

QuickImageComment

Version 4.42

User Manual

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1 Introduction

QuickImageComment displays EXIF, IPTC, and XMP properties of digital images (e.g., JPEG and TIFF as well as some RAW formats) and allows to edit them. These attributes are read from the EXIF, IPTC, and XMP properties of the image and are stored there. Especially editing of user comment and artist (author) is supported by using the last entered or predefined values. Metadata (XMP) in video files are displayed.

Overview of features:

- Display of all EXIF, IPTC and XMP properties of images, as well as some other file properties such as modification date.
- Display of meta data (XMP) of video files as well as (depending on the Windows version and, if necessary, installed components) display a frame of the video.
- Images or videos can be searched via their properties and recording location on map.
- In addition to the full lists of EXIF, IPTC and XMP properties a list of properties is displayed, which is configurable.
- In addition to user comment and artist further EXIF, IPTC and XMP properties can be changed. The list of modifiable properties can be configured.
- Data templates can be defined to set several properties in one step.
- Via placeholder it is possible to copy values of properties in others.
- Changes can be carried out simultaneously for two or more files.
- EXIF, IPTC and XMP properties can be deleted, thereby exceptions can be defined. Single properties can be deleted selectively.
- Files can be renamed using Exif, IPTC and XMP properties.
- The EXIF, IPTC and XMP properties contained in the files can be compared.
- A special mask is used to synchronize the recording time of a set of images taken with different cameras. Images are grouped by properties (mostly camera model). For each group, a shift of the recording time can be entered. Then the images are immediately sorted in order to check whether the images are then in the correct timely order.
- Selected image properties of all images/videos in a folder (including any subfolders) can be exported to a text file.
- All image properties of selected images/videos can be exported to text files (one file per image).
- Display of image details with graphical and numerical representation of brightness and RGB values.
- Display recording location in a map using the GPS coordinates; change of coordinates by selecting a position on the map.

Further processing of the images (e.g., adjusting the contrast and brightness) is not the purpose of this program.

For reading and changing the EXIF, IPTC, and XMP properties the library `exiv2` is used. On www.exiv2.org a description of this library can be found as well as extensive information and links to Exif, IPTC and XMP. The formats supported by `exiv2` are documented here:

- Images: http://dev.exiv2.org/projects/exiv2/wiki/Supported_image_formats
- Videos: http://dev.exiv2.org/projects/exiv2/wiki/Supported_video_formats

To display RAW images, a codec from the camera manufacturer may have to be installed.

The program runs on Microsoft Windows XP, Vista, Windows 7, 8 and 10. For Windows 7, 8 and 10 a 64-Bit-version is available. German and English can be selected as language.

QuickImageComment is free software; you can use it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation.

2 Installation, Start, De-installation

Preconditions/Limitations:

- Operating System Windows XP or higher
- .NET 4.0 (or higher)
- [Sending error reports and anonymous usage data](#) requires Windows 10 and .Net 4.6.1.

Four zip files are available:

- 32-bit, .Net 4.6.1
- 64-bit, .Net 4.6.1
- 32-bit, .Net 4.0
- 64-bit, .Net 4.0

An installation in the usual sense is not necessary. The zip file can be unpacked into any directory on your computer. Thereafter, the QuickImageComment.exe program or the 64-bit version QuickImageCommentX64.exe can be started. During the first start you will be asked for the language to be used and are offered the possibility, to check the availability of a new version automatically in the future.

After the first start the default settings in [Mask "Settings"](#) and [Mask "Field definitions"](#) should be checked and adjusted according to your own needs. These and other settings during the use of the program will be written when exiting in a configuration file in %AppData% or in the program folder (see also [User related configuration file](#)).

When the program is started via command line (see [Command line arguments](#)), a folder- or filename can be passed as argument. If a shortcut to the program is added in folder "%Appdata%\Microsoft\Windows\SendTo", folder, images or videos can be opened via entry "Send to" in the context menu of Windows Explorer.

Folders, images or videos can be opened via drag-and-drop.

With some Browser also images from Internet can be opened via Drag-and-Drop. For this purpose, they are downloaded into the folder "Downloads". This is tested with Google Chrome and Firefox; it does not work with Internet Explorer.

To uninstall the program, delete the directory and the configuration file in %AppData%.

The registry is not changed by the program.

3 Main mask

The main mask and its usage are described in the following sections:

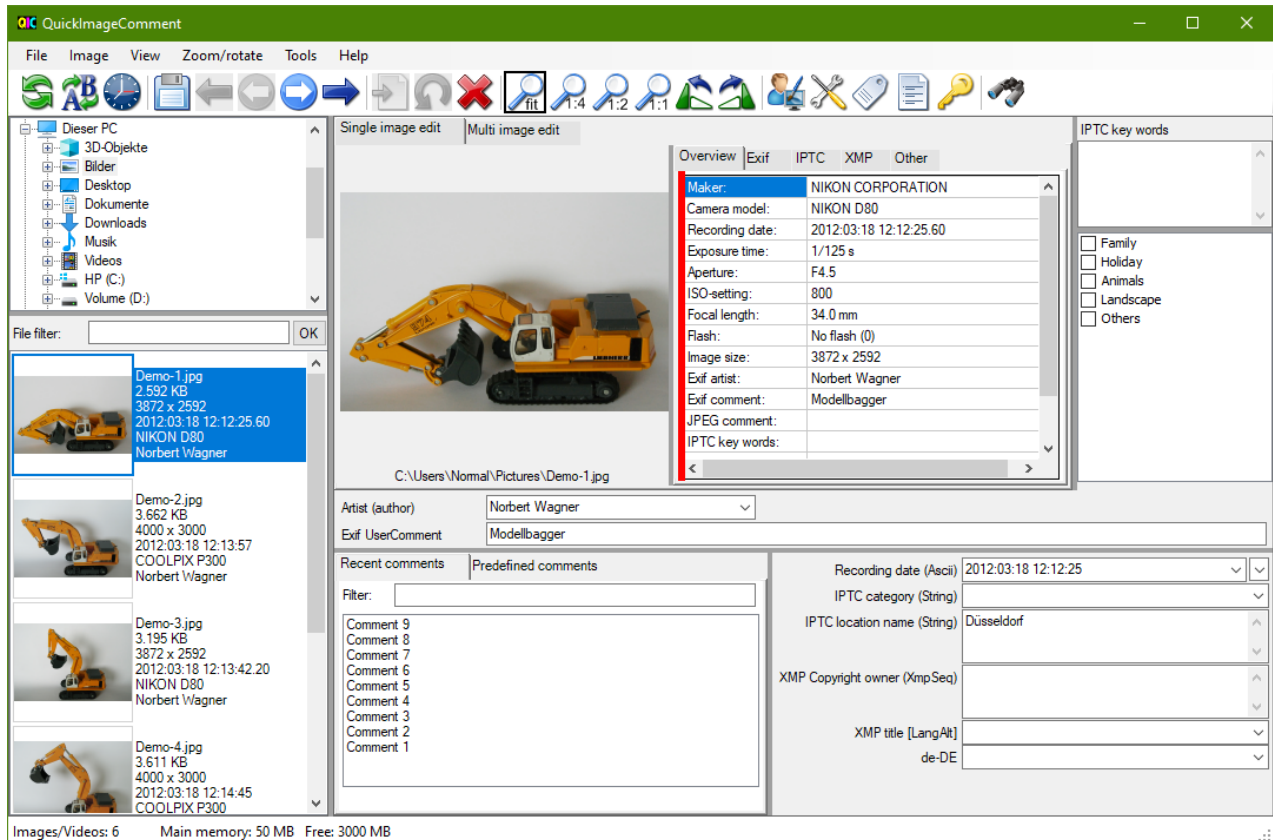
- [Layout of mask and adjustments](#)
- [Selection and display of images](#)
- [Selection and display of videos](#)
- [Display of image details](#)
- [Recording location on map](#)
- [Single image edit](#)
- [Multiple images edit](#)
- [Other features](#)
- [Tool bar](#)
- [Keyboard shortcuts](#)
- [Footer](#)

Via the menu bar of the main mask, symbols (see [Tool bar](#)) and sometimes keyboard shortcuts (see [Keyboard shortcuts](#)) following masks with additional functionalities can be opened:

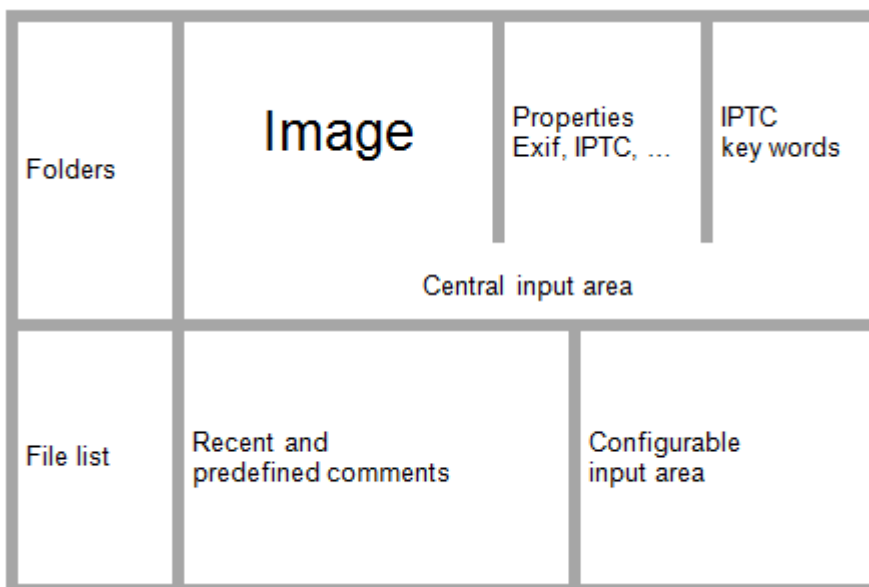
- [Mask "Search via properties"](#)
- [Mask "Adjust view"](#)
- [Mask "Settings"](#)
- [Mask "Field definitions"](#)
- [Mask "Define grid"](#)
- [Mask "Change recording date and time"](#)
- [Mask "Rename files"](#)
- [Mask "Compare files"](#)
- [Mask "Remove meta data"](#)
- [Mask "Image Details"](#)
- [Mask "Image in own window"](#)
- [Mask "Map"](#)
- [Mask "Predefined comments"](#)
- [Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"](#)
- [Mask "Select and edit data template"](#)
- [Mask "Customize mask"](#)

3.1 Layout of mask and adjustments

The main mask is divided into several sections:



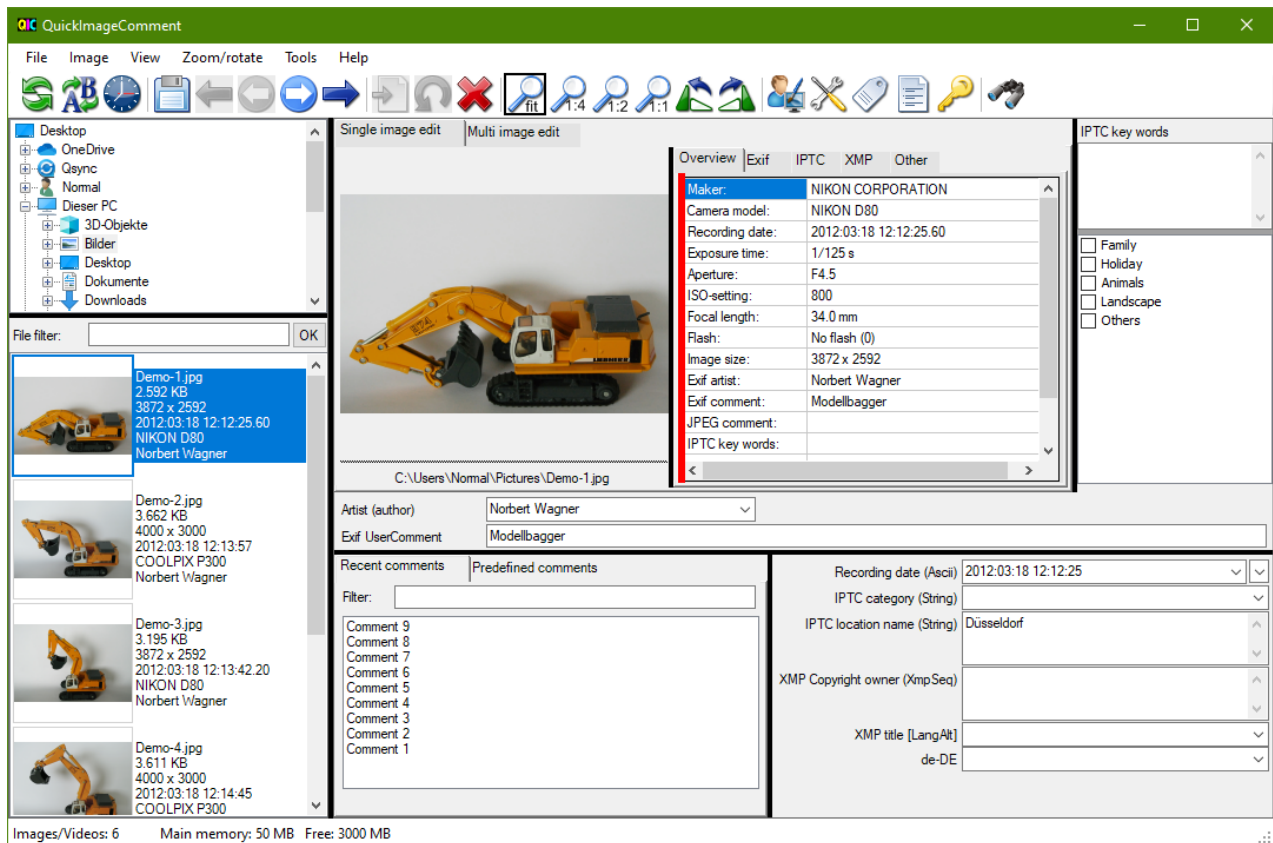
The following diagram identifies the areas:



Except for the picture all areas can be shown or hidden individually via the [Mask "Adjust view"](#) (menu entry "View - adjust"). In the central input area fields for artist and comment can be individually enabled and hidden. In one of these areas image details and map can be displayed. For more details see chapters [Display of image details](#) and [Recording location on map](#).

There is also the possibility of using the menu item "View - Only image and input fields" to hide all areas except the central input area. With selecting this menu item, a second time the previous view is restored.

The size of the different areas can be adjusted by moving the grey dividing lines, where for each area a minimum size cannot be exceeded. For clarity, the dividing lines are black in the picture below:



Via the menu entry "View - Command strip" (or [Mask "Adjust view"](#)), the toolbar can be displayed, hidden or displayed next to the menu. The last variant allows the use of symbols, but does not reduce the available height for the mask. However, then the symbols are relatively small.

Using the menu "View", the context menu (right-click in file list), or using the [Mask "Adjust view"](#) the file list can be shown in the following variants:

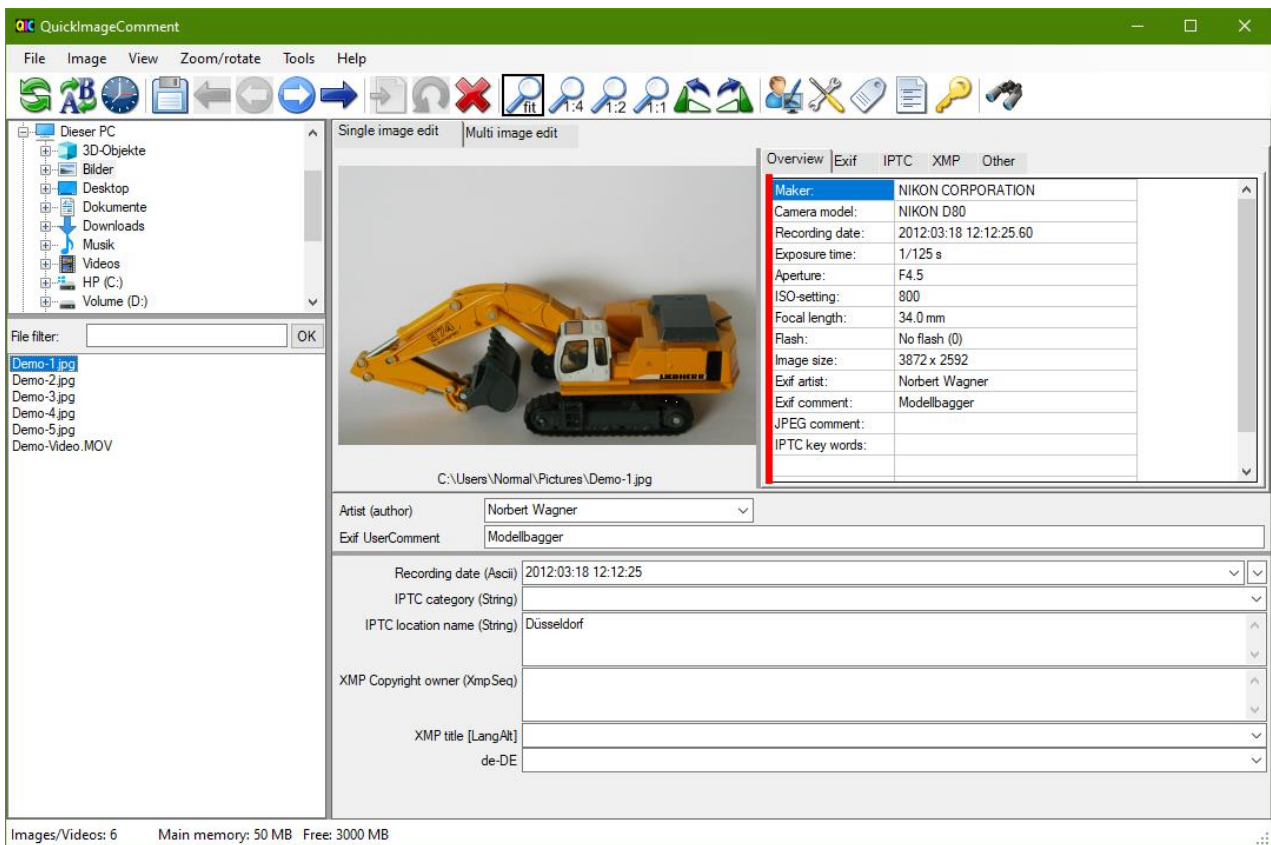
- Thumbnail
- Tiles
- List
- Details

In view "tiles" additional to the file names up to five more freely selectable properties can be displayed in file list. The listed configurable input field properties and the properties displayed in the "Overview" tab can also be chosen free. The selection of properties is done in [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Display of files in view of "Tiles"", "Change of properties" and "display in tab "Overview"".

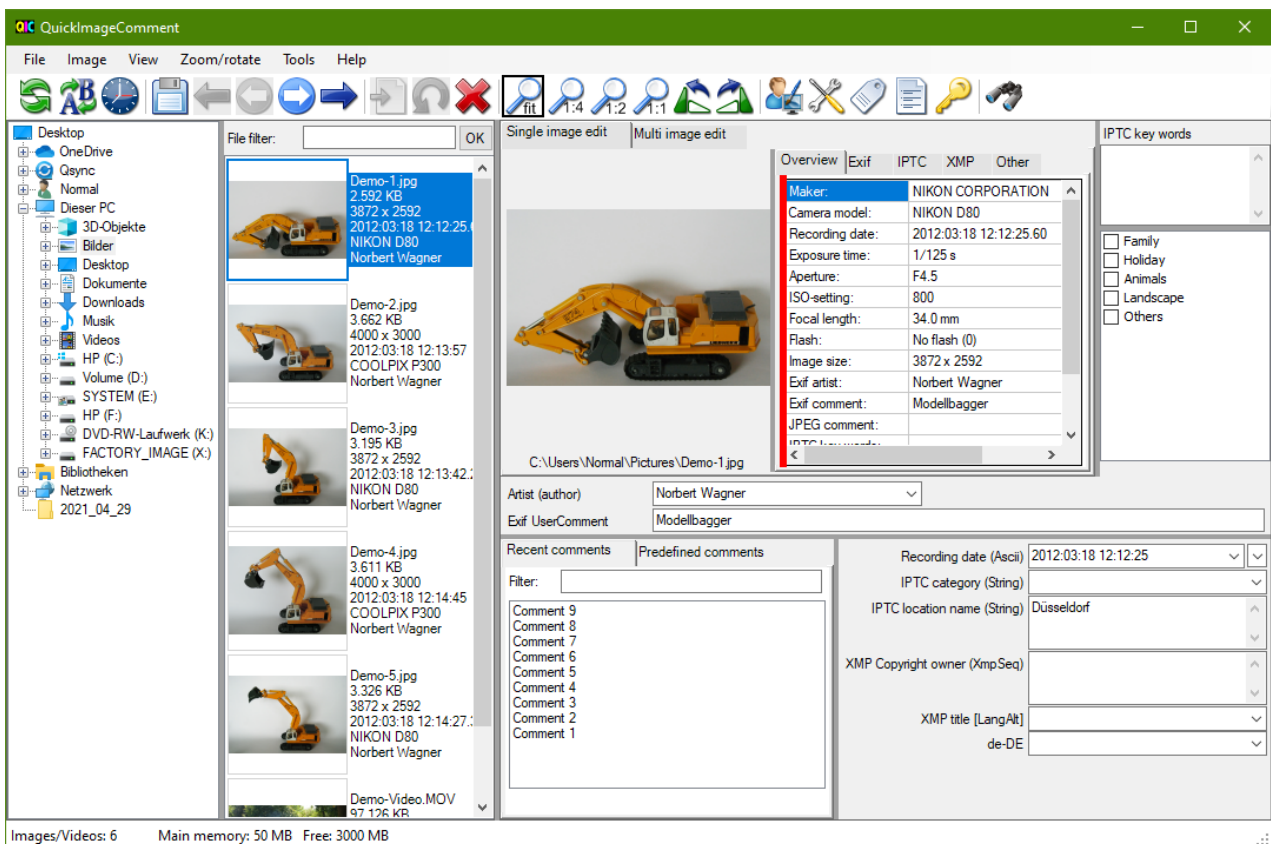
Size of thumbnails and spaces in views Thumbnail and Tiles can be adjusted via [General configuration file](#).

