaming files, repeat steps 2 and 3.
6. Click **OK** in the AutoRename dialog box to start the renaming process.

Notes:

 You can work with only one criterion at a time in the Batch Operation dialog box. Once you have defined settings for a criterion, click **OK**.

 The list in the AutoRename dialog box shows all the file renaming criteria you have defined. The renaming process starts from the top

Tips

Rename Renumber Change Case Replace Add Crop

Click the tabs in the Batch Operation dialog box to define criteria for renaming files:

- Rename** -- Give your images brand new file names. Sequentially number the file names by adding a counter.
- Renumber** -- Change the numbering scheme of file names.
- Change Case** -- Convert file names to upper or lower case, etc.
- Replace** -- Change some text in the file names.
- Add** -- Extend file names by inserting additional text to the file names.
- Crop** -- Make file names shorter by removing text from the file names.

Editing and retouching images

Images, especially those that came from a digital camera or scanner, often need some adjustments. Photo Explorer provides tools for you to view and do quick touch-ups to your images.

Enhancing images

Photo Explorer has all the basic tools that can help you adjust your images. You can access these image editing tools in the **Photo** menu of the Browser and Viewer windows.

- **Rotate** commands let you turn images left or right in a fixed 90 or 180 degree rotation.
- **Convert** transforms multiple images into other file formats in a single step.
- **Adjust Image** helps you correct the alignment and color of an image, and remove unwanted parts from an image.



For more detailed image editing, click **File: Preferences - Editor** and add up to 3 image editors of your choice. Then, select one of the **Edit** **in** commands in the Photo menu to access your preferred image editor.

Adjusting the white background

If you have digital camera photographs of meeting room whiteboards and paper documents, the image may appear to have a grayish background color. This is most noticeable when the image is printed. Click **Photo: Turn Background into White** to adjust the contrast level and restore the white background. A higher contrast level will make the text in the image look darker and more distinct.

Printing images and thumbnails

Once you've finished editing your images, it's time to print them out. You can print one or more color images on paper, or create photo prints if you have a photo printer. You can also print out thumbnails of images.

To print images:

1. Select the images you want to print, then click **File: Print Image**.
2. In the **Options** section, design your print layout. Set the number of images to print per page, position where to start printing, and more. Click **Preview** first to see if results are desirable.
3. Click **OK** to start printing.



Sample print out of images

To print thumbnails:

1. Select a folder containing the images you want, then click **File: Print Thumbnails**.
2. Set the **Range** of thumbnails to print (or select **All**) and specify the layout for the thumbnails.
3. Click **OK** to start printing.



Sample print out of thumbnails

Slide show and other cool stuff

In Photo Explorer, you can make fun projects with your images. Create slide shows with music to make your images look more interesting. Decorate your Windows desktop by creating wallpapers using your favorite images. More so, make your own screen savers.

Creating a slide show

Photo Explorer's **Slide Show Storyboard** is where you bring together images and plan out the sequence of how they will appear.

Here's how to create a slide show:

1. Click **Tools: Slide Show** to open the **Slide Show Storyboard** and create a new project.
2. Select and drag the thumbnails of images to the storyboard. You can drag thumbnails from different folders.
3. To change the sequence of thumbnails, just drag them to your desired position.
4. Click the **Slide Show Options** button to select display options for the slide show.
 - **Transition** effects make images smoothly fade in and fade out of the screen.



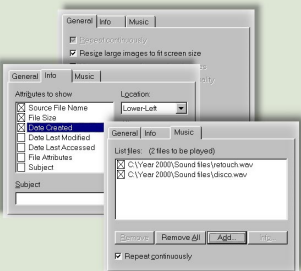
Tips

- ❑ Right-click on the Slide Show Storyboard to open a pop-up menu and access more commands.
- ❑ Click the **Export** button on the storyboard toolbar to output your project as a Web slide show. See "Creating slide shows for the Web" for more information.

- **Delay** sets the length of time an image stays on-screen before displaying the next image.
 - **Control manually with keyboard or mouse**, when selected, allows you to control the slide show.
 - **Advanced** lets you choose more display options and add sounds to the slide show.
5. Click **Save**. Next time you want to make changes to a slide show, just open its project file in the Slide Show Storyboard.

Note: A project file stores information such as image sequence, file names and their location, as well as slide show options. The actual image and sound files are not saved in the

Tips



Click the **Advanced** button in the Slide Show dialog box, then click these tabs to add sound files to a slide show as well as select the best display options for images:

- General** -- Automatically replay sounds, show or hide the mouse pointer, and define more display options.
- Info** -- Select the information to display.
- Music** -- Click the **Add** button and choose one or more sound files to play in the slide show.

Viewing a slide show

You can view the results of your slide show project in full screen. After creating a project file in the Slide Show Storyboard, click the **Show** button in the storyboard toolbar.

