

Intro to Photo Story 3

In this tutorial you will use Photo Story 3, a free software program from Microsoft, to create digital stories using text, graphics and music.

Requirements: Windows XP, Windows Media Player 10

Downloading and Installing Photo Story 3:

Photo Story 3 is free to download from the Internet but you must have two things before you will be able to download the program to install it:

- o Microsoft Windows Media Player 10 – free download from the Internet
- o Windows Genuine Advantage validation

Throughout the installation process you will be prompted to supply these two things.

1. Google 'photo story 3' or go to the site below to download Photo Story 3:
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.msp>
2. Follow the onscreen wizard to install and run Photo Story 3 on your computer.

Creating a new Photo Story

1. Right click anywhere on your desktop and create a new folder where you will store all the graphics, scripts, files, etc. associated with this Photo Story.
2. Open Photo Story and select 'Begin a new story' and then click 'Next'.

Graphics

Photo Story begins by asking you to import pictures into your story. You will therefore have to have some pictures saved from the Internet or other sources into your Photo Story folder prior to beginning. You might also find it useful to create a script of what you want to say so that you may match your images with your ideas prior to starting to build your story.

The first thing you will be asked to do is import and arrange your pictures.

1. Click on 'Import pictures'.
2. Navigate to your folder on the desktop that contains your images.
3. Select the image you want by clicking on it.
4. Click 'OK' to insert it in the timeline.
5. Repeat this procedure until you have all the images you want imported.
6. Rearrange your pictures by clicking on the one you want to move and using the arrow keys on the right to position it in the timeline or the X to delete the image.

Editing individual pictures

You will be given some limited options to edit each picture when you click on it, make sure you save your changes before you move on to the next picture:

- o correct color levels, correct red eye, rotate

- o You may wish to remove the black borders to make your pictures stand out more
- o an edit button that allows you to crop and add effects such as sepia

Save Early, Save Often

Nothing is more heart-breaking than losing work you have sweated over for two or three hours. Now and frequently throughout the creation process just think:

Creating title slides using PowerPoint

Create title slides that just contain text by opening Power Point and creating the slide you want.

1. Click on the 'Design' button on the top to choose a solid color background.
2. Then save the slide as a .jpg in your Photo Story folder and you will be allowed to import it just as you would a graphic.
3. When you are finished inserting, arranging and editing pictures, click the 'Next' button. You may press the 'Back' button at any time to return to a previous section.

Titles

The next step in creating a Photo Story is adding titles to slides.

1. Click on the picture to which you wish to add a title.
2. Type the title into the box.
3. Change the font type and color, font size and positions of the text with the buttons.
4. Click 'Next' to go to the next section. You may press the 'Back' button at any time to return to a previous section.

Motion and Narration

The next step in Photo Story lets you adjust the motion on each slide, create transitions between slides, preview your story and narrate your story.

Customizing motion: There are two things you can do when you customize motion:

1. Select the start and end points of the motion and the duration.
2. Create transitions between pictures.

*Click on the 'Customize Motion' button

1. On the 'Motion and Duration' tab, check the 'Specify start and end position of motion' box and resize the screens to select how Photo Story will pan across your picture.
2. Select the radio button for 'Number of seconds to display the picture' if you want to manually set this.
3. On the 'Transition' tab, check the 'Start current picture using a transition' and then experiment to find a transition you like.

4. If you want to manually set the amount of time to display your picture select the radio button for 'Number of seconds to display the transition'.
5. Save your changes before you go to the next picture.
6. Click the 'Preview' button to view changes.

Narration

You must have a microphone to do this feature of Photo Story 3.

1. Either create a script separately or type in a script in the window provided to help you with your narration.
2. Configure your microphone once it is attached to your computer by clicking on the 'Configure microphone' button and following the prompts.
3. Click on the picture on which you want narration to select it.
4. Begin recording by clicking the red 'Record' button.
5. Stop recording by clicking the stop button.
6. Delete the narration by clicking on the delete button.
7. Click 'Next' to go to the next section. You may press the 'Back' button at any time to return to a previous section.

Music

The next to the last step in Photo Story is adding background music.

1. Click on the picture where you want the music to begin
2. Click on 'Select Music' to navigate and import music you already have on your desktop.
3. Click 'Create Music' to choose from a limited library of tunes you can create yourself.
4. You may add as many different songs as you want by clicking on the picture where you want the new music to begin or by selecting 'Silence' from the 'Create Music' menu.
5. Click 'Next' to go to the final section. You may press the 'Back' button at any time to return to a previous section.

Saving your story

The final part involves saving your newly created story in a format that may be viewed by others.

A major warning is now in order:

Once you do the final save on your project and it is in .wmv format you WILL NOT be able to go in and edit it any more. You may still edit the .wp3 file however. So make sure your project is completed to your satisfaction before you do the final save!!

1. Your final save should be in .wmv format.
2. Click 'Next' to save your Photo Story as a wmv file. Once it is in this format, you can burn it to a CD, email it, upload it to a server or website, or store it on a flash drive. Anyone with a standard Windows Media Player (included in most PCs) will be able to watch your movie!