Using the [Mask "Adjust view"](#) the content of all areas except the one with image and central input fields can be assigned at your choice.

For example, if you do not need the lists of recent and predefined comments and IPTC Keywords, you can hide them and thus have more space for the image and / or the display of the properties in the upper region as well as for the values in the Configurable input area:



Additionally, the areas "Folder" and "File list" can be displayed side by side instead of one above the other for a better usage of wide monitors:



The same is possible for the both areas on the right-hand side, on top with image, properties and IPTC keywords, on bottom with last and predefined keywords and configurable input area.

In addition, the appearance of the mask can be largely customized itself. For more detail see [Mask "Customize mask"](#). These customizations can be removed using the menu item "Tools - Remove adjustments all masks".

3.2 Selection and display of images

Note: In the following description, it is assumed that all areas are displayed (see also [Layout of mask and adjustments](#)) and the contents of the areas are not exchanged.

Via the folder list on the upper left-hand side a folder is selected. In the area below its images and videos are displayed. In general, directory tree and file list are updated automatically, when a folder or file was added, renamed or deleted by another program.

Sometimes the update does not work or is delayed. Then via menu item "File - Refresh file list" the folder is read again and the file list is updated. The list can also be updated using symbol (see [Tool bar](#)) or via a keyboard shortcut (see [Keyboard shortcuts](#)). The folder list can be refreshed using menu item "File - Refresh folder tree".

The files can be filtered. Therefore, a textbox is located above the file list. The beginning of the file name of files to be displayed can be entered. With Return key or Ok button next to the text box the filter is activated.

Using the menu "View", the context menu (right-click in file list), or using the [Mask "Adjust view"](#) the file list can be shown in the following variants:

- Thumbnail
- Tiles
- List
- Details

The properties shown in the view "Tiles" can be selected in the [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Display of files in view "Tiles"". The mask can be opened via context menu in file list (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu.

The column width in the view "List" corresponds to the column width for column "Name" as set in view "Details".

Several grids can be displayed in top of the image, for example to examine the distortion of a lens or to "measure" details. Using entry "Define grid ..." in menu "View" the [Mask "Define grid"](#) can be opened to define up to six grids. With the menu item "Image with grid" display of grid is switched on or off. By moving the mouse while holding down the right mouse button over the image, the grid can be moved. If image details are displayed (see [Display of image details](#)), the grid will be moved, when the mouse pointer is outside the frame, which marks the detail area. If the mouse pointer is inside the frame while holding the right mouse button, the Details section is moved.

The image selected in the file list is displayed in the middle of the mask in the tab "Single image edit". Via symbols (see [Tool bar](#)), the menu "Zoom/Rotate" or shortcut (see [Keyboard shortcuts](#)) the magnification can be changed and the image can be rotated. The rotation of the image is only for display, the image file itself is not changed.

The magnification can be selected:

- fit (the picture fills the available space)
- 1:4 = reduction 1:4 (referring to the pixel)
- 1:2 = reduction 1:2 (referring to the pixel)
- 1:1 = one pixel in the image is represented as a pixel on the screen
- 2:1 = magnification 2:1 (referring to the pixel)
- 4:1 = magnification 4:1 (referring to the pixel)
- 8:1 = magnification 8:1 (referring to the pixel; for technical reasons, only available in the 64-bit version)

In the settings 1:4 to 8:1 magnification depends on the resolution of the image.

In the "Zoom/Rotate" menu is the option to select a magnification factor. This does not refer to the pixels, but to the size of the image in the available frame. Factor "x 2" means, that the image is displayed twice as large as with "fit" - regardless of the resolution of the image.

In case the image is bigger than the available space, the visible area can be shifted using the scroll bars on bottom and right or by moving the mouse with left button pressed.

Right to the tab "Single image edit" are five tabs in which properties of the image are displayed:

- Overview

A selection of properties, which can be customized using [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Display in tab "Overview" ...", separated for images and Videos. The mask can be opened via context menu in list of properties (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu.

In the Overview tab a red bar on the left indicates, that there is a conspicuity or error in the properties. These are displayed in the bottom of this tab. A conspicuity may be:

- For certain properties for which there should be only one value, there are several values in the image.
- The various properties (Exif, IPTC, XMP) in which artists (Author) and comment will be saved, have different values.

Errors may be reported by the library exiv2 when reading the properties, such as "The memory contains data of image at unknown type".

Errors can also occur when displaying the image. If the message "No imaging component suitable to complete this operation was found." is displayed next to "Error displaying image", a codec for reading the RAW image is missing. Other messages indicate a software error and should be reported to mail@quickimagecomment.de.

Properties can be marked (using the left mouse button) and then - using the context menu (right mouse button) - added to area for changeable properties.

- Exif
- IPTC
- XMP

For properties of type "LangAlt" the first value is for default language (x-default), then values for specific languages are listed; the language identifier is shown after the name of the property.

- Others, such as:
 - File Properties
 - ExifEasy properties (values are selected from a several Exif properties, for details see [Hints on special properties](#))
 - Properties that are defined in general configuration file (see [Adjustment and configuration](#) and [General configuration file](#))

For the tables in the tabs Exif, IPTC, XMP and Other you can use the context menu (right mouse button) or the [Mask "Adjust view"](#) to select one of the following views:

- List with Headings

This is the default view. The properties are assigned to different groups. Before each group the group name is displayed in a grey shaded cell. By clicking in the grey line, the properties belonging to the group can be shown or hidden.

- Simple list

In this view, the group name does not appear on a separate line but is at the beginning of the tag name, so a little more width is required for viewing. In this view, the columns can be sorted, e.g., by the tag.

- Simple list, group at the end

In this view, the group name does not appear on a separate line but is at the end of tag name. In this way properties can be sorted regardless of their group. This is useful (especially in case of manufacturer-specific properties) if you do not know in which group a property can be found. In addition, there are properties that are included in different groups - these are then also with each other.

- List of headings - English
Same as "List with Headings", tag names in English
- Simple List - English
Same as "Simple list", tag names in English
- Simple list, group at the end - English
Same as "Simple list, group at the end", tag names in English.

In these tables, fields can be marked (using the left mouse button) and then - using the context menu (right mouse button) - added to area for changeable properties or the tab "Overview".

Hint for language "German":

In the views "List with Headings" and "Simple List" mainly German tag names are displayed. If the meaning of the tag and thus a correct translation was not sure, it was not translated and the original (English) name is displayed. Translations are preferably chosen so that tags belonging together are together in the sort order.

Example: "Category" and "SuppCategory" were translated as "Kategorie" and "Kategorie zusätzlich", not as "Kategorie" and "zusätzliche Kategorie".

In this way the sorting in display with group at the end has a higher benefit for German than for English.

In the tabs Exif, IPTC and XMP the description of the property (if available) is displayed when the mouse hovers over the first column.

On the far right, the IPTC key words are displayed. IPTC key words can be predefined in the program ([Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"](#)). The pre-defined key words are listed here with a checkbox. Additional key words (free text) can be directly assigned to the image. These are entered in the field at the top.

On the bottom right is the configurable input area. Here configurable properties are displayed, which can be changed there too. The properties can be selected in the [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Change of properties". The mask can be opened via context menu in this area (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu. Additionally, properties can be marked in the tabs Exif, IPTC, XMP or Others and then added using the context menu.

If the image is changed by another program and there are no unsaved changes in this program, the display is refreshed automatically.

3.3 Selection and display of videos

In addition to the display of images and their properties, frames from video files and their properties can be displayed. The remarks of [Selection and display of images](#) also apply to videos. The program basically supports all video file types, which are also supported from the library exiv2 (www.exiv2.org). In the [Mask "Settings"](#), the file extensions can be defined, which are displayed in the file list. For them the metadata are displayed.

For videos other properties can be selected than for images to be displayed in tab "Overview" and for display of files in the view "Tile". For this purpose, the list for the group of properties in [Mask "Field definitions"](#) contains following entries:

- Display in tab "Overview" - Video
- Display of files in view "Tiles" - Video

The display of frames from the video file depends on the operating system and possibly from installed components. Unfortunately, I could not find a solution that works on all (still)

popular Windows operating systems. If no frame can be displayed, unfortunately this is not directly shown by a corresponding notice, but shows up in the way, that after a certain delay a black screen will appear. Therefore, in the [Mask "Settings"](#) separately it can be defined, for which video file types a frame is displayed. Depending on the video file and computer it can take a long time until a frame is displayed. This may be a reason to avoid the display of frames without having to sacrifice the display of metadata.

It is not the first frame of the video, which is displayed, but a frame after a predetermined time difference from the start. The pre-set can be defined in the [Mask "Settings"](#). Below the frame (above the file name), a different frame position can be selected for each video individually.

Changes in the metadata of video files are not possible.

The display of the video itself is not part of the program, but - as long as the respective video type is supported by the system - is possible by double click in the file list. This will open the program that is associated with the appropriate file type.

If the video is changed by another program, the display is refreshed automatically.

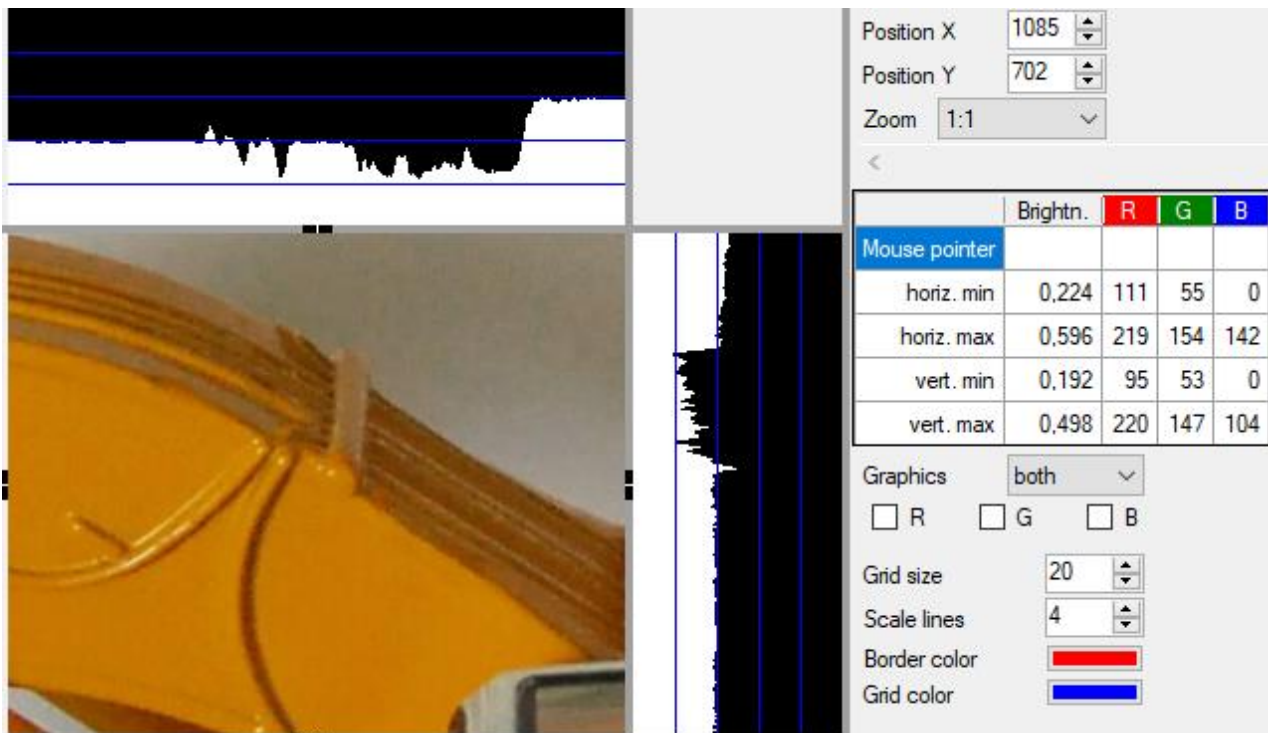
3.4 Display of image details

The image details can be shown in two ways:

- In main mask: Use [Mask "Adjust view"](#) to adjust the main mask so that "image details" is displayed in one of the areas.
- In own window: Open own window via menu entry "Tools - Image details in own window".

The display of image is useful for:

- View parts of the image magnified
- To see brightness and color gradients graphically and numerically
- To analyze images with pixel accuracy



Bottom left you can see the image section. The visible area of image can be shifted by moving the mouse with left button pressed. Above and on the right, graphics represent the brightness profile along the horizontal and vertical centerlines.

In the right part are:

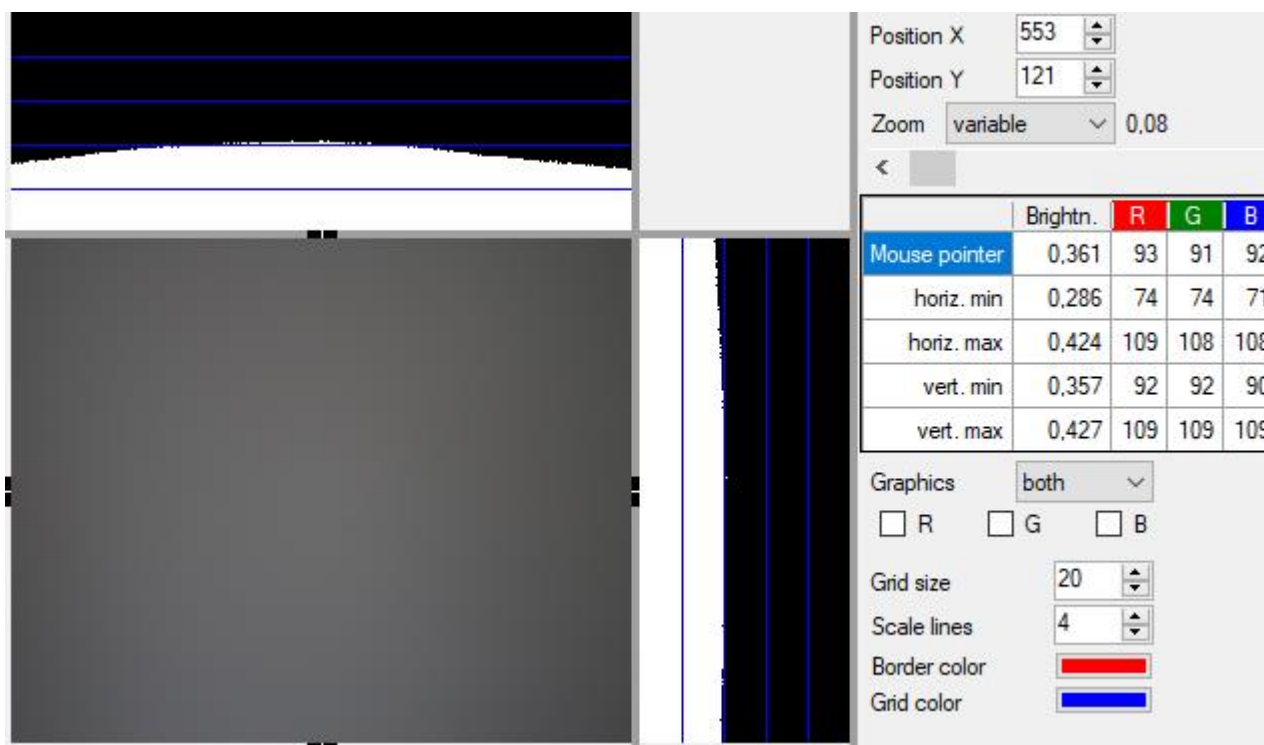
- Position X and Y: display and input capability for the X and Y position of the upper left corner of the detail of the selected image displayed here
- Zoom: Shortlist for magnification
By selecting "variable" the slider below the selection list for setting the magnification factor is enabled.
Various fixed magnifications of 4:1 to 1:5 can be selected directly.
With the "1:3 grid" and "1:5 grid", the pixels of the image are represented by 3x3 or 5x5 pixels. A grid line is placed centrally over the pixels in order to align the pixels exactly to their values in the graphs.
- A table shows the brightness value and the values for red, green and blue for:
 - Pixel under the mouse pointer
 - minimum value in the horizontal centerline
 - maximum value in the horizontal centerline
 - minimum value in the vertical centerline
 - maximum value in the vertical centerline
- Graphics: In the selection list it can be selected if both, none, only the horizontal or only the vertical graph are displayed.
- R, G, B: Using these checkboxes it can be selected individually, whether in addition to the brightness, curves for red, green and blue are displayed.
- Grid Size: The setting for grid size is only relevant for the zoom settings "1: 3 grid" and "1: 5 grid". The value 20 indicates here that every 20 pixels of the image a grid line is drawn.
- Scale lines: The value of 4 indicates that 4 scale lines are shown in the graphs.
- Frame color: Using this button, the color of the frame can be defined, which highlights the displayed detail section in the main picture box.
- Grid color: Using this button the color of the grid and scale lines can be defined.

In the main picture box, the displayed detail section is marked by a frame with horizontal and vertical centerline. When the mouse pointer is within the frame, the detail section can be shifted by moving the mouse while holding the right mouse button.

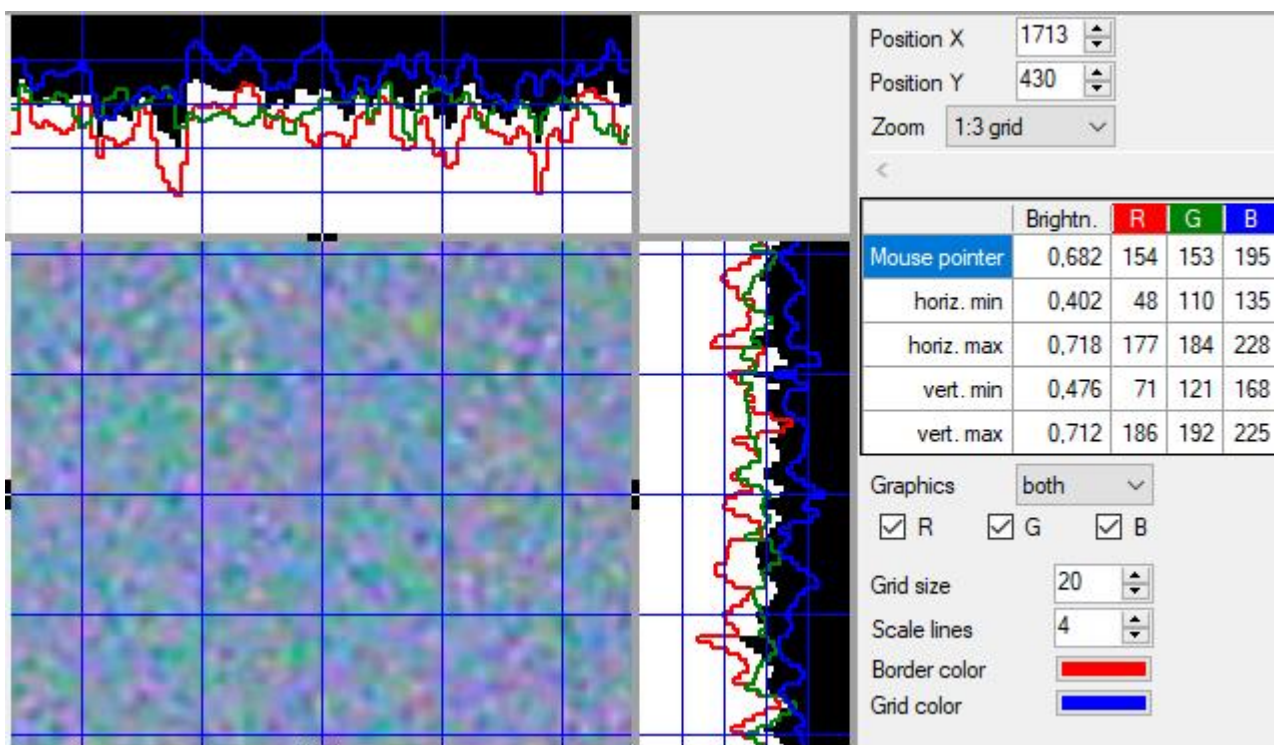
The information for image details is preferably displayed in a region which is in landscape mode. If the area is in portrait mode (taller than wide), the graphics are displayed in the upper part, the other controls are shown below.