- To manually control a slide show, press the **Space bar**, **Page Down**, **Right Arrow** or **Down Arrow** key, or click the **left mouse button** to view the next image. Press **Page Up**, **Left Arrow** or **Up Arrow** key, or click the **right mouse button** to view the previous image.
- Press **P** to pause, and **ESC** to end the slide show.

Other fun projects you can create

Photo Explorer allows you to create unique and interesting projects for your desktop. You can access these tools in the Browser's **Tools** menu:

Wallpaper

Use your favorite image as your Windows desktop wallpaper. Here's how:

1. Select the image file you want, then click **Tools: Wallpaper**.
2. Select **Enable wallpaper**.
3. Choose to display the image at the **Center** of the screen, or show several duplicates of it by specifying **Tile** options.
4. Click **OK**.



Sample Windows desktop wallpaper

Screen saver

Another interesting way of showing your images on the PC monitor is through a screen saver. A screen saver is automatically activated whenever the computer has been inactive for a specified length of time.

To create your own screen saver, select the images you want, then click **Tools: Screen Saver**. Choose from a wide range of interesting transition effects for displaying the images, and synchronize them with your favorite music.

Plug-in software

Photo Explorer works seamlessly with other Ulead cool software such as Ulead SmartSaver Pro. If you have the software already installed in your computer, click **Photo: SmartSaver Pro** to access it directly in Photo Explorer. SmartSaver Pro lets you create compact Web images for your Web page.

Working on the Internet

With Photo Explorer, you can share your images and multimedia files over the Internet. Upload images to **iMira.com**, send files by e-mail, or include image collections and slide shows on your Web page. Photo Explorer also allows you to easily retrieve image, sound and video files from the Internet. Photo Explorer finds all your desired files from a selected Web site and quickly downloads them to your computer.

Sharing images on the Web



Sign up for a free user account and share images on **Ulead's iMira.com** Web site. Here's how to set up a new account and upload images:

1. Click **Internet: Sign-up for Web Service** to create a new user account.
2. Click **Internet: Configure Web Connection**. Select each tab in the dialog box to enter appropriate settings for connecting to **iMira.com** and specify saving options for your shared images.
3. To upload images, click **Internet: Open Drop Spot Window**. Drag your image files to this window.
4. Photo Explorer then brings up your Web browser and takes you directly to the **iMira.com** Web site.



Note: Exif data (such as sound) will not be included with JPEG files when

Creating thumbnails for the Web

A cool way of sharing images is to put them on your own Web page. In Photo Explorer, you can create simple Web pages in just a few minutes, complete with an index of thumbnails and pages for displaying images.

1. Place your image files into one folder.
2. Click **Internet: Output Web Thumbnails**.
3. Design the layout of your Web page by providing settings in the **Page, Thumbnail, Description, and Advanced** tabs.
4. Click **Preview** to view the results in a Web browser.
5. Click **OK** to generate the HTML files and thumbnail images.



Tip

In the **Page** tab, select **Use frames for thumbnail pages** to display the thumbnail page along with the source image. Choose to generate Web pages or create a single, self-extracting file ready to be sent by e-mail.

Note: Web pages and thumbnail images are generated only in your hard disk drive. The files are not posted

Creating slide shows for the Web

Photo Explorer can instantly create impressive Web slide shows with smooth fade-ins and transition effects. Here's how:

1. Click **Tools: Slide Show Storyboard** to create a slide show project.
2. Click the **Export** button on the storyboard toolbar.

Note: See the section "Creating a slide show" on page 19 for details on how to create a slide show project.

3. Click the **Page** tab to design the layout for your Web page. Click the **Advanced** tab to adjust the timing for automatically displaying images.
4. Click **OK** to generate the HTML files (or a self-extracting EXE file).

Note: You can also click **Internet: Output Web Slide Show** to output selected image files into a Web slide

Scanning the Web for images

Photo Explorer makes it fast and easy to download files from the Web. It can scan an entire Web site and retrieve a bulk of files for you. If a Web page contains links, you can customize Photo Explorer to follow the links and go deeper into the Web site when searching for files to download.

Click **Internet: Scan Internet for Images** for downloading files. Photo Explorer guides you through the process in seven (7) easy steps:

1. Enter the **HTTP address** of the Web page from which to start the download. Specify how many **Levels** deep to search for files.
2. Specify the **types of files** you want (images, videos and/or sounds).
3. Specify the **file size** you want to download, or choose to get all.
4. Choose to download all files, new files only, or get file updates.
5. Specify what links to navigate into when searching for files.
6. Enter a valid user name and password if you are downloading from a password-protected Web site.
7. If your PC connects to the Internet through a proxy server, consult your network administrator for its appropriate settings.

Tip

Step 5 download options:

- From all links** Download files from all linked sites.
- Specified web site** Download files only from pages within the selected Web site.
- Specified address** Download files from a directory on the selected Web site. (e.g. If you entered 'www.sample.com/main/index.html' in Step 1, Photo Explorer will get files only from 'www.sample.com/

Note: Some types of Web pages generated by active servers or CGI scripts cannot be scanned using this