

EXIFPURGE REPORT Cyber Intel | ExifPurge | 22/09/2023

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of ExifPurge, a software tool designed for the removal of Exchangeable Image File Format (EXIF) metadata from image files. EXIF metadata contains information about the camera settings, location, and other technical details related to an image. ExifPurge offers a solution to protect user privacy by allowing the removal of sensitive metadata before sharing images online.

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1.Introduction

Exchangeable Image File Format (EXIF) metadata is embedded within image files and can disclose sensitive information about the image's creation, including date, time, camera settings, and even GPS coordinates. This data may compromise user privacy when sharing images online. ExifPurge is a software tool that addresses this concern by removing EXIF metadata, ensuring the protection of personal information.



2. Tool Details

ExifPurge is a versatile tool available for multiple operating systems, including Windows, macOS, and Linux. It offers both graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI) versions, accommodating various user preferences. The tool works by scanning and removing EXIF metadata from individual images or entire directories.

Advantages

Protecting Personal Privacy: When individuals share photos online, they might unintentionally reveal personal information such as the exact location where the photo was taken. ExifPurge allows users to strip this metadata, enhancing their online privacy.

Safe Sharing of Sensitive Images: In cases where individuals need to share images containing sensitive information (e.g., documents, prototypes, or art), ExifPurge can be used to remove metadata that could potentially reveal confidential details.

Protecting Location Data: EXIF metadata often includes GPS coordinates, making it possible for others to determine the exact location where a photo was taken. ExifPurge can eliminate this information to prevent location tracking.

Improving Website Performance: Website owners and administrators can use ExifPurge to optimize their image content by stripping unnecessary metadata. This reduces image file size, resulting in faster page loading times for website visitors.

3.Installation

For Windows

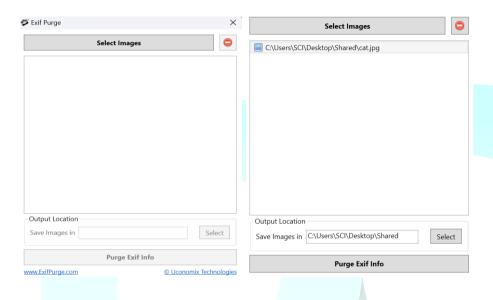
Website: EXIF Purge - Batch EXIF Remover

- Download the zip file from here & extract it.
- Then, run the file.



4. Execution

- Start the application
- Select the images you want to remove the metadata from
- Select "Purge Exif Info"
- Select the Output location
- All the exifdata gets deleted



EXIF data has been removed from selected images





Metadata before using Exifpurge

x_resolution	1
y_resolution	1
current_iptc_digest	7a78f3d9cfb1ce42ab5a3aa30573d617
copyright_notice	PicoCTF
application_record_version	4
xmp_toolkit	Image::ExifTool 10.80
license	cGljb0NURnt0aGVfbTN0YWRhdGFfMXNfbW9kaWZpZWR9
rights	PicoCTF
image_width	2560

Metadata after using Exifpurge

file_size	886 kB			
file_type	JPEG			
file_type_extension	jpg			
mime_type	image/jpeg			
jfif_version	1.01			
resolution_unit	inches			
x_resolution	96			
y_resolution	96			
image_width	2560			



5. Scope and Limitations

- It is essential to note that removing metadata does not guarantee complete anonymity, as other potential sources of information still exist within image content.
- The tool only supports *jpeg* image formats, which can cause a major hindrance for purging out data from image formats like *gif*.

6. Conclusion

ExifPurge is a valuable tool for safeguarding user privacy when sharing images online. Its ability to remove sensitive EXIF metadata ensures that personal information remains confidential. Users should, however, be aware of its limitations and employ additional privacy measures when necessary.