Examples of use:

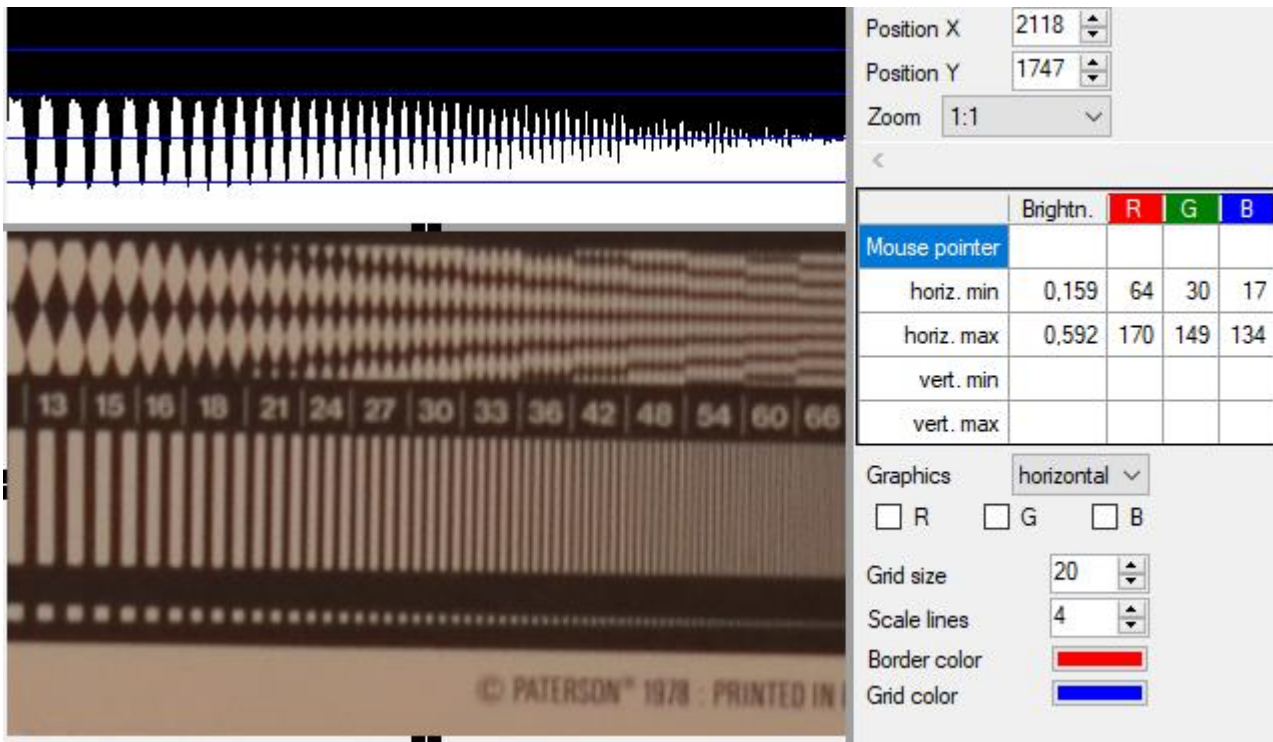
Examination of vignetting:



Testing of color noise of an image taken with compact camera and ISO-setting:



In the following picture you can clearly see that although the narrow lines on the right-hand side can be seen separated, the difference between light and dark line becomes increasingly much smaller:



3.5 Recording location on map

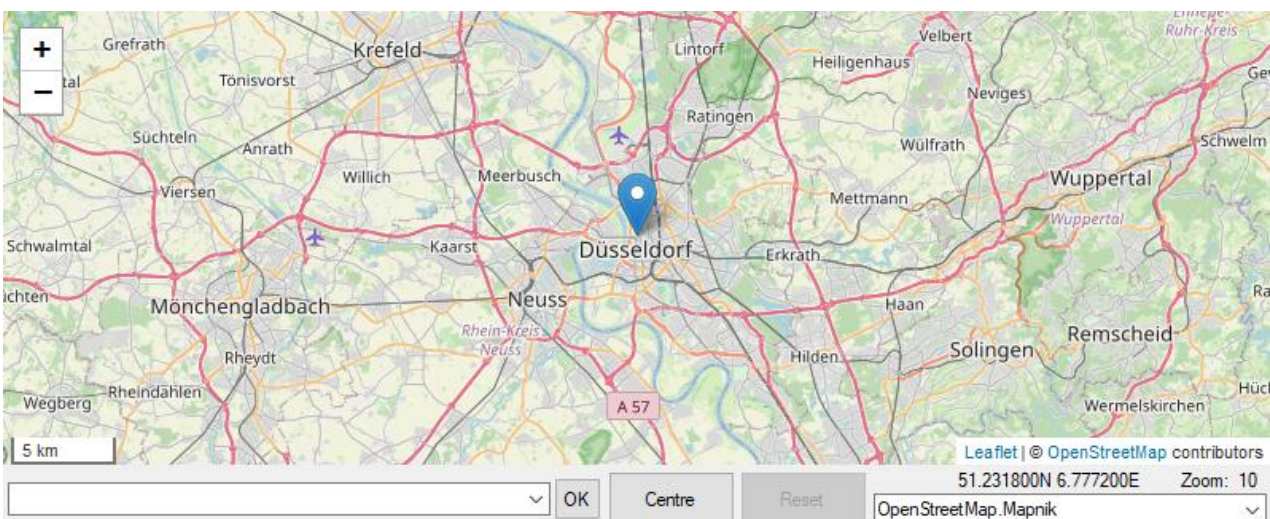
The recording location on map can be shown in two ways:

- In main mask: Use [Mask "Adjust view"](#) to adjust the main mask so that "map" is displayed in one of the areas.
- In own window: Open own window via menu entry "Tools - Map in own window".

For display of recording location on a map OpenStreetMap is used. The license conditions of OpenStreetMap have to be considered:

<https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright>

Hint: Technically it would also be possible to use Google Maps, but this would require a fee-based account. Due to that, this functionality is only offered with OpenStreetMap. However, there is a possibility to show a map from Google Maps in Standard Browser, see [Other features](#).



In the displayed map section two buttons "+" and "-" are shown in the upper left corner to select the zoom factor. Zoom factor can be changed via mouse wheel as well. With pressed left mouse button und mouse pointer an area can be marked which then is shown enlarged.

In case the selected image contains GPS-coordinates, the corresponding map section is displayed and the recording location is marked. The map section can be moved with the mouse. Via moving the marker, a new position can be set, which then can be stored in the image together with the other changed data (e.g., comment).

In case the selected image does not contain GPS-coordinates, the map section around the last used position will be displayed without marker. By using the right mouse button, a marker can be set, which also can be moved later. An existing marker can be removed with the right mouse button.

Below the map section you find:

- Combo box for search and selection of a position

Here you can enter addresses or other search criteria (e.g., "New York, central station") to find the corresponding location on the map. The search is started via Return-key or button "OK". Alternatively, coordinates such as

52.432N 8.345E

or

52°30'18.4"S 8°42'32.9"W

can be entered. Point or comma can be used as decimal separator. The last search results as well as the last positions saved in an image are shown when the combo box is opened and can be selected there. After selection, the corresponding map section is shown and the position is marked there.

- Button "OK"

After pressing this button, the search for a position is started. When the position is found, corresponding map section is shown and the position is marked there.

- Button "Centre"

After pressing this button, the map is moved in a way that the marker is shown in the center.

- Button "Reset"

In case coordinates were already stored in the image and the marker was moved, the marker will be moved back to the stored position. In case no coordinates were stored in the image and a marker was set, the marker will be removed.

- Display of position and zoom

On the right hand-side the latitude and longitude of the marked position are displayed as well as the zoom factor selected in the map.

- Selection list for map source

One of the following sources can be selected:

Name	Type	Max. Zoom	Copyright
CartoDB.Voyager	Street	19	© OpenStreetMap contributors © CartoDB
CartoDB.VoyagerLabelsUnder	Street	19	© OpenStreetMap contributors © CartoDB
Esri.WorldImagery	Satellite	20	Tiles © Esri — Source: Esri, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, UPR-EGP, and the GIS User Community

Name	Type	Max. Zoom	Copyright
Esri.WorldImagery+Hydda.RoadsAndLabels	hybrid (Satellite + Street up to Zoom 17)	20	Tiles © Esri — Source: Esri, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, UPR-EGP, and the GIS User Community, Tiles courtesy of OpenStreetMap Sweden — Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors
Esri.WorldImagery+Stamen.TonerHybrid	hybrid (Satellite + Street)	20	Tiles © Esri — Source: Esri, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, UPR-EGP, and the GIS User Community, Map tiles by Stamen Design, CC BY 3.0 — Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors
Esri.WorldStreetMap	Street	19	Tiles © Esri — Source: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2012
Esri.WorldTopoMap	topographic	19	Tiles © Esri — Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, iPC, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), and the GIS User Community
HikeBike.HikeBike	Street	18	© OpenStreetMap contributors
OpenMapSurfer.Roads	Street	19	Imagery from GIScience Research Group @ University of Heidelberg — Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors
OpenStreetMap.Mapnik	Street	18	© OpenStreetMap contributors
OpenStreetMapDE	Street	18	© OpenStreetMap contributors
OpenTopoMap	topographic	17	Map data: © OpenStreetMap contributors, SRTM Map style: © OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA)
Stamen.Terrain	Terrain	17	Map tiles by Stamen Design, CC BY 3.0 — Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors
Wikimedia	Street	19	Wikimedia

The bottom right corner of the map contains links to "Leaflet" (this component is used to display the map) and links to the sources for showing maps, which are opened in standard browser.

The configuration of maps is based on:

<http://leaflet-extras.github.io/leaflet-providers/preview/>

3.6 Single image edit

For the editing of single images, the tab "single image edit" has to be selected.

Below the picture are:

- Combo box for the name of the artist (author)

The name can be entered directly. When you save the name, it will be entered in a list so that the name later can be selected from the list or is completed after entering the first letters.

If no artist was entered for the image, a default can be used (defined in the [Mask "Settings"](#)). If the default is used, this is indicated by a note behind the combo box.

The label of the input field is dynamic. If in the [Mask "Settings"](#) no field (tag) has been configured to store the name, "not configured" is displayed as the label and the input field is not active. If exactly one field is configured to store the name, this field will be displayed. If more than one value is configured, the input field is labelled with "Artist (author)".

- Text field for comment

The comment can be freely entered or taken from the lists "Recent comments" or "Predefined comments" and then can be changed. Once the input begins, the input is used as filter for the list "Recent comments", i.e., the list displays the entries in which the text entered in the text field for comment is included. However, this requires that the tab "Recent comments" is in front, not "Predefined comments".

When you save the comment it will be added to the list of recent comments. If it is configured (see [Mask "Settings"](#)) you can jump directly into the list of "Recent comments" using the cursor down key. In this case, if necessary, it is automatically switched from the tab "Predefined comments" to tab "Recent comments".

The label of the input field is dynamic. If in the [Mask "Settings"](#) no field (tag) has been configured to store the comment, "not configured" is displayed as the label and the input field is not active. If exactly one field is configured to store the comment, this field will be displayed. If more than one value is configured, the input field is labelled with "Comment".

Two lists are available for an easier entry of the comment:

- Recent comments

This list displays the most recent comments saved. Above the list there is a text box for entering a filter. If, for example, "Smith" is entered there, all comments are displayed in the list that contains "Smith". Also, after an input in the text field for comment the list is filtered accordingly.

- Predefined comments

This list displays comments, which have been predefined in [Mask "Predefined comments"](#). In that mask predefined comments are assigned to a category (e.g., city, Last Name). Above the list is a selection list for these categories. With "*", all entries are displayed.

Entries from the two lists can be transferred into the text field for comment via the context menu of the list (right mouse button) or via a keyboard shortcut:

- Transfer (overwriting the text field for comment)
Keyboard shortcut: Return key
- Append with space
Keyboard shortcut: Spacebar
- Append with comma
Keyboard shortcuts: Comma
- Append with semicolon
Keyboard shortcut: Semicolon

For the assignment of IPTC keywords there are two options in the input area on the far right:

- Text box for free key words

In the text box on top several key words can be entered. Each line is regarded as a keyword. Keywords can include spaces.

- Check boxes for predefined keywords

In the [Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"](#) predefined keywords can be defined. For each of these keywords a check box is displayed.

Configurable input area

On the bottom right is a configurable area in which additional properties can be changed. The configuration is done in the [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Change of properties". The mask can be opened via context menu in this area (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu.

On the left-hand side of each input field is the description, supplemented by the data type of the field. If multiple values are allowed for a property by the program, the text box is displayed with vertical scroll bar. The number of rows displayed is configured in [Mask "Field definitions"](#). One row corresponds to one value. Properties, for which only one value is allowed, are displayed in a combo box. This makes it possible to select recently entered values for this property.

For properties of type "date" is a small button on the right-hand side of the input field:



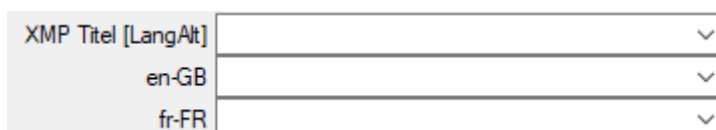
With this button a calendar is opened to select a date. For properties, which can have several values, only the first date can be set via the calendar.

For property "Exif.Image.Orientation" (type: Short), a drop down list shows the valid (numeric) values together with an explanation (e.g., "bottom, left (180° + horiz.flip)"). After saving changes of Exif.Image.Orientation, image will be rotated accordingly.

For Exif properties the program allows only one value. For IPTC and XMP properties it depends on the particular property or the data type. According to the Exif specification, it seems permissible to assign several values to each property and the library exiv2 used in the program allows it too. However, there is (almost) no Exif property for which multiple values are meaningful and also other programs usually do not support it. Therefore, this program allows only one value per Exif property. If multiple values were assigned to an Exif property with another program, these values will be shown as one string in the input box, separated by vertical bar ("|"). This string can be changed. Only one value is stored then.

Special features are XMP properties of the data type "LangAlt". For them multiple values can be defined, with one value for the default language and one value for each additional language. The mask contains a corresponding number of input boxes for each property. The languages can be selected in the [Mask "Settings"](#).

In the following example, the input fields for the XMP property Xmp.dc.title are shown. As a description "XMP title" was configured. The text box directly on the right-hand side of this label is used for the value of the default language, below fields for English (Great Britain) and French (France):



In case in the image a value is defined for a language that is not selected in [Mask "Settings"](#), it is displayed additionally and the value for this language can be changed too.

XMP properties of the data type "XmpText" can have very complex values, such as the following value, which was added by Windows Live Photo Gallery as information about people displayed in the image:

```
/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:Rectangle=0.210938, 0.477372, 0.079102, 0.119708  
/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:PersonDisplayName=Max Mustermann  
/MPRI:Regions[2]/MPReg:Rectangle=0.498047, 0.421898, 0.084961, 0.125547  
/MPRI:Regions[2]/MPReg:PersonDisplayName=Barbara Beispielfrau  
/MPRI:Regions[2]/MPReg:PersonEmailDigest=1234567890ABCDEF1234567890ABCDEF123456  
/MPRI:Regions[2]/MPReg:PersonLiveIdCID=1234567890123456789  
/MPRI:Regions[2]/MPReg:PersonSourceID=WL:1234567890123456789
```

This program can not verify the validity of those values. On the other hand, usually you will change such complex values also with the program, with which the values originally were assigned. But in this particular example, you could delete the values for PersonEmailDigest, PersonLiveIdCID and PersonSourceID for reasons of data protection before distributing the image. For the same reason you might also just save the first name instead of the full name. In this way not the whole information is lost, who is displayed in the picture.

Separate mask for data input

With the F10 key or double-click in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area, a [Mask for input of data](#) is opened to have a larger and variable input range for long and/or multi-line values. Via this mask also the [Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"](#) can be opened. Mask to insert and edit placeholders

Mask to insert and edit placeholders

With the Shift-F10 key or double-click with Shift-key in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area the [Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"](#) is opened. Placeholders are replaced with the value of the referenced property during saving and thus allow copying values from one property to another.

Reset entries

By pressing the Esc key, the inputs for artists, comment and IPTC keywords as well as in the configurable input range are reset and the corresponding values from the image are displayed again. With the menu item "Image - Reset" or the corresponding icon (see [Tool bar](#)), all inputs to the image are reset.

Restrictions

Some properties can be changed, but cannot be added. This is especially true for vendor-specific EXIF information and for the more complex XMP data structures. If properties could not be added, a message is displayed after saving.

Save changes

The changes can be saved by:

- Menu item "Image - Save"
- Menu item "Image - Previous" (after saving the previous image is displayed)
- Menu item "Image - Next" (after saving the next image is displayed)
- Return key in the text field for comment (if configured in this way, see [Mask "Settings"](#))

For these menu items, there are also icons in the toolbar (see [Tool bar](#)) and keyboard shortcuts (see [Keyboard shortcuts](#)).

3.7 Multiple images edit

In order to edit several images in one batch the tab "Multi image edit" has to be selected.

To change the properties of several images together, these images first have to be selected. But you also can add images to the selection later. If all images have same value for one

property (e.g., all images have the same artist), this value is also displayed. If they have different values, the corresponding field is left blank.

On the right-hand side in the tab "Multi image edit" a table with the selected images and their current values will be displayed for the chosen properties. The properties can be defined in Mask "Field definitions", group "Table view during multiple editing". The mask can be opened via context menu in the table (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu. By clicking on the column header, the images are sorted by the column. By clicking on a line, the corresponding image will be selected and will be displayed when you switch to tab "Single image edit".

The values for properties are input in the appropriate fields as described in Single image edit.

For each property you can decide whether they are to be taken over for all images. For the comment you have following possibilities:

- No change of existing comment
- Overwrite existing comment
- Insert new comment before existing
- Append new comment to existing

For the IPTC key words you have following possibilities:

- No change of existing key words
- Overwrite existing key words
- Append new key words

For all other values you can define via checkboxes whether the value is taken over or not.

The changes are saved using the menu entry "Image - Save", the corresponding icon (see [Tool bar](#)) or the associated keyboard shortcut (see [Keyboard shortcuts](#)).

Note:

The tab "Multi image edit" can also be used just to see different properties for a selection of images in one table. This is the reason why you can select any property in [Mask "Field definitions"](#) and you are not limited to editable properties there.

3.8 Other features

Menu "File"

Open ...	Opens an input mask to open folders or files via entering the full name (i.e., including complete path). Also, URLs can be entered, the respective file will then be downloaded into folder "Downloads".
Search via properties	Opens Mask "Search via properties"
Select all	All images displayed in the file list are selected, e.g., to rename them.
Refresh folder tree	The folder tree is updated. In general, directory tree is updated automatically, when a folder was added, renamed or deleted by another program. Sometimes the update does not work or is delayed. Then this feature can be used to ensure an update.

Refresh file list	<p>The file list is updated.</p> <p>In general file list is updated automatically, when a file was added, renamed or deleted by another program. Sometimes the update does not work or is delayed. Then this feature can be used to ensure an update.</p>
Rename files	Opens Mask "Rename files"
Compare files	Opens Mask "Compare files"
Change recording date/time	Opens Mask "Change recording date and time"
Remove meta data	Opens Mask "Remove meta data"
Export: selected properties of images in folder	<p>Writes selected properties of all the images contained in one directory, including subdirectories, into a file. The file contains a header with the name of the exported properties and for each image one line with the values. The columns are separated by tabs, so that the file easily can be opened with Excel or another spreadsheet calculation program.</p> <p>Use Mask "Field definitions" (group: "Export of properties in text file") to define, which properties are exported.</p> <p>The file is encoded in UTF-8 with Byte Order Mark (BOM).</p>
Export: all properties of selected images	<p>Writes all properties of the selected images into files; for each image one text file with all properties (meta-data) of the image is created.</p> <p>The files are encoded in UTF-8 with Byte Order Mark (BOM).</p>
Set file date to date image generated	<p>The file properties "Created at" and "Modified at" can be set to the date/time when image was generated. The date when image was generated is read from Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal. The property can be changed in General configuration file.</p>
Exit	Exit the program

Menu "Image"

Save	Save the changes in the image
First	Save the changes in the current image and switch to the first image
Previous	Save the changes in the current image and switch to the previous image
Next	Save the changes in the current image and switch to the next image
Last	Save the changes in the current image and switch to the last image
Reset	Changes in current image made since the last save are reset

Delete	Delete the selected image files, if it applies with associated files (see Mask "Settings" , setting "rename and delete also for following file extensions")
--------	---

Menu Tools

Settings	Opens Mask "Settings"
Field definitions	Opens Mask "Field definitions"
Predefined comments	Opens Mask "Predefined comments"
Predefined IPTC key words	Opens Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"
Select/edit data template	Opens Mask "Select and edit data template"
Load data from template:	Load data from template; for more details see Mask "Select and edit data template"
Image in own window	Opens Mask "Image in own window"
Image details in own window	An additional window is opened to show the image details (see Display of image details). Hint: only possible, if image details are not yet displayed in main mask; useful if two monitors are available.
Map in own window	An additional window is opened to show a map (see Recording location on map). Hint: only possible, if map is not yet displayed in main mask; useful if two monitors are available.
Map in Standard Browser	A sub menu contains several options to display Google maps, which is not supported by the built-in browser component. URLs for this display are stored in General configuration file , which contains also further hints to change the entries or add new ones. Note: change of GPS-data is not possible here.
Customize mask	Opens Mask "Customize mask"
Remove all mask adjustments	Removes all adjustments in all masks, which were defined using Mask "Customize mask" and set to default values again.
Language	For selection of language (Deutsch, English)

Storage location for user settings	<p>Opens a mask to display and change the storage location for user settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • %Appdata%: If several users are created on the computer, each user has his own settings. Settings are kept during upgrade on newer program version. Also to be selected, if Program folder is write-protected. • Program folder: Recommended for portable usage on USB-stick: the settings are on USB-stick too, no settings will be stored on other computer. When upgrading to a newer program version, settings need to be copied manually or program files in currently used folder have to be overwritten.
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Menu Help




















List shortcut keys	Lists all shortcut keys for all masks
About ...	Displays mask with program information (version, etc.)
Check for new version ...	Opens Mask "Check for new version"
Webpage	Direct access to the website www.quickimagecomment.de : Homepage with recent messages, download area and change history
GitHub	Direct access to the GitHub repository with source code, issues (errors, feature requests) and discussions
Help	Displays the help for this mask

3.9 Tool bar

Via the menu "View" the tool bar can be displayed or hidden or displayed in the same row as the menu. The last option allows using the symbols without reducing the usable height of the main mask. However, then the symbols are rather small.

List of symbols:

	<p>Refresh file list</p> <p>In general file list is updated automatically, when a file was added, renamed or deleted by another program. Sometimes the update does not work or is delayed. Then this feature can be used to ensure an update.</p>
	Opens Mask "Rename files"
	Opens Mask "Change recording date and time"
	Save

	Save image and switch to first image
	Save image and switch to previous image
	Save image and switch to next image
	Save image and switch to last image
	Load data from template; for more details see Mask "Select and edit data template"
	Reset of changes since last save
	Delete image files, if it applies with associated files (see Mask "Settings" , setting "rename and delete also for following file extensions")
	Zoom - fit (whole image is displayed)
	Zoom - 1:4 (show image with scale 1:4)
	Zoom - 1:2 (show image with scale 1:2)
	Zoom - 1:1 (show image with scale 1:1)
	Rotate image to the left (only for display, no change in image)
	Rotate image to the right (only for display, no change in image)
	Opens Mask "Adjust view"
	Opens Mask "Settings"
	Opens Mask "Field definitions"
	Opens Mask "Predefined comments" to enter and change predefined comments
	Opens Mask "Predefined IPTC key words" to enter and change predefined IPTC key words
	Opens Mask "Search via properties"

3.10 Keyboard shortcuts

The following general shortcut keys are defined:

F1	Opens help
F2	Opens Mask "Rename files"
F5	Refresh file list
F6	Show image and central input fields only
F7	Rotate image to the left (only for display, no change in image)
F8	Rotate image to the right (only for display, no change in image)
F11	Save image and switch to previous image If this assignment is deleted (see Mask "Customize mask" , Shortcut key), F11 will toggle view mode between normal and maximized.
F12	Save image and switch to next image
Ctrl-1	Zoom - 1:1 (show image with scale 1:1)
Ctrl-2	Zoom - 1:2 (show image with scale 1:2)
Strg-4	Zoom - 1:4 (show image with scale 1:4)
Ctrl-Shift-2	Zoom - 2:1 (show image with scale 2:1)
Ctrl-Shift-4	Zoom - 4:1 (show image with scale 4:1)
Ctrl-Shift-8	Zoom - 8:1 (show image with scale 8:1)
Ctrl-E	Opens Mask "Settings"
Ctrl-F	Zoom - fit (whole image is displayed)
Ctrl-I	Opens Mask "Predefined IPTC key words" to enter and change predefined IPTC key words
Ctrl-K	Opens Mask "Predefined comments" to enter and change predefined comments
Ctrl-L	Delete image file
Ctrl-S	Save

These shortcut keys can be modified and new can be defined, see [Mask "Customize mask"](#). The current settings are displayed using menu entry "? - List shortcut keys".

Additionally, in special areas some shortcut keys are defined, which cannot be changed.

In the lists for last and predefined comments:

Return key	Transfer (overwriting the text field for comment)
Space bar	Append with space

Comma	Append with comma
Semicolon	Append with semicolon

In all input fields for properties:

Esc	Reset input and show again the value saved in the image file
-----	--

In input fields for artist (author), comment and in configurable input area:

F10	Open a mask with larger and variable input field Mask for input of data
Shift-F10	Open Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"

In the input field for comment:


Return key	Save and show next image (if configured)
------------	--

In the input field for file filter above the file list:

Return key	Refresh the file list using the filter
------------	--

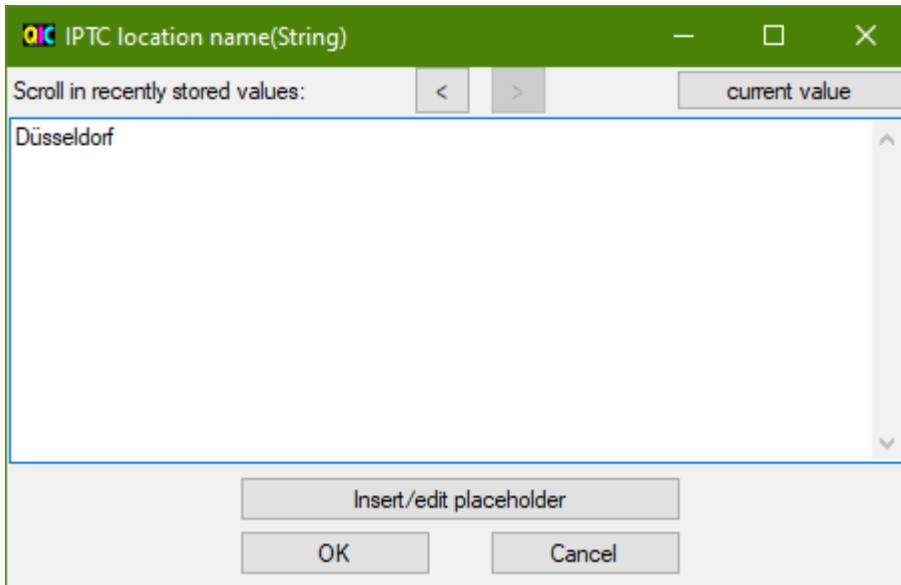
3.11 Footer

In the footer are displayed:

- Number of images or videos in the file list
- Main memory (Physical memory in use by active processes) used by the program and free main memory
- Note if the displayed file is read-only or no access is allowed
- The information that an image is read ("read ...") when an image is to be displayed, which has not yet been read in advance and therefore is not present in the cache
-  , when the cache is stuffed (i.e., images are read on "stock")

4 Mask for input of data

With the F10 key or double-click in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area this mask is opened to have a larger and variable input range for long and/or multi-line values:



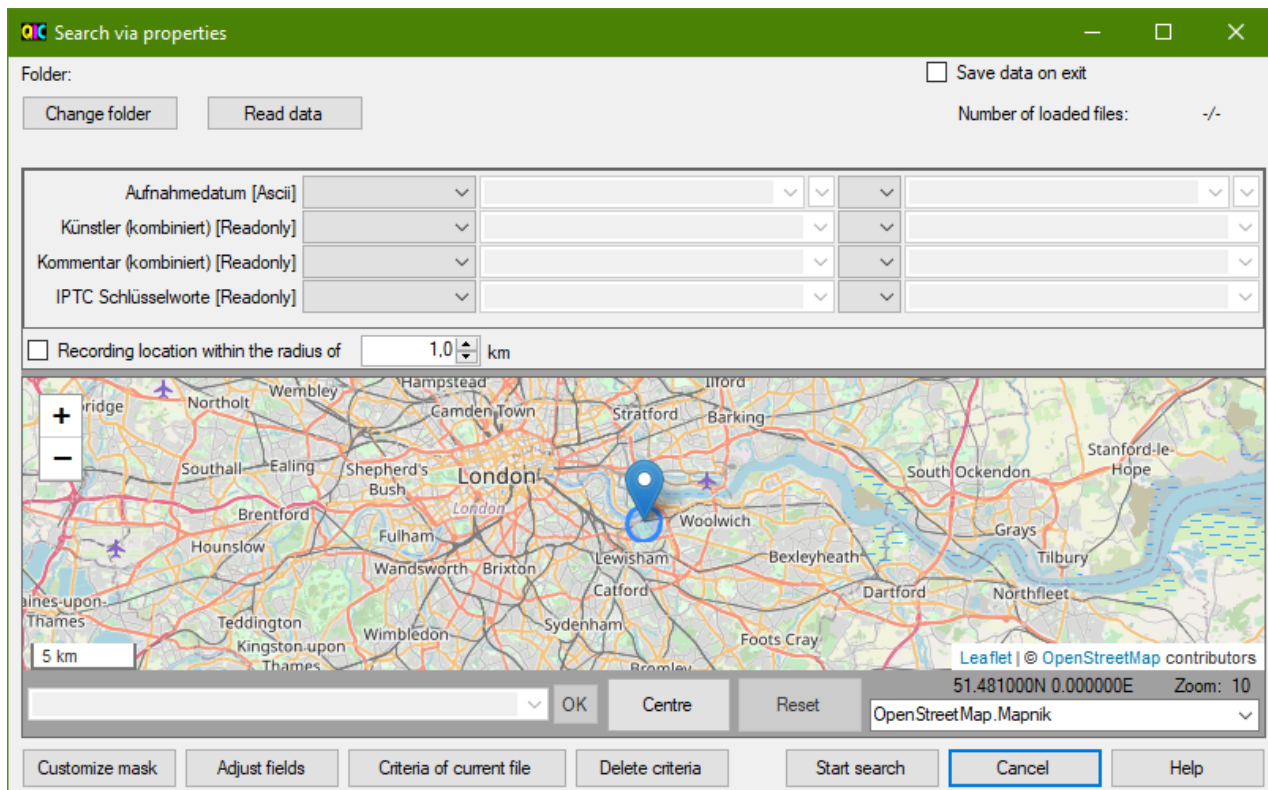
The size of the mask can be adjusted.

Command buttons:

<	Scroll in recently stored values - back
>	Scroll in recently stored values - forward
current value	Show current value
Edit/insert placeholder	Open Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"
OK	Accept input and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without accepting input

5 Mask "Search via properties"

With this mask you can search for images and videos using the stored properties.



Preparation

First you should define the fields you want to search with "Adjust fields". Only for these fields, data is read from the images, so that if you change the fields later, the data must be read in again.

Fields of the type "Date" always have the format "Original", as well as fields for which fixed values are given due to the Exif specification (e.g., Exif.Image.Orientation). For other fields you can choose between "Original" and "Interpreted". For numeric fields, "Interpreted" means that the values are treated as text. Often this is necessary because the interpreted values are texts like "70 mm" or "Auto" (for the value 0 of Exif.Photo.WhiteBalance).

In the "Original" format, the values of numeric fields are treated as numbers, which is important for comparisons (larger or smaller). Problems are caused by the few numeric fields, which can have several values. For example, Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLongitude consists of three values for degrees, minutes and seconds. Only one value could be used for the numerical comparison. Therefore, the format "Original" should not be used in such cases. In the concrete example (Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLongitude), it makes sense to use Image.GPSLongitudeDecimal.

The first time it is called, the last selected folder is used as the start folder for the search. With the button "Change folder" the folder can still be changed. Afterwards the import of the data has to be started with "Read data". First the start folder and all subfolders are searched for pictures and videos. The number of files found is displayed in the upper right corner. For these files the data will be read in and stored in an internal table for the search. The progress bar shows the percentage of files for which data has been read in. With the button "Cancel" next to "Read data" the reading can be cancelled.

It can happen that values are found in the files that do not have a valid format. This can happen e.g., with Exif date fields, because they are stored as texts (Exif data type "Ascii") and therefore values can be stored which do not correspond to the Exif date format. Another problem can be numeric fields which consist of several values and are configured with format

"Original" (see above). If such incorrect values are found, they are displayed in a separate mask. In the case of numeric fields with multiple values, the "Interpreted" format can be used instead of the "Original" format. The values are then treated like texts during the search. In other cases, you have to decide whether to ignore this (i.e., you cannot search for the file in question using this property) or to correct the values before searching.

If the mask is closed and opened again, the data is available for the search again. A new read-in is necessary if the fields for the search criteria or the start folder are changed.

Search

The controls for entering the search criteria are

- Selection list for the first comparison operator
"=", "<>", ">", ">=", for texts also "contains", "does not contain", "starts with", "does not start with", "ends with" and "does not end with".
- Input field for first value
- For date fields: Button to select a date in a calendar
- Selection list for the second comparison operator
"<" and "<=" (only if the first comparison operator is ">" or ">=", otherwise disabled)
- Input field for second value
- For date fields: Button to select a date in a calendar

The input fields for values allow to select older values for this property directly. The list is completed when the search is started.

Depending on the data type of the field (displayed in square brackets after the field name) the values are to be entered as string, integer, decimal number or date.

Valid formats for decimal numbers:

- Decimal number, if necessary, with decimal separator according to regional settings in Windows and without thousands separator.
Examples: 2 or 2.1
- Fractions with numerator and denominator separated by slash.
Example: 12/100

Valid formats for date:

- Date according to the regional settings in Windows
- Exif date format: YYYY:MM:DD
- Exif date format with time: YYYY:MM:DD HH:mm or YYYY:MM:DD HH:mm:ss
- IPTC date format: YYYY-MM-DD

If only one date is specified for a date/time search, only the date is compared. If a time is also specified, the date and time will be compared.

During the search, leading or following spaces are ignored. This applies to the input in this mask and to the values read from the images/videos. For example, if the stored value is "ABC", this file will be found with the criterion "starts with 'A'".

In the lower part of the screen a map is displayed, with which you can limit the recording location. How the map can be adapted and a specific location marked there is described in [Recording location on map](#). Above the map, you can define the radius within which the search will be performed around the marked recording location. The search area is displayed on the map with a blue circle. The checkbox to the left of this activates or deactivates the search via recording location.

With "Start search" the search for the files is started, which fulfill all entered criteria. If at least one matching file is found, the mask is closed and the found files are listed in the file list of the main mask. If no matching file is found, a message is displayed and the search mask remains open.

To see all files in the selected folder again after the search in the main mask, use the menu item "File - Refresh file list" or the following button:



Saving/reading the data for search

Reading the data from the images or videos is time-consuming if there are many files to be checked. Therefore, there is an option "Save data on exit" in the top right corner of the screen.

If this option is selected:

- When the program is closed, the read-in data is saved to an XML file. This XML file has the name "QuickImageComment_FindDataTable.xml". (is configurable, see [General configuration file](#)) and is written to the same folder where the user related configuration file is located.
- When the program is restarted and the search mask is opened, this XML file is read in.
- When reading in the data structure is checked. If it does not match the configured fields, the data is not read in.
- After reading in, changes that have occurred since saving are searched for in the background:
 - Newly created files are entered
 - Entries of deleted files are removed
 - Data of changed files are updated

The search can already be used, but might give incorrect results due to outdated data.

As long as the update is in progress, this is indicated at the top of the screen. As soon as the update is finished, the corresponding message disappears.

Warning: Whether a file has been modified is determined by the file attribute "modification date" (contains time with seconds). You can configure the program so that the modification date is not changed (see [File modification date when saving](#)). Then file changes will not be detected.

The following figures can only be transferred to a limited extent in absolute terms, but the relations are very clear. In the scenario, a folder with a total of 28,000 files, 17,000 of which are images or videos, is considered.

Reading in the data	About 20 minutes
Saving the data in XML file	About 1 second
Reading the data from the XML file	About 1 second
Check for changes - check only, no update required	About 30 seconds
Check for changes with about 300 new files	About 35 seconds

Further hints

The data read from the images/videos for the search is updated when images/videos are changed or deleted via this program. Generally, an update also takes place if folders or files are added, deleted or renamed by another program. Occasionally, however, this update does not occur or is delayed.

The XMP specification allows to specify only year (e.g., 2019) or year and month (e.g., 2019-03) as the date. These values are considered the first day of the year (2019-01-01) or the first day of the month (2019-03-01) in the search.

Command buttons:

Change folder	Opens tree view to change the start folder for the search
Read data	Read the data into an internal table for the search
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Adjust fields	Opens Mask "Field definitions" to define the fields to be searched
Criteria of current file	Accepts the values of the currently selected file as search criteria
Delete criteria	Deletes the entered criteria
Start search	Starts the search
Cancel	Close mask without search
Help	Displays the help for this mask

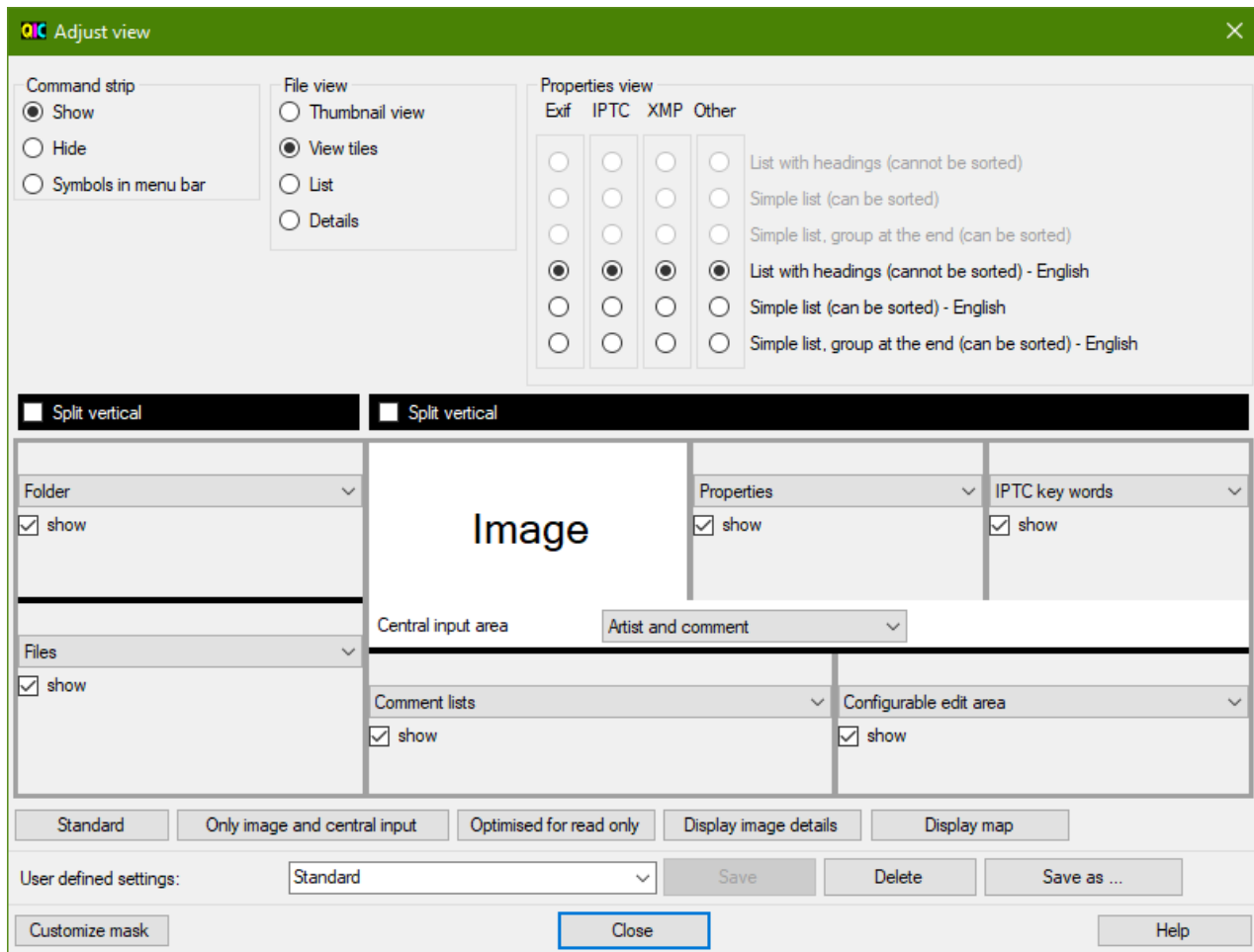
6 Mask "Adjust view"

In this mask the view of the main mask can be adjusted. The main task of this mask is to define the mapping of the various contents (folder list, file list, ...) to the display areas and to show or hide the display areas.

Example: If you do not need the lists of recent and predefined comments, you can use the area to the left of the configurable input area to show the IPTC key words and thus you have a bit more space for the image and / or the display of the properties.

Additionally, following adjustments are possible:

- Display of the toolbar (also possible via menu bar)
- File view (also possible via menu bar or context menu)
- Views of the properties (Exif, IPTC, XMP, Others, also possible via context menu)



In each panel is a selection list to select the content for this display area. The content will possibly be exchanged, i.e., (starting from the setting shown in the picture) after selecting "Files" rather than "Folder" in the list on the top left, in the display area below "Folder" will be displayed instead of "Files".

The checkbox allows hiding the display area when the corresponding content is not needed. This gives you more space for the other contents and the display is more clearly laid out.

For the central input area, the selection list allows to specify whether the input fields for artists and comment (individually, both, none) are displayed.

The main mask is separated in two areas, on the left-hand side with Folder on top and Files on bottom, on the rights hand side with Image, Properties and IPTC key words on top and Comment lists and Configurable edit area on bottom. For both areas the horizontal split (top and bottom) can be changed to a vertical split (left and right) with the black check boxes. In this way wide monitors can be used more efficient.

The user defined settings can be saved with a name and activated again via the drop-down list.

Command buttons:

Standard	Mapping of content to display areas according standard (like right after installation)
Only image and central input fields	Only the picture and the central input fields for artists and comment will be displayed
Optimized for read-only	Only the content is shown, which is usually interesting to see the pictures and read the properties; Contents normally needed to change data (central input area, IPTC key words, comment lists, configurable input range) are hidden.
Display image details	Similar to "Optimized for read-only "; additionally, image details are displayed (see Display of image details)
Display map	Similar to "Optimized for read-only "; additionally, a map is displayed (see Recording location on map)
Save	Saves the user defined settings with the name displayed in the drop-down list
Delete	Deletes the user defined settings with the name displayed in the drop-down list
Save as ...	Saves the user defined settings with a new name
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Close	Close mask
Help	Displays the help for this mask

7 Mask "Settings"

In this mask the most important settings for the program can be changed. Further adjustments are described in [Mask "Adjust view"](#), [Mask "Field definitions"](#), [Mask "Predefined comments"](#), [Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"](#), [Mask "Customize mask"](#) and [Adjustment and configuration](#).

The following table describes the various settings:

Keep backup from image file	<p>File before saving remains as a backup file with the extension ..._ bak (e.g., for .jpg-file as .jpg_bak).</p> <p>Before you save, a backup file is always generated regardless of this setting. If this option is not enabled, the backup file is deleted after the file is saved. If during saving a fatal error occurs, which leads to a program abort, the backup file is retained, even if this option is not enabled.</p>
In field comment: Save with Return and show next image	When the focus is in the text field for comment, with return key the image is saved and the next one is displayed.
In field comment: with cursor down switch to list of recent comments	With the key "cursor down" focus moves into the list of recent comments so that you directly can select an appropriate comment.
In case of error or conspicuity in meta data: bar in list "Overview"	<p>In case an error or a conspicuity is detected in the meta data, a bar (standard color: red) appears in the list "Overview" on the left. A conspicuity can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If for artists or comment several properties were elected for saving and these properties have different values (e.g., Exif.Image.ImageDescription contains something else than in Exif.Photo.UserComment and in both - according to the configuration - the comment should be contained • For one of the properties for artists and comment there are several entries in the image. • Error while reading meta data by exiv2, e.g., "The memory contains data of image at unknown type" <p>Errors can also occur when displaying the image. If the message "No imaging component suitable to complete this operation was found." is displayed next to "Error displaying image", a codec for reading the RAW image is missing. Other messages indicate a software error and should be reported to mail@quickimagecomment.de.</p>
In case of error or conspicuity in meta data: show message box	In case an error or conspicuity is detected in the meta data, a message box is shown.
Navigation with tab to split bar	The tab key can be used also to navigate to the split bars (grey bars between areas). Thus, you can adjust the size of the areas with the keyboard.

Single Edit: if no artist entered, use:	If an image is displayed in single image edit, for which no artist is entered yet, the name given here is displayed by default (with a note behind the combo box for artists).
Maximum number of recent user comments, which are saved	When saving images, the comments are saved in a list (last entries as first) so that you can use them for the following pictures again. When you exit the program, the maximum specified number of entries is stored in the configuration file, so that they are available again when you start the program the next time.
Maximum number of values for "artist", which are saved	When saving images, the entries for artist are saved in a list (last entries as first) so that you can use them for the following pictures again. When you exit the program, the maximum specified number of entries is stored in the configuration file, so that they are available again when you start the program the next time.
Maximum number of locations/values per configurable input field, which ...	<p>When saving images, the entries for fields in configurable input area are saved in a list (last entries as first) so that you can use them for the following pictures again. When you exit the program, the maximum specified number of entries for each input field is stored in the configuration file, so that they are available again when you start the program the next time.</p> <p>This setting also applies to the maximum number of GPS positions that are stored for the search list of the map display, separately for unnamed entries that were created by marking on the map and for named entries that are the result of a search (recognizable by a speaking name such as "Düsseldorf Hbf"). This is to prevent new unnamed entries from gradually displacing named entries from the list.</p>
At mouse double click in list box of predefined comments	<p>Here you can set the action that is executed after a double click on an item in the list box of predefined comments. Possibilities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overwrite • Append with space • Append with comma • Append with semicolon
At inserting: check, if text ends with one of the following characters:	In the case of multiple image editing, comment can be inserted before the existing one. You can get it checked that there is a separator in between. Valid delimiters can be defined here. If the text to be inserted does not end with one of these characters, a warning is issued and you can decide whether the text is still pasted and images are stored in this way.

At appending: check, if text starts with one of the following characters:	In the case of multiple image editing, comment can be appended after the existing one. You can get it checked that there is a separator in between. Valid delimiters can be defined here. If the text to be appended does not start with one of these characters, a warning is issued and you can decide whether the text is still pasted and images are stored in this way.
During renaming and deleting of files consider also following file extensions (separated by ";")	Some programs create additional files for image files that have the same name but a different file extension (e.g., image.xyz related to image.jpg). Here such file extensions ("xyz") can be given so that these additional files are also renamed or deleted when renaming or deleting the image file.
Settings for caching: Maximum number of images, which are buffered for display	In order to speed up the display of previous or next images, they can be read in advance from disk. This setting defines how many images are read into the buffer. In contrast to the buffer configured via the subsequent setting, in the buffer configured here, the images are read completely and therefore this buffer consumes more memory.
Settings for caching: Maximum number of images, which are buffered for file list	In order to speed up scrolling in file list, thumbnail images or properties of images can be read in advance from disk. This setting defines how many images are read into the buffer.
Settings for caching: Maximum used main memory (above no further caching)	<p>Apart from the two previous settings via the number of images read into buffers you can also define the maximum memory used for caching. This setting applies to both buffer areas together. For this setting consider the total available main memory.</p> <p>Note: In the footer of the main mask the main memory currently used by the program is displayed.</p>
Save comment in	<p>The contents of the text field for comment on the main mask can be saved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exif-Tag "Exif.Image.ImageDescription" • Exif-Tag "Exif.Image.XPComment" • Exif-Tag "Exif.Image.XPTitle" • Exif-Tag "Exif.Photo.UserComment" • IPTC-Tag "Iptc.Application2.Caption" • XMP-Tag "Xmp.dc.description" (with language code lang=x-default) • XMP-Tag "Xmp.dc.title" (with language code lang=x-default) • Field "JPEG comment", called by some programs "Image Comment"

Artist (author) save in	<p>The contents of the text field for artist (author) On the main mask can be saved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exif-Tag "Exif.Image.Artist" • Exif-Tag "Exif.Image.XPAuthor" • IPTC-Tag "Iptc.Application2.Writer" • XMP-Tag "Xmp.dc.creator"
Languages (for XMP data type Lang-Alt)	<p>The XMP data type lang-Alt allows defining values in different languages for a tag. Here you can select for which languages an input field is always displayed in the configurable input area.</p> <p>The languages to select from are defined in the general configuration file. For more information, see General configuration file.</p>
Video: File extensions - display properties (separated by ";"):	Video files with specified file extensions will be displayed in the file list and their metadata are read.
Video: File extensions - display a frame (separated by ";"):	For video files with the specified file extensions, a frame is displayed.
Video: Frame Position [s]	Defines the position of the displayed frame in seconds from the start of the video
charset for Exif.Photo.UserComment	<p>Character set in which Exif.Photo.UserComment is written. This setting applies also for a few other Exif tags of type "Comment".</p> <p>In general, "Unicode" is better supported by other programs to display Meta data.</p>
Write Exif in UTF8	<p>Write Exif data in UTF8-encoding.</p> <p>In general, "UTF8" is better supported by other programs to display Meta data.</p>
Write IPTC in UTF8	<p>Write IPTC data in UTF8-encoding.</p> <p>In general, "UTF8" is better supported by other programs to display Meta data.</p>
Sending error reports and anonymous usage data	Details see Sending error reports and anonymous usage data

Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
OK	Save changes and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without saving changes
Help	Displays the help for this mask

7.1 Sending error reports and anonymous usage data

If the program is running on Windows 10, the Microsoft AppCenter can be used to send error reports of program crashes and elementary anonymous usage data to the developer.

If the sending of error reports and anonymous usage data is enabled, error reports of program crashes are automatically sent to the developer the next time the program is started. The user does not need to send a mail with the bug report attached. Further hints (e.g., a short description of the last actions) could help in troubleshooting. Please send them to mail@quickimagecomment.de. This also allows the developer to contact the user for further questions or after providing a short-term error correction.

The transmission of elementary anonymous usage data provides the developer with an overview of which masks are frequently or rarely used. This helps to prioritize further developments, especially if a fundamental revision of the program becomes necessary for technical reasons.

If you want to take a closer look at which data is transferred, you can see this in the following folder:

%USERPROFILE%\Appdata\Local\Microsoft\Appcenter

In this folder, subfolders like "4ce28744-f41b-486e-9481-ba6cb3ba2925" are created, in which you will find files named "Logs.db". These files are binary, but with a simple editor like Notepad you can see what information is collected and sent.

Below are examples of the three scenarios in which information is transmitted.

At start of the program:

```
analytics{
  "timestamp": "2020-11-22T13:07:15.90789Z",
  "sid": "d06fe55c-2ac7-42d5-a44a-2b5d0c0df325",
  "device": {
    "sdkName": "appcenter.winforms",
    "sdkVersion": "3.4.3",
    "model": "WH657AA-ABD p6310de",
    "oemName": "HP-Pavilion",
    "osName": "WINDOWS",
    "osVersion": "10.0.19041",
    "osBuild": "10.0.19041.630",
    "locale": "en-US",
    "timeZoneOffset": 60,
    "screenSize": "1920x1080",
    "appVersion": "4.37-X86",
    "appBuild": "4.37.0.0",
    "appNamespace": "QuickImageComment"
  },
  "type": "startSession"
}
core{
  "services": [
    "Analytics",
    "Crashes"
  ],
  "timestamp": "2020-11-22T13:07:15.90789Z",
  "device": {
    "sdkName": "appcenter.winforms",
    "sdkVersion": "3.4.3",
    "model": "WH657AA-ABD p6310de",
```



```
"oemName": "HP-Pavilion",
"osName": "WINDOWS",
"osVersion": "10.0.19041",
"osBuild": "10.0.19041.630",
"locale": "en-US",
"timeZoneOffset": 60,
"screenSize": "1920x1080",
"appVersion": "4.37-X86",
"appBuild": "4.37.0.0",
"appNameSpace": "QuickImageComment"
},
"type": "startService"
}
```

Usage data:

```
analytics{
  "id": "2ebed716-d414-4229-811b-ce148f67cb72",
  "name": "FormSettings",
  "timestamp": "2020-11-22T13:07:25.5593608Z",
  "sid": "d06fe55c-2ac7-42d5-a44a-2b5d0c0df325",
  "device": {
    "sdkName": "appcenter.winforms",
    "sdkVersion": "3.4.3",
    "model": "WH657AA-ABD p6310de",
    "oemName": "HP-Pavilion",
    "osName": "WINDOWS",
    "osVersion": "10.0.19041",
    "osBuild": "10.0.19041.630",
    "locale": "en-US",
    "timeZoneOffset": 60,
    "screenSize": "1920x1080",
    "appVersion": "4.36-X86-Beta4",
    "appBuild": "4.37.0.0",
    "appNameSpace": "QuickImageComment"
  },
  "type": "event"
}
```

Program crash:

```
crashes{
  "exception": {
    "type": "System.NullReferenceException",
    "message": "Object reference not set to an instance of an object.",
    "stackTrace": "    at
QuickImageComment.Program.CurrentDomain_UnhandledException(Object sender,
UnhandledExceptionEventArgs UnhandledExcEvtArgs) in
D:\\_prg\\VisualCS\\QuickImageComment\\src\\Program.cs:line 262"
  },
  "id": "04d2928a-411d-4766-87f4-5114085cf77d",
  "processId": 13476,
  "processName": "QuickImageComment",
  "fatal": true,
  "appLaunchTimestamp": "2020-11-22T13:11:51.1357136Z",
  "architecture": "x86",
  "timestamp": "2020-11-22T13:12:15.1131844Z",
  "sid": "06712029-02db-4c27-bfb2-e3e7d4296b4b",
  "device": {
```

```
"sdkName": "appcenter.winforms",
"sdkVersion": "3.4.3",
"model": "WH657AA-ABD p6310de",
"oemName": "HP-Pavilion",
"osName": "WINDOWS",
"osVersion": "10.0.19041",
"osBuild": "10.0.19041.630",
"locale": "en-US",
"timeZoneOffset": 60,
"screenSize": "1920x1080",
"appVersion": "4.37-X86",
"appBuild": "4.37.0.0",
"appNamespace": "QuickImageComment"
},
"type": "managedError"
}
```

8 Mask "Field definitions"

At various places of this program field (or tag) information is displayed. In this mask you select which fields are displayed in these places. For some places you also can select the display format.

This mask and its use are described in the following sections:

- [Layout of mask](#)
- [Create new field definition](#)
- [Change field definition](#)
- [Define Input Check](#)

Please consider [Hints on special properties](#) and [Hints on data types](#) too.

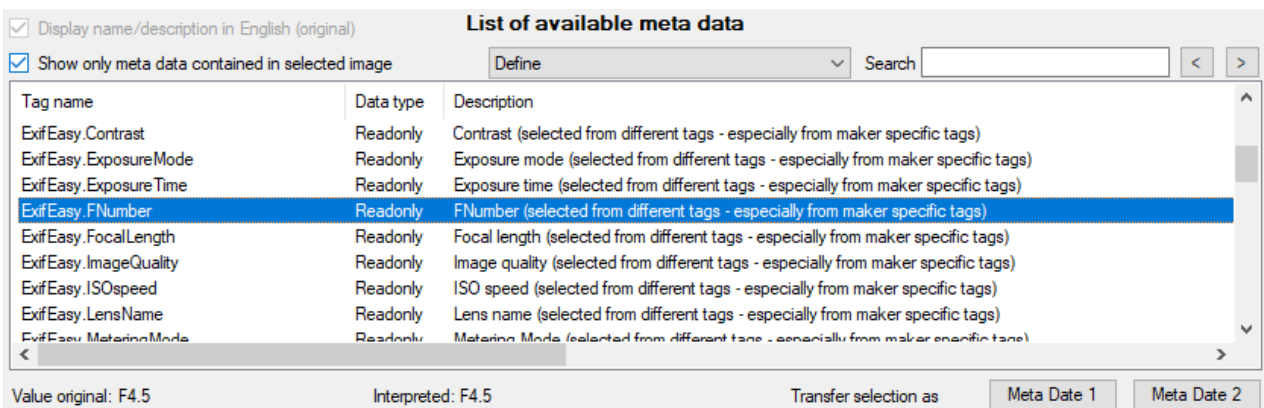
Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
OK	Save changes and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without saving changes
Help	Displays the help for this mask

8.1 Layout of mask

The mask is roughly divided into two parts.

In the upper part is a list of the available meta-data with tag name, data type, and description:



Above the list on the left there are the possibilities

- to display the names and descriptions in English (i.e., in the original, only available if language is not set to English) and
- to filter the list to show only tags, which are included in the currently displayed image.

Near to it - in the middle - is a selection list to jump directly to the beginning of a group of properties. Besides EXIF, IPTC and XMP (each with sub-groups), there are three groups:

- Define: these tags are defined via configuration file, see [General configuration file](#)
- ExifEasy: Values are selected from several Exif properties, for details see [Hints on special properties](#)
- File: This group contains file properties of the image
- Image: other tags that cannot be assigned to any of the other groups.

On the right-hand side is a text box and two buttons (backward, forward) to search for tags, e.g., to search for all tags containing "time" in the name or description.

If a tag is selected in the list and an image is displayed in the main mask, the value of the tag will appear below the list, once in the original format and in addition in an interpreted format. "Exif.Photo.FNumber" for examples is displayed originally as "45/10", interpreted as "F4.5".

In the lower part, field definitions are displayed and can be changed:

The screenshot shows the 'Field Definitions' window. On the left, a list of field definitions is shown under the 'Overview - Image' tab. The 'Maker' field is selected. On the right, the configuration for the 'Maker' field is displayed. It includes fields for Name, Prefix, Meta Date 1, Display (Interpreted), Separator, Meta Date 2, Display (Interpreted), Postfix, Result of definition (NIKON CORPORATION), In entry mask: distance up (1), and Number of rows for input (1). There are also 'Create', 'Edit', and 'Delete' buttons.

On the left-hand side is a selection list of groups of field definitions and below the list of corresponding entries. On the right-hand side of this list are command buttons to:

- move the selected item up
- move the selected item down
- insert a new item
- copy the selected item
- delete the selected item

On the right-hand side, the definition of the selected item in the list is displayed and can be changed there. Below the fields for definition - if an image is displayed on the main mask - the value of this definition is displayed.

For field definitions of the group "Change of properties" additionally the display of the input field can be customized:

- distance upwards
- number of lines for input, if the tag allows multiple values

8.2 Create new field definition

- Select group for field definition

First select the group, for which you want to create the field definition. This is done with the list on the left between the list of all properties and list of field definitions (Initial value: "Display in tab "Overview" - Image").

The groups are:

- Display in tab "Overview" - Image

These fields are displayed for image files in the main window, area for properties on the right-hand side of the image, in tab "Overview".

- Display in tab "Overview" - Video

These fields are displayed for video files in the main window, area for properties on the right-hand side of the image, in tab "Overview".

- Display of files in view "Tiles" - Image

These fields are displayed in the file list of the main mask (bottom left) for image files when the view "Tiles" is selected.

- Display of files in view "Tiles" - Video
These fields are displayed in the file list of the main mask (bottom left) for video files when the view "Tiles" is selected.
- Display Image in own window - Image
These fields are displayed for image files in the [Mask "Image in own window"](#).
- Display Image in own window - Video
These fields are displayed for video files in the [Mask "Image in own window"](#).
- Rename of Files
These fields are available in [Mask "Rename files"](#) so that they can be used as part of the file name.
- Sort order during renaming of files
If files are renamed in [Mask "Rename files"](#), they can be sorted first. This order is relevant when the file names are unique only by adding a sequential number. These fields can be used as a sorting criterion.
- Change of properties
In the main mask is a configurable input area, in which further properties can be changed. The fields of this group are displayed there.
- Search via properties
For these fields data is read from the images/videos and can be searched for.
- Grouping during changing recording date/time
In [Mask "Change recording date and time"](#) recording date and time for groups of images will be changed. The fields of this group are used for this grouping.
- Export of properties in text file
The values of these fields are exported to a text file via menu entry "Export: selected properties of images in folder" of the main mask.
- Remove of Meta data in groups - exceptions
The properties defined here are exceptions during removing the meta data of groups (e.g., all Exif data) in the [Mask "Remove meta data"](#), i.e., they are not removed.
- Remove single Meta data - name the meta data
The properties defined here can individually be selected in the [Mask "Remove meta data"](#) to be removed.
- Table view during multiple images editing
These properties are displayed for all selected images in the main window, tab "Multi image edit".
- Exceptions during comparing files
The properties defined here are not considered during comparing files ([Mask "Compare files"](#))
- Select Tag
Select a tag in the list on top. You may use the selection list for groups of properties (top center) or the search functionality to find the tag wanted.
- Press command button "New"
The selected tag is used as Meta data 1.
- Where applicable, adjust name and other properties
More details in [Change field definition](#).
- Where applicable, adjust sequence with the command buttons "move up" and "move down".
- With command button "Ok", the changes are accepted and the mask is closed.
- With command button "Cancel", all changes since opening the mask are discarded and the mask is closed.

8.3 Change field definition

- Select group for field definition
- Select item

The details on the item are displayed on the right-hand side.

- Change Details

- Name: this is the name by which the field definition is displayed in the lists
- Prefix: A text that is displayed before the first value
- Meta date 1: the first Meta date

The entry can be overwritten directly. But it is safer, to select the Meta date in the list above and then to transfer it with the command button "Meta date 1".

- Display: selection list for formatting the value with the following options:
 - Interpreted
 - Interpreted (Original)
 - Interpreted = Original
 - Original
 - Original (Interpreted)
 - Original = Interpreted

For datatypes "Rational" and "SRational" additionally:

- Decimal - 1 decimal place
- Decimal - 2 decimal places
- Decimal - 3 decimal places
- Decimal - 4 decimal places
- Decimal - 5 decimal places
- Decimal - without decimal places

For date values additionally:

- Local date/time format (according system settings)
- ISO date/time format (e.g., 2016-09-20T18:25:00)
- five formats defined via general configuration file, predefined are:
 - <weekday short> DD.MM.YYYY HH:mm:ss
 - <weekday short> YYYY-MM-DD HH:mm:ss
 - <weekday long> DD.MM.YYYY HH:mm:ss
 - DD-<month short>-YYYY HH:mm:ss
 - D. <month long> YYYY HH:mm:ss

Note referring to the options, in which both the interpreted value and the original value is displayed:

If the interpreted value is identical to the original value, only one value is displayed.

- Separator: A text that is displayed after the first value
- Meta date 2: The second Meta date

The entry can be overwritten directly. But it is safer, to select the Meta date in the list above and then to transfer it with the command button "Meta date 2".

- Display: list for formatting the value
- Postfix: A text that is displayed after the second value.

If previously an image has been selected in the main window, the resulting value for that image is displayed in below these fields.

The definition can combine two Meta data, e.g., to show the image size, which is given by two values in the EXIF data, in one value ("2560 x 1920").

- For items in group "Change of properties":

In order to group the input fields in the configurable input area the distance to the field above can be adjusted (enlarged). For tags that allow multiple values, the number of simultaneously-viewable input lines can be defined.

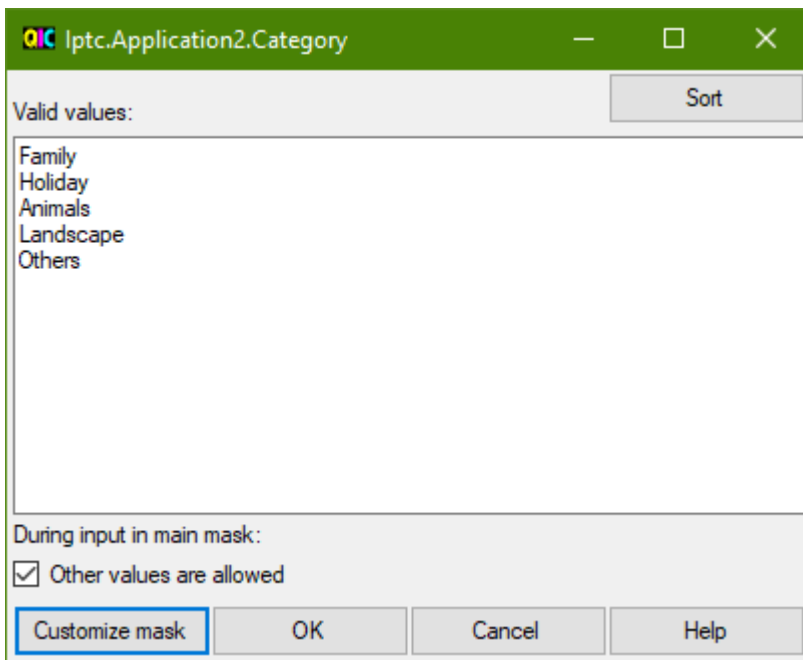
Depending on the selected field, an input check may be defined, see [Define Input Check](#).

- With command button "Ok", the changes are accepted and the mask is closed.
- With command button "Cancel", all changes since opening the mask are discarded and the mask is closed.

8.4 Define Input Check

The [Mask "Field definitions"](#) has three buttons to create, edit and delete input check configurations for the selected field. For technical reasons input check configurations are available only for fields allowing only one value. The buttons are disabled for fields allowing multiple values.

The input check configuration allows to specify a list of valid values, e.g., for the tag, in order to assure that only defined categories are used. After pressing "Create" or "Edit" following mask opens:



In the text box in the middle, the valid values can be entered, each line is one value.

Below this text box is the check box "allow other values". When this is checked, also other values can be entered in the configurable input area of main mask. When this is done, user is asked if the value shall be added to this list of valid values. In this way in exceptional cases an "invalid" value can be entered, but more important, this is an easy way to add new valid values. If the check box is not checked, only one the value of the list can be selected.

Command buttons:

Sort	Sorts the entries in the text box
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
OK	Save the settings and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without saving settings
Help	Displays the help for this mask

8.5 Hints on special properties

Define

Properties of the group "Define" are defined via the [General configuration file](#). Based on existing properties new properties can be defined by extracting single strings. This can be used to reformat the values of properties (e.g., to another date format).

ExifEasy

Some information can be stored both in the general Exif properties as well as in manufacturer-specific properties. Other information is stored only in the manufacturer-specific properties. Properties of the group "ExifEasy" allow it to access these values without referring to a specific camera manufacturer. When the values are determined, the various properties assigned to it are scanned.

Two examples:

- If in a Nikon SLR camera ISO setting is set to "Hi", Exif.Photo.ISOSpeedRatings contains no value. The setting is memorized in Exif.Nikon3.ISOSettings. Exif.Nikon3.ISOSettings is of course not stuffed by cameras from other manufacturers. With the tag name ExifEasy.ISOSpeed the ISO setting is always displayed, no matter whether on a Nikon "Hi" was used or it is any other camera.
- SLR cameras from different manufacturers save the lens used, e.g., Sony in Sony1.LensID. Nikon only stores a reference number in NikonLd3.LensIDNumber. With ExifEasy.LensName the lens is displayed for a number of manufacturers, where the reference number used by Nikon in many cases is replaced by the lens name.

ExifEasy.LensName

As described above, some makers store the lens name directly, others store a lens-Id. exiv2 translates these lens-Ids to lens names based on a mapping included in the program itself. However, there are Ids, which are not yet included in the built-in mapping, and some IDs are not unique. For these Ids the mapping can be defined in [exiv2.ini](#).

File

In group "File" file properties (such as file size, modified date) are summarized.

Image.ArtistCombinedFields Image.CommentCombinedFields

These two properties contain the values of different fields for artist and comment respectively to make it easier to search for them: When searching it is not important to know which artist or comment field is filled.

8.6 Hints on data types

Exif, IPTC and XMP use different data types. For some data types, the following hints should be considered:

IPTC - Character Encoding

For IPTC the used character encoding can be documented in tag Iptc.Envelope.CharacterSet. Independent from the value in this tag, this program tries to recognize the used encoding and to display the texts accordingly.

Note: because of this special meaning Iptc.Envelope.CharacterSet cannot be selected as changeable property. It is set based on configuration in [Mask "Settings"](#).

Comment (Exif)

This type is used for Exif.Photo.UserComment and a few other tags. The type of these tags according Exif specification is "Undefined". As values have to follow a special rule, the type "Comment" was introduced for identification.

Before the value itself the character encoding is defined. In this program, Unicode is used as default. (charset=Unicode), but this can be changed in [Mask "Settings"](#). The character encoding is only visible in the display format "original" (see [Change field definition](#)).

Date (IPTC)

The format is: YYYY-MM-DD

Example: 2012-04-28

Exif date/time

Exif date/time specifications are stored in fields of the data type "Ascii", where the Exif specification prescribes the following format:

YYYY:MM:DD HH:MM:SS

Example: 2012:04:28 14:23:58

LangAlt (XMP)

With this data type values can be specified in different languages. One value is for the default language (x-default).

ReadOnly

Values of this data type cannot be changed. Basically, it consists of two groups:

- Tags defined via the [General configuration file](#) or from program itself based on data of "real" tags.
- Parts of an XMP-data structure.

For example, in an image with "Xmp.MP.RegionInfo" additionally to this main tag itself also "PersonDisplayName" can be selected with type "Readonly". It is read only because it cannot be changed separately. For the display in the tab "Overview" however it is quite useful to select just this portion of "Xmp.MP.RegionInfo", because the other parts of the tag for most users are probably rather unimportant.

Because these parts are not defined in the underlying library exiv2, they are only displayed if they are included in the selected image.

Time (IPTC)

The format is HH:MM:SS+hh:mm where hh:mm is the time zone correction relative to UTC. The indication of seconds and time zone correction are optional. They may be added when leaving the input field.

Examples: 14:23:02+02:00 14:23:00 14:23

Undefined

This data type is usually used for binary data. Values of this data type are displayed as a sequence of bytes in decimal form and therefore are barely legible. These values cannot be changed by the program.

XmpText

The name suggests that any text can be entered. However, there are some tags that according specification should contain only numeric values (e.g., Xmp.photoshop.Urgency,

valid range 1 - 8). Among some other tags of this type complete data structures are stored, for example, as follows:

```
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated[1]
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated[1]/Iptc4xmpExt:CountryName
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated[1]/Iptc4xmpExt:ProvinceState
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated[1]/Iptc4xmpExt:City XmpText
Xmp.iptcExt.LocationCreated[1]/Iptc4xmpExt:Sublocation
```

The following example is taken from an image, where person's markings were added with Windows Live Photo Gallery:

```
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:Rectangle
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:PersonDisplayName
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:PersonEmailDigest
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:PersonLiveIdCID
Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[1]/MPReg:PersonSourceID
```

XmpText is therefore a very flexibly usable data type. Thus I cannot guarantee that this program covers all occurring ways of using the data type XmpText.

Numeric data types - general

The values of numeric data types may be changed. Examples for these values are shutter speed, aperture and resolution. For these examples, and for the vast majority (if not all) numerical values, it is not useful to change them after the capture. For some tags (e.g., Exif.Image.ExifTag = pointer to EXIF IFD) additionally, there is the risk that an incorrect value leads to the fact that the metadata no longer will be readable at all.

As a change hardly makes sense and can possibly lead to problems, a warning is issued when a Meta date with a numeric data type is selected for the list of changeable properties. This approach aims to avoid the problems caused by incorrect inputs. However, in principle you can change numerical data.

Byte

Integer value, range: 0 to 255

SByte

Integer value, range: -128 to 127

Short

Integer value, range: 0 to 65535

SShort

Integer value, range: -32768 to 32767

Long

Integer value, range: 0 to 4294967295

SLong

Integer value, range: -2147483648 to 2147483647

Float

Decimal number: enter a dot as a decimal separator, e.g., 123.456

The value is often not stored exactly as it is typed. E.g., entering 2.4 results in 2.40000009536743

Double

Decimal number: enter a dot as a decimal separator, e.g., 123.456

Rational

Rational number (fraction), numerator and denominator are of type Long, separated by slash.

Example: 12/100

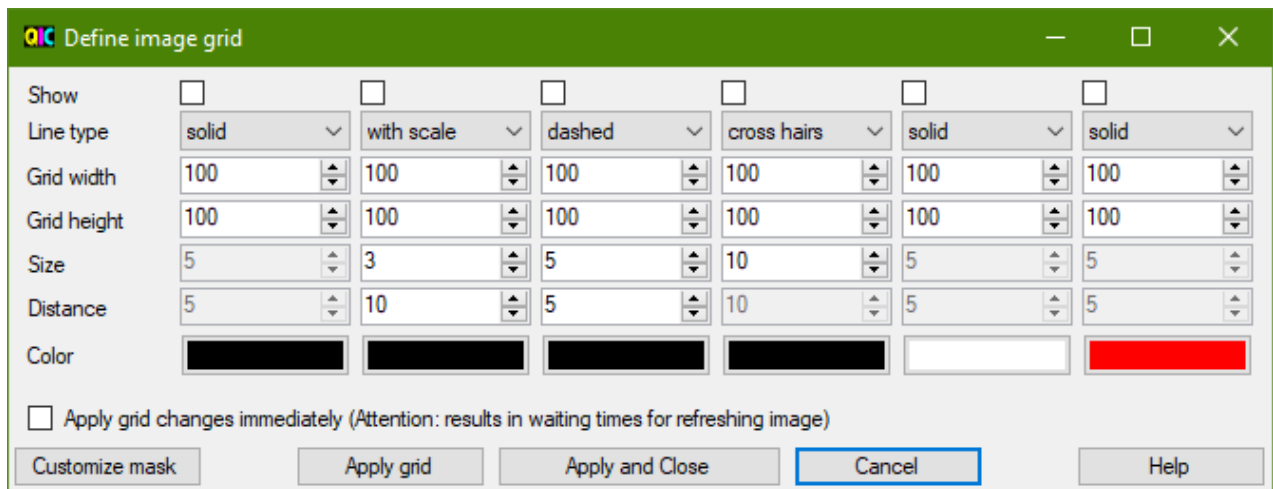
SRational

Rational number (fraction), numerator and denominator are of type SLong, separated by slash.

Example: -12/100

9 Mask "Define grid"

With this mask you can define grids, which are laid over the image.



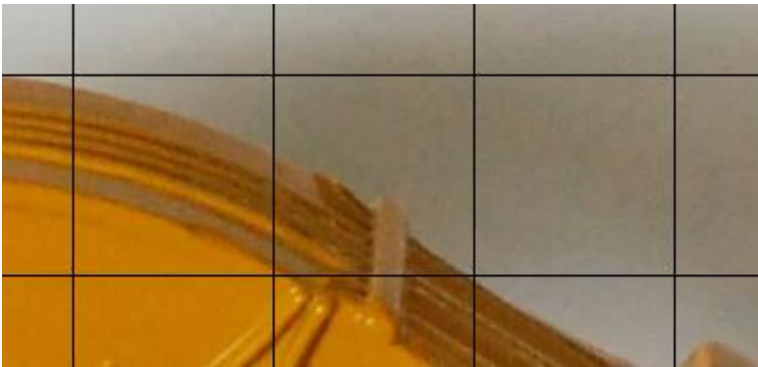
Up to six grids can be defined. It is also possible to display several grids one over the other.

For each grid you can define:

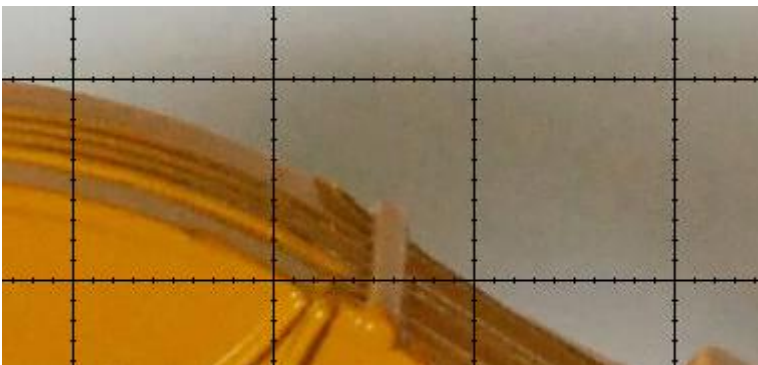
- Show (if checked, the grid is shown)
- Line type
- Grid width
- Grid height
- Color

The line types are:

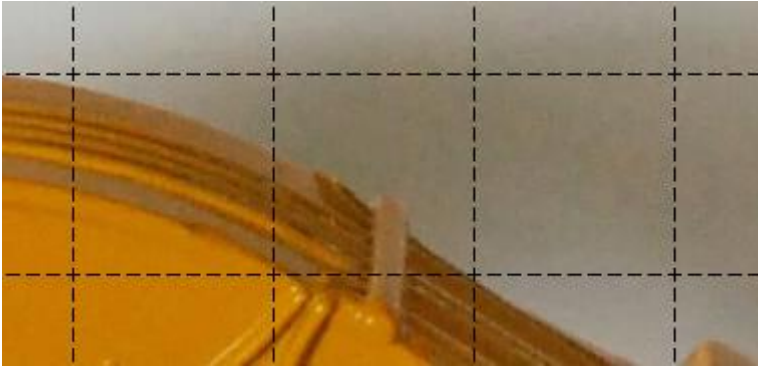
- Solid Line:



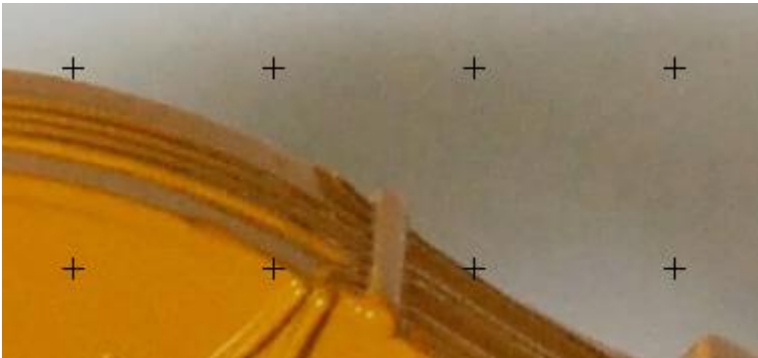
- with scale:



- dashed:



- cross hairs:



For the line type "with scale" can be defined additionally:

- Size (length of scaling strokes)
- Distance (distance between scaling strokes)

For the line type "dashed" can be specified additionally:

- Size (length of the individual strokes)
- Distance (distance between the strokes)

For the line type "cross hairs" can be defined additionally:

- Size (length of the strokes of the crosshairs)

The values are given in pixels on the image.

If "Apply grid changes immediately (Attention: results in waiting times for refreshing image)" is checked, any change of grid is applied directly. Depending on the detail level of the grid, this can cause longer waiting times for refreshing the image.

Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Apply grid	The grids checked in "Show" are laid over the image.
Apply and Close	The grids checked in "Show" are laid over the image and the mask is closed.
Cancel	Close mask without saving changes
Help	Displays the help for this mask

10 Mask "Change recording date and time"

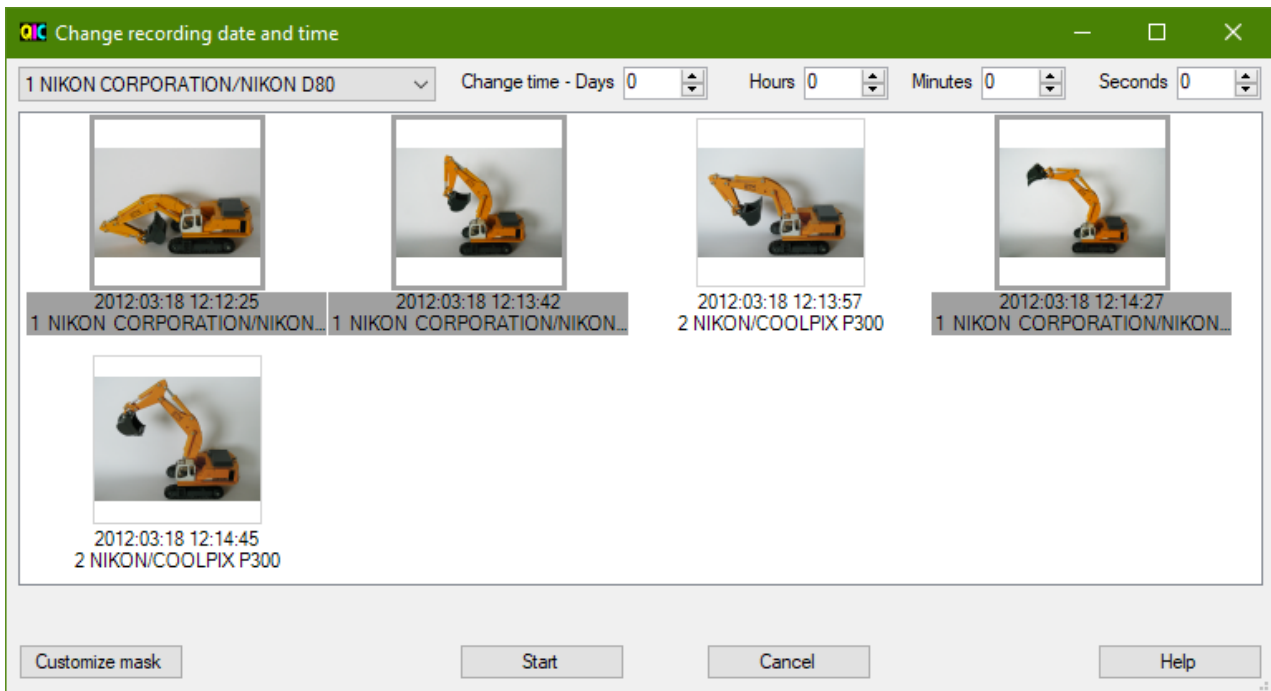
With this mask you can be modify recording date and time. First, date and time can be changed for all images. For this select grouping "all" in the drop down on top left. But you can also make change only for a selection of images so that the time is synchronized with the time with other images retroactively.

Examples:

- The clock in the camera was not switched from summer to winter time.
- At an event pictures are taken with different cameras, whose time is set different. To sort these images chronologically correct retroactively, the time for each camera model is adjusted. In the view the images are directly sorted accordingly so that you can easily determine the proper correction.

The second, more complex case is described now in more detail:

First you have to mark the images in the main mask, whose recording date and time is to be changed. Then open this mask (via menu or toolbar). The selected images (here a sequence in which an excavator lifts his bucket) are displayed:

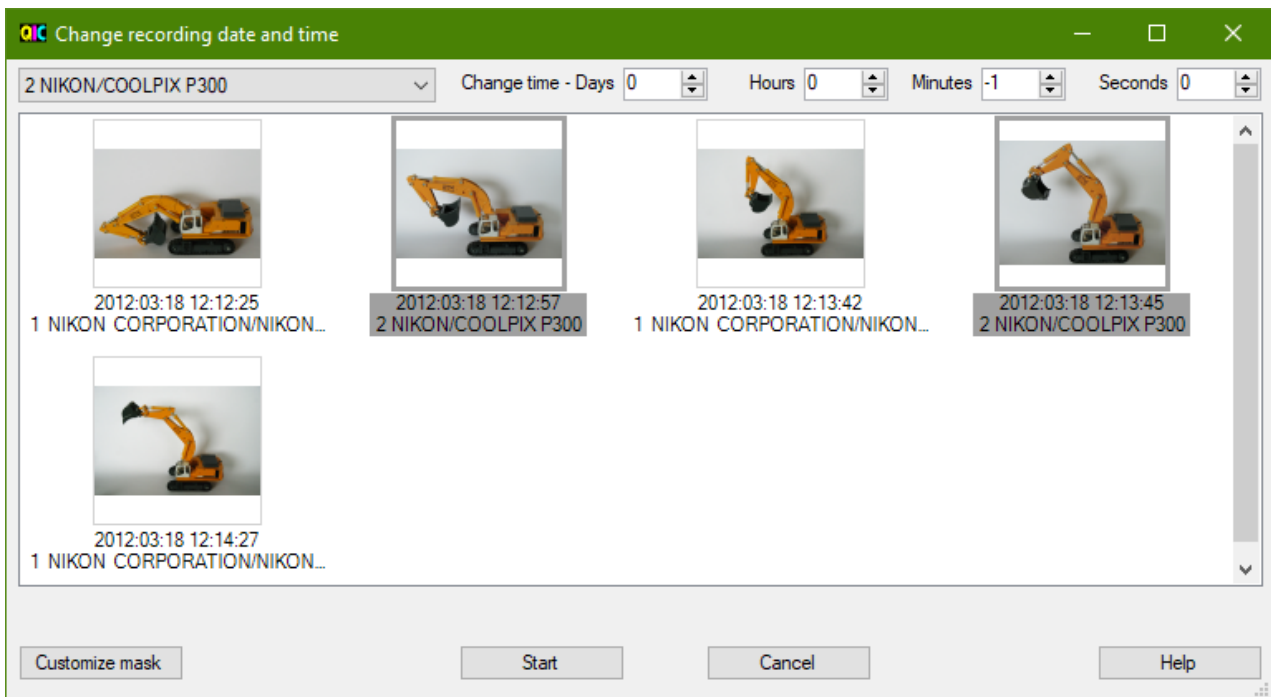


On the top left is a selection list, with which images are grouped. Images of the chosen group are highlighted in grey. The default setting for the group is a manufacturer and model of camera. This setting can be adjusted by selecting "other grouping" in the selection list (or by opening the [Mask "Field definitions"](#) via menu and selecting group "Grouping during changing recording date/time").

On the top right are input controls to shift the recording time for the selected images.

You can now determine the correction by comparing the clocks in the different cameras or you successively move to the correct value. After each change of the correction values the images are sorted accordingly, while no corrected time is stored in the images yet.

In this particular example, the recording times for the images taken with the COOLPIX P300 are put back by one minute:



Now, the images appear in a plausible chronological order. By pressing the command button "Start", the corrected recording time is written to the image files and the mask is closed.

Notes:

- In this example time was changed for one camera model. It is also possible to define a time shift for each of several camera models (or whatever is used to group the images), check the order and then update the image files with "Start".
- Exif defines different tags for time. This mask changes "Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal". This is the tag that according Exif specification is provided in a digital camera for recording date and time. "Exif.Photo.DateTimeDigitized" for example, remains unchanged. So, in this tag you can still see the original time. If also "Exif.Photo.DateTimeDigitized" (or other properties for times) should be modified, this can be done later using placeholders (see [Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"](#)). If another tag than "Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal" shall be used, this can be changed in [General configuration file](#).

Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Start	Change date and time and then close the mask.
Cancel	Close mask without changing date and time
Help	Displays the help for this mask

11 Mask "Rename files"

With this mask you can rename files.

First you have to select the images to be renamed in the main mask. Then open this mask via menu or toolbar.

The mask is roughly divided into four input area:

- Selection of fields and formatting for the file name

In eleven lines you can be chose fields from which the file name is composed. For each line you have:

- checkbox indicating whether the line is used or not
- a fixed text that is inserted before the field content
- the field (selection list can be modified via entry "<new Field>" - or by opening the [Mask "Field definitions"](#) via menu and selecting group "Rename of files")
- starting position, from which the field value is taken over (allows to cut off characters at the beginning or end)
- checkbox "from right": if checked, the start position is counted from right, otherwise from left
- length, maximum number of characters; value 0: all characters
- checkbox "fill up right": if checked, is filled up with characters from the right
- "with": fill up with this character
- "up to": number of characters up to which is filled up, i.e., the minimum number of characters that will be used for this part of the file name

With two command buttons the sequence of rows can be changed.

- Settings for serial number and sorting

Here it is defined:

- whether always a continuous number is added; if not checked, a sequential number is added only if otherwise the file name is not unique.
 - fixed text before the serial number
 - minimum number of digits for the serial number
 - fixed text after the serial number
 - sort criteria used when assigning the serial number (selection list can be modified via entry "<new Field>" - or by opening the [Mask "Field definitions"](#) via menu and selecting group "Sort order during renaming of files")
- Definition for replacing characters that are not allowed in file names; filename as a result
Certain characters such as ":" must not occur in the file name. If any of these characters appears in the content of a field, it is replaced with the character below. If not for all the characters a replacement character is defined, the last replacement character is used.
Directly below this field the file name is displayed, which is the result of these settings for the first file selected to rename.
 - Field to select and save named settings
The settings can be saved under a name. Additionally, there is always an unnamed set of settings available additional to the named sets of settings.
 - via a selection list a set of settings can be loaded
 - with command button "Save" the changes of the settings are saved
 - with command button "Delete" a named set of settings is deleted
 - with command button "Save As ..." the settings are saved under a new name

Hints to the settings in the example:

With the settings shown in the screenshot files are renamed as follows:

- Date in the format JJMMDD based on recording date in the format YYYYMMDD, but from position three, so the year is two digits
- Hyphen (fixed text before serial number) and always at least three-digit sequential number

The rows three, four and five are not active.

If the line one is disabled and the lines three to five are enabled, you get an example how you could rename test images to check the noise behavior:

- first the camera manufacturer
- then, separated by underscore, the camera model
- at the end the ISO setting, filled up with underscores to at least six characters so that files with ISO 200 (...__200.jpg) will be sorted before files with ISO 1600 (...__1600.jpg).

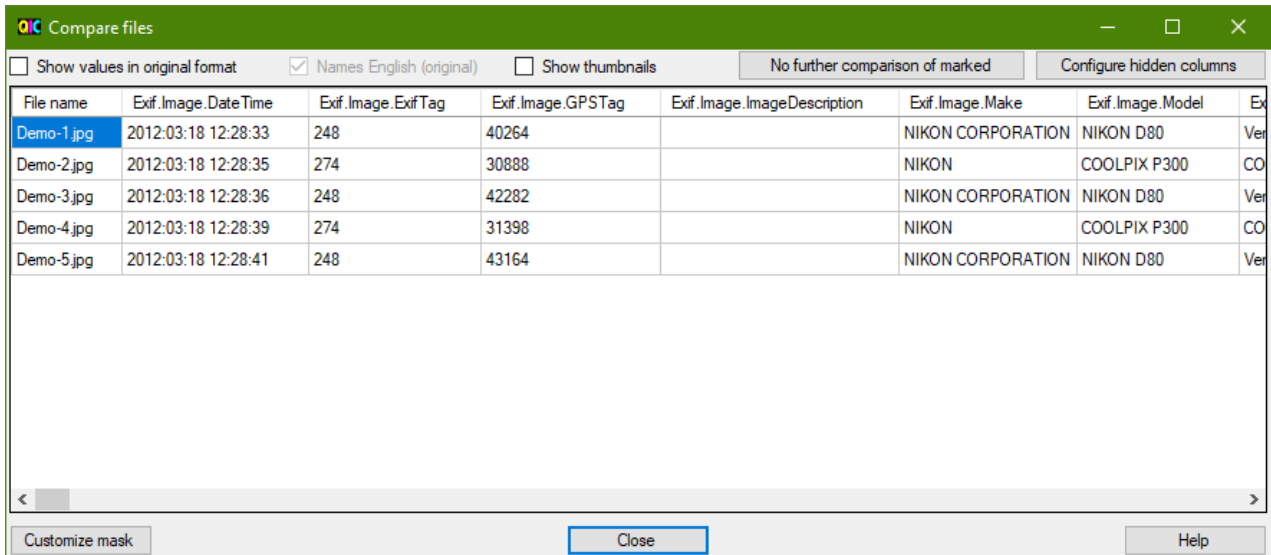
Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Start	Rename files and then close the mask.
Cancel	Save settings and close mask without renaming files
Help	Displays the help for this mask

12 Mask "Compare files"

With this mask you can compare Meta data of several files.

First you have to select the images to be compared in the main mask. Then open this mask via menu or toolbar. The files are compared and the different Meta data are displayed. Meta data that have the same value in all images are not displayed.



By clicking on one of the headers (e.g., Exif.Image.DateTime) you can sort the images according the values in this column. When the mouse pointer hovers over the column heading, the description of the property is displayed (if available).

Options for display are:

- Show values in original format

Initially the data are displayed in interpreted format, e.g., "Exif.Photo.FNumber" is shown interpreted as "F4.5". Using the checkbox on top left you can switch to "Original format". "Exif.Photo.FNumber" is then displayed as "45/10".

- Names English (original)

This option is usable only if language is not set to English. For languages others than English a translation of the property names may be available. If translations are available the names of the properties are displayed initially in the selected display language. When this checkbox is checked, always English names are displayed.

Note for German translations: If the meaning of the tag and therefore the correct translation was not sure, the translation was omitted and the original (English) name is displayed.

- Show thumbnails

With the checkbox "Show thumbnails", the display of thumbnails can be switched on and off.

- No further comparison of marked values

Some values are rather uninteresting for comparison, e.g., "Exif.Image.ExifTag" in the screen shot above. In order not to compare these values any longer, click on a value in the column and then the command button "No further comparison of marked values". You can also select several columns with Ctrl or a region with Shift and click in order to remove them together from the comparison. It is important to click the values and not on the header, because by clicking the column header the sort order is changed.

The chosen columns are stored in the settings.

- Configure hidden columns

This button opens the [Mask "Field definitions"](#) and selects the group "Exceptions during comparing files". Here you can delete the columns (so that they are no longer excluded

from comparison) or chose other properties from the list of properties in order to exclude them from the comparison.

Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Close	Close the mask.
Help	Displays the help for this mask

13 Mask "Remove meta data"

With this mask you can remove Meta data (properties).

There are limitations resulting from dependencies of single Meta data. Following limitations are considered in the program:

- Exif.Photo.MakerNote is a container for manufacturer specific Meta data. This field therefore cannot be deleted individually or defined as an exception. As long as a manufacturer specific field is present, Exif.Photo.MakerNote remains.
- If Exif.Image.Make is deleted, all manufacturer specific Meta data will be deleted. This field therefore cannot be deleted individually or defined as an exception.

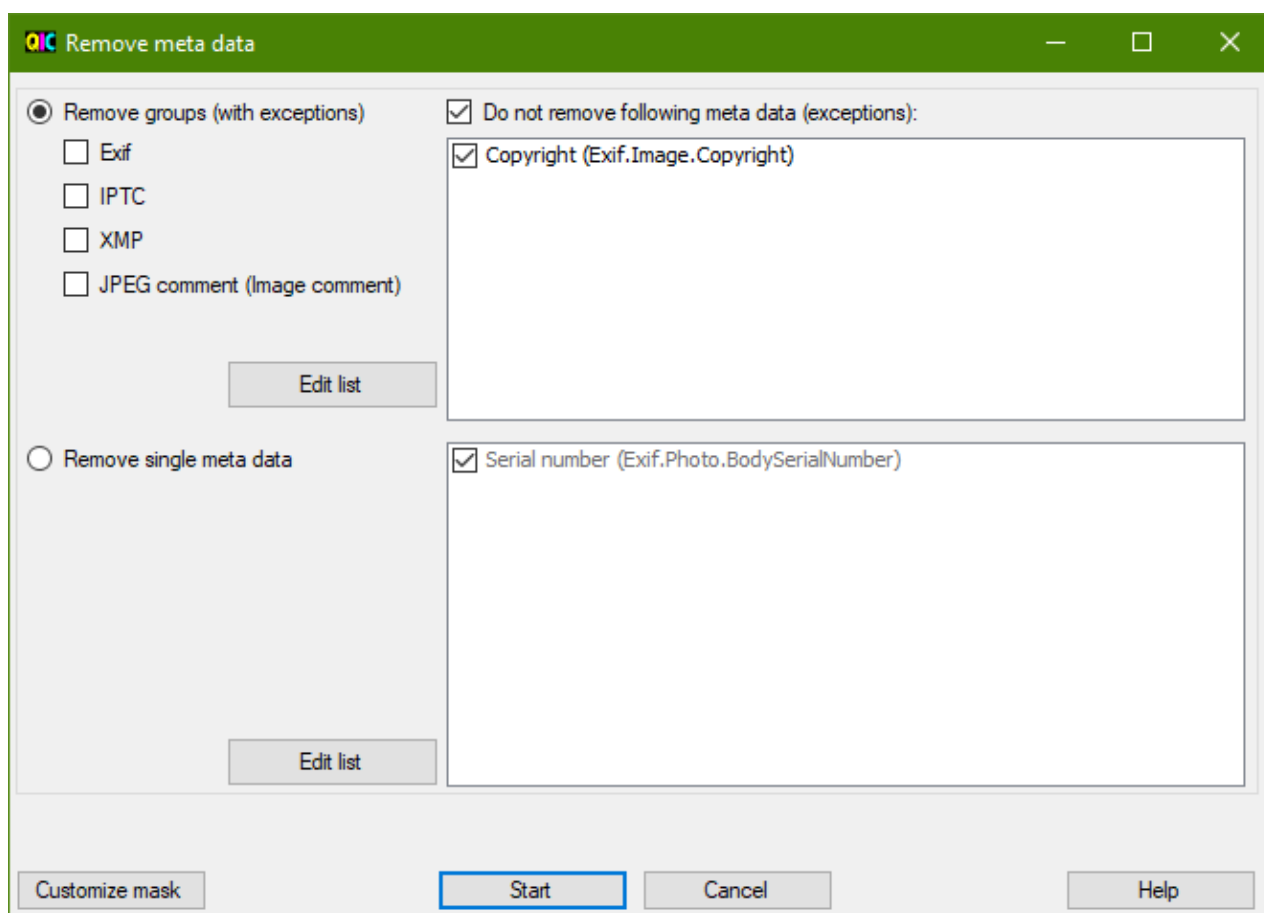
Dependencies can also lead to the fact that individual properties are not deleted, even though they are not defined as exceptions. I noticed so far:

- Exif.ExifTag
- Exif.MakerNote.ByteOrder
- Exif.MakerNote.Offset

Other special situations are possible, which can lead to the fact that properties are not removed as expected or exceptions are ignored. New settings in this screen (or corresponding configurations in [Mask "Field definitions"](#)) therefore should be first tried with copies of the images.

The mask allows two different approaches to remove Meta data:

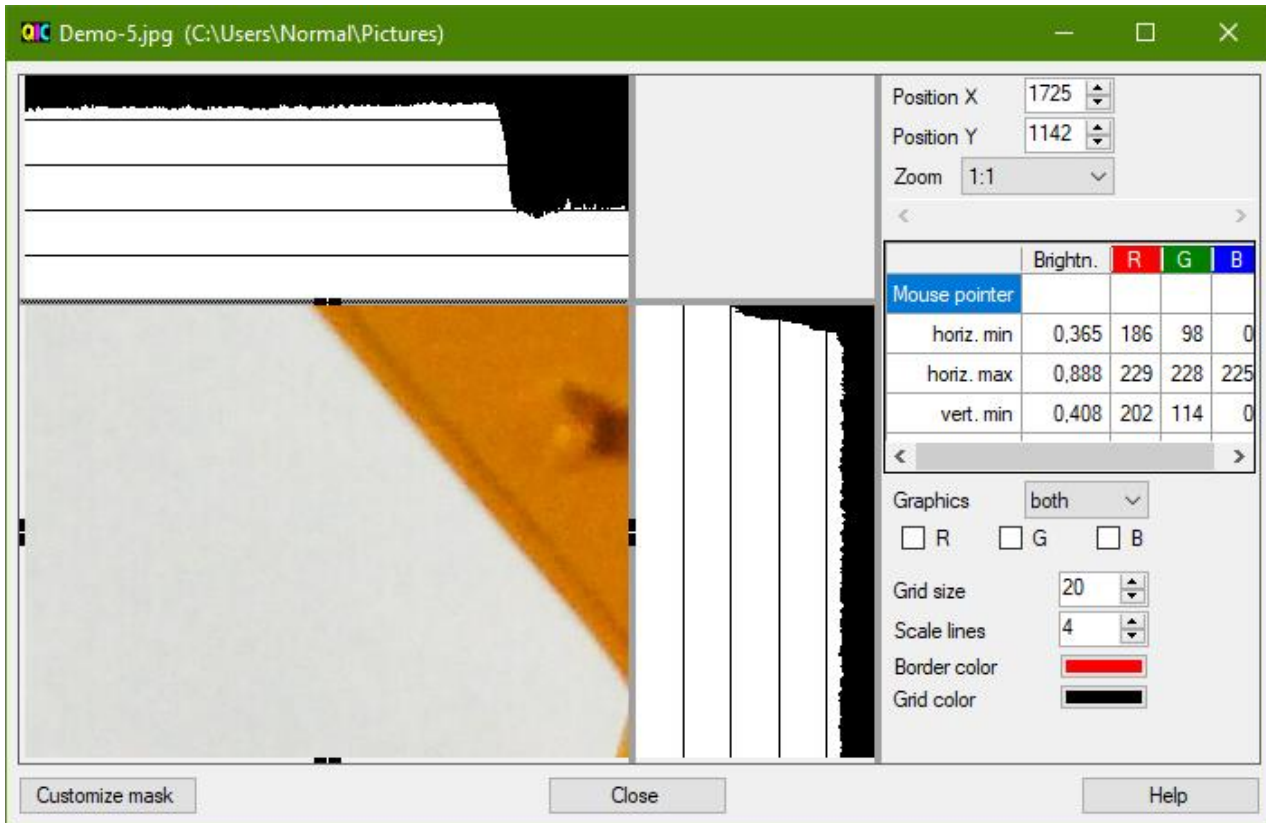
- Removing groups of Meta data: Exif, IPTC, XMP and JPEG comment
The groups can be selected individually. You can select properties that are not removed (exceptions). Additionally, you may generally switch on or off the consideration of exceptions. The properties available for selection can be defined in the [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Remove of meta data in groups - exceptions". The mask can be opened via button "Edit list" (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu.
- Removal of meta-data which are selected individually
The properties available for selection can be defined in the [Mask "Field definitions"](#), group "Remove single meta data - name the meta data". The mask can be opened via button "Edit list" (in this case directly with selection of group) or via menu.

**Command buttons:**

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Start	Start removing meta data
Cancel	Close mask without removing meta data
Help	Displays the help for this mask

14 Mask "Image Details"

With this mask, image details can be shown. This is also possible via adjustment ([Mask "Adjust view"](#)) in one of the areas of the main mask. However, with this mask more space is available, which is especially useful if a second monitor is available.



For each selected image one window is shown. This allows to compare image details of several images, e.g., to find the image with best sharpness. The last opened window is superior to the other windows. This means:

- The settings of superior window can be transferred to secondary windows via button "Other windows equal" (visible only if at least two images are selected).
- A shift of picture section in superior window is transferred synchronously to the secondary windows.
- In secondary windows, settings and button "Other windows equal" are hidden.
- Picture section in secondary windows still can be adjusted separately, as the point of interest can be on a slightly different position in each image.
- With closing the superior window, also the secondary windows are closed.
- Secondary windows can be closed separately.

Further details are described in [Display of image details](#).

Command buttons in lower part of the mask:

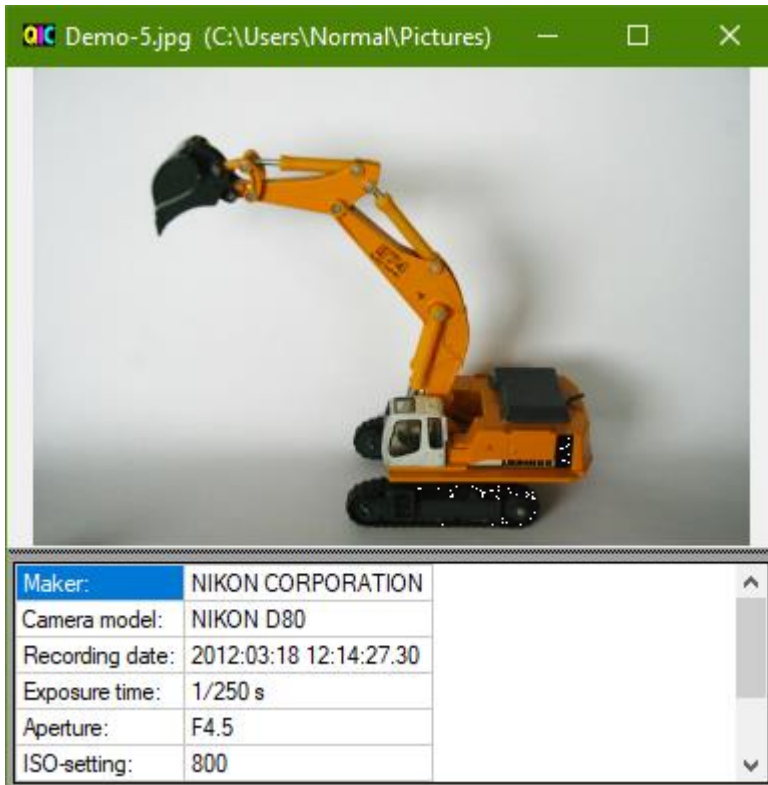
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Close	Close mask
Other windows equal	Transfer the settings of superior window to secondary windows
Help	Displays the help for this mask

15 Mask "Image in own window"

This mask has two purposes:

- If a second monitor is available, this mask can be used to show the selected image with maximum size there.
- To compare several images: they can be selected together in the main mask and for each image one window is opened.

In order to make use of available space on monitor at the best, the mask contains only the picture box and table for properties. The name of displayed file and its folder (in brackets) is shown in header line of the mask. In [Mask "Field definitions"](#) it can be configured, which properties are displayed, separately for images and videos. The ratio between picture box and table for properties can be adjusted by moving the grey dividing line.

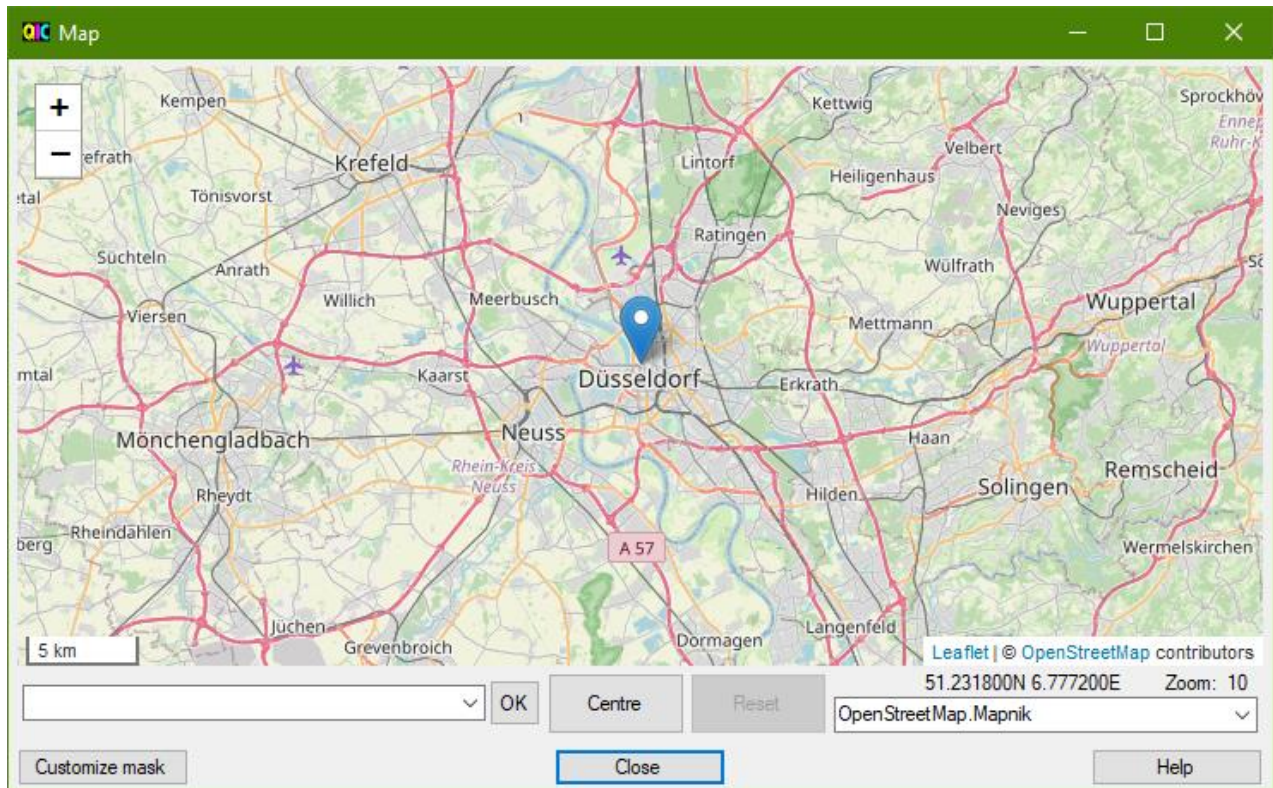


The context menu (right-click in mask) contains:

- Adjust fields
 - Opens [Mask "Field definitions"](#) to configure the properties displayed in the table.
 - Depending on whether an image or video is displayed, the appropriate group is selected.
- Properties
 - Off = no display of properties
 - Bottom = display of properties below the picture
 - Right = display of properties on right hand side of picture

16 Mask "Map"

With this mask, recording location can be shown on a map and associated data can be changed. This is also possible via adjustment ([Mask "Adjust view"](#)) in one of the areas of the main mask. However, with this mask more space is available, which is especially useful if a second monitor is available.



Further details are described in [Recording location on map](#).

Command buttons in lower part of the mask:

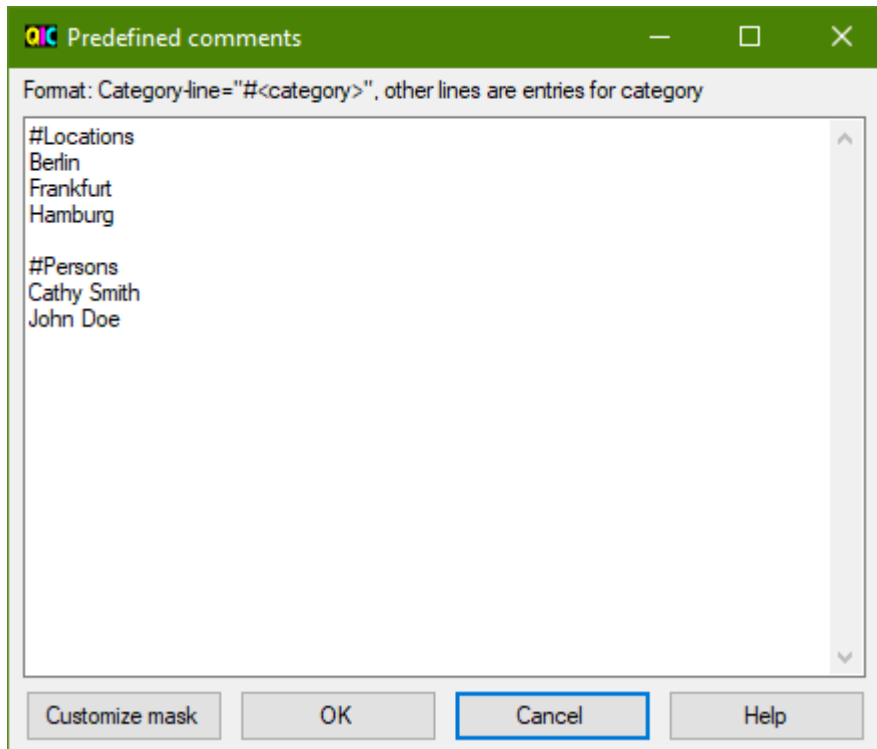
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Close	Close mask
Help	Displays the help for this mask

17 Mask "Predefined comments"

In this mask you can predefine comments that are then displayed on the main screen in the list "Predefined comments". These comments can be divided into categories. According to these categories the list "Predefined comments" in the main mask can be filtered.

Lines with "#" at the beginning define a category; all other lines are comments to the category above.

In the following example, two categories are defined: "Locations" and "Persons":



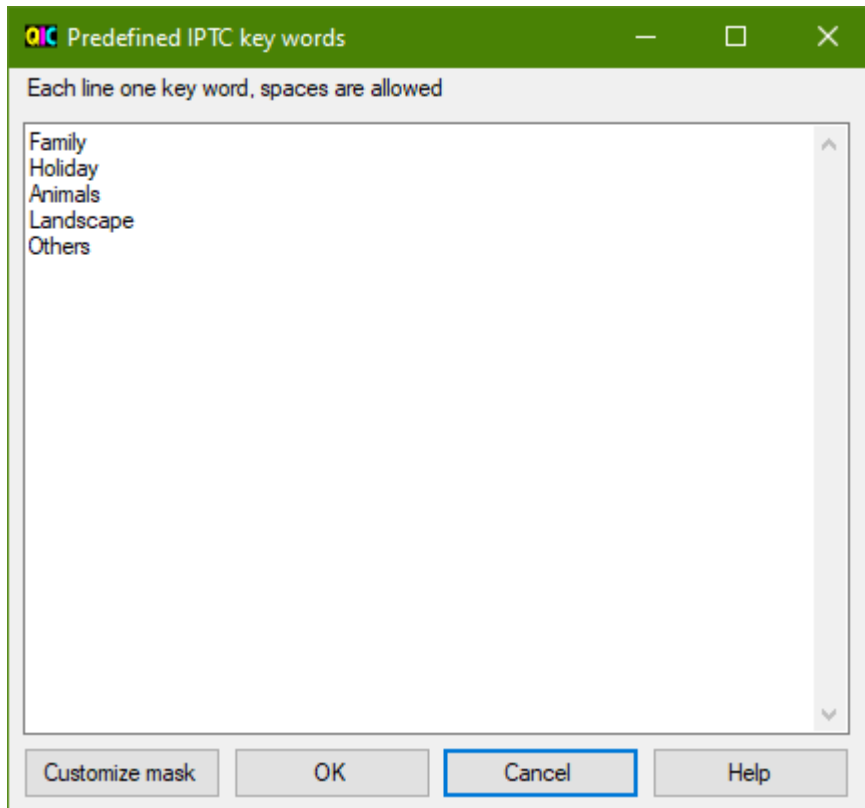
Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
OK	Save changes and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without saving changes
Help	Displays the help for this mask

18 Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"

In this mask you can define IPTC key words that are displayed in the main mask in the area "IPTC key words" with check box.

Each row defines an IPTC key word; spaces in the key word will be accepted.



Command buttons:

Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
OK	Save changes and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without saving changes
Help	Displays the help for this mask

19 Mask "Select and edit data template"

Data templates can be defined to set several properties in one step. With this mask data templates can be created, modified, selected and deleted.

Layout of the mask

- Drop down list with already created templates
- Combo box for artist (author)
- Combo box for comment
- Configurable input area

In this area the same properties are shown as in the configurable input area of the main mask.

- Input area for IPTC key words

As in the main mask this area contains a text box for free key words and check boxes for predefined keywords.

For artist, comment and configurable properties, which can have only one value, combo boxes are used. They contain lists with the values latest saved in the main mask.

With the F10-key or double-click in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area, a [Mask for input of data](#) is opened to have a larger and variable input range for long and/or multi-line values. Via this mask also the [Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"](#) can be opened.

With the Shift-F10-key or double-click with Shift-key in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area, the [Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"](#) is opened.

Placeholders are replaced with the value of the referenced property during saving and thus allow copying values from one property to another.

Usage of data templates

The template selected when closing the mask can be used in the main mask to fill input fields there. This can be done via menu entry "Tools - Load data from template:" (amended with the name of the template) or following button:



If no template was selected, the menu entry and the button are disabled.

During loading data only empty fields are filled, i.e., existing data are not replaced.

In the main mask the fields for artist and comment as well as the configurable input area and input area for IPTC key words can be hidden. Data are not loaded into hidden fields.

Command buttons:

New - empty	Create new data template - input fields are empty
New - with data from main mask	Create new data template - input fields are filled with data from main mask
Save	Saves the template
Save as ...	Saves the template with new name
Delete	Deletes the selected template
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
Close	Close the mask; the selected data template can be used in the main mask.
Help	Displays the help for this mask

20 Mask "Edit / insert placeholder"

In the input fields you can use placeholders for other properties. Possible use cases are:

1. With Windows Live Photo Gallery people can be recognized in images. The names are stored in an XMP property, which many other programs do not show. You can copy the names using a placeholder into another property (e.g., Exif.Photo.UserComment) so that they are visible in other programs (e.g., when distributing images to people who do not use the Windows Live Photo Gallery).
2. When you enter the artist (author), a copyright notice is generated at the same time.
3. Changes will be logged.
4. If in the past different properties were used to comment the images, the comments can be copied to one property.

The definition of the placeholders for these use cases is explained further below.

It is recommended to first try each new placeholder with a test image.

The placeholders can be inserted and edited by this mask. It is opened with the Shift-F10 key or double-click with Shift-key in input fields for artist (author), comment or in configurable input area:

QIC Edit / insert placeholder for: Exif.Image.Copyright

☒ Display name/description in English (original)

☒ Show only meta data contained in selected image

Define Search

Tag name	Data type	Description
Define.FileCreated_ExifFormat	Readonly	The date/time when file was created in date/time format of Exif (YYYY:MM:DD hh:mm:ss)
Define.FileModified_ExifFormat	Readonly	The date/time when file was modified in date/time format of Exif (YYYY:MM:DD hh:mm:ss)
Define.PhotoDateOriginal_YYYYMMDD	Readonly	The date when the original image data was generated in format YYYYMMDD
Define.PhotoTimeOriginal_hhmmss	Readonly	The time when the original image data was generated in format hhmmss
Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLatitude	Rational	Indicates the latitude. The latitude is expressed as three RATIONAL values giving the degrees, minutes, and s
Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLatitudeRef	Ascii	Indicates whether the latitude is north or south latitude. The ASCII value 'N' indicates north latitude, and 'S' is s
Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLongitude	Rational	Indicates the longitude. The longitude is expressed as three RATIONAL values giving the degrees, minutes, a
Exif.GPSInfo.GPSLongitudeRef	Ascii	Indicates whether the longitude is east or west longitude. ASCII 'E' indicates east longitude, and 'W' is west lon

Value original: 2015:02:21 17:35:48 Interpreted: 2015:02:21 17:35:48

Meta date:

Substring start: ☐ from right Length: Format:

Separator: ☐ Sorted ☒ Saved value Language:

Placeholder at position of cursor: Value:

Result of definition:

In the upper part is a list of the available meta-data with tag name, data type, and description - as in [Mask "Field definitions"](#).

User controls for definition and check of placeholders

With the following user controls placeholders are defined, marked placeholders are edited and the result is checked. After definition of a placeholder, he has to be inserted into the value field (see next section).

- Button "Accept selection"
The tag name of selected property is copied into the edit area below.
- Button "Date"
Tag name "Date" for current date is copied into the edit area below.
- Button "Time"
Tag name "Time" for current time is copied into the edit area below.
- Definition of substrings:
 - starting position, from which the property value is taken over (allows to cut off characters at the beginning or end)
 - checkbox "from right": if checked, the start position is counted from right, otherwise from left
 - length, maximum number of characters; value 0: all characters
- Selection list for formatting the value with the following options:
 - Interpreted
 - OriginalFor data types "Rational" and "SRational" additionally:
 - Decimal - 1 decimal place
 - Decimal - 2 decimal places
 - Decimal - 3 decimal places
 - Decimal - 4 decimal places
 - Decimal - 5 decimal places
 - Decimal - without decimal places
- Input field for separator (for properties with several values)
- Checkbox "Sorted" (for properties with several values, where sequence is arbitrary, e.g., for IPTC key words)
- Checkbox "Saved value"
When checked, always the saved value is used; otherwise, the current value is used.
Meaning of "current" is: If the property was changed in the mask, the changed value is used, otherwise the value already stored in the image.
- Selection list for language (only for fields of type "LangAlt")
- Input field for value
In this field the value can be edited directly or placeholders can be inserted, overwritten or edited via the buttons on the left-hand side. Additional to placeholders fixed texts can be inserted here.
- Output field for value
In this field the result after replacing of all defined placeholders is shown. In case of errors in placeholder definition, the error message is shown here.

Insert, overwrite or edit of placeholders

The cursor has to be placed on the position in input field for the value, where a change is intended.

- Button "Insert/Overwrite"
In case no placeholder is inserted yet at selection, a placeholder according to the entries in the fields "Meta date" and following is inserted.
In case a placeholder is inserted there, he is overwritten with entries in the fields "Meta date" and following.
- Button "Edit"
Can be used only, if the selected location is inside a placeholder. The definition of the placeholder is transferred into the fields "Meta date" and following to allow editing the placeholder there.

The placeholder, which can be edited via fields "Meta date" and following, is highlighted by white font on black background. If changes are done in the fields "Meta date" and following, but no placeholder is marked, the hint "No placeholder marked" is shown.

It is possible to define placeholder for properties, in which in turn another placeholder is entered. Up to five levels are supported in this way.

Interpreted and Original for data type "LangAlt"

With data type "LangAlt" values can be specified in different languages. If a language is specified in the placeholder, the value entered for this language is used. In this case Interpreted and Original give the same result. If no language is specified, all values are used, separated with the specified separator. With Formatting "Interpreted" the language identifier (e.g., "en-US") is shown before each value, with Formatting "Original" not.

Notation of placeholders in input field for the value

Instead of using this mask, the definition of the placeholders can be done also by a simple text entry, which then is only checked when saving the image. The spelling of the properties must be exact - in compliance with upper and lower case. When replacing placeholders by values, there is a check if the property in principle is known. If the referenced property is not contained in the image, the placeholder is replaced by an empty string. Placeholder must use the English name of the property.

Due to that it is recommended to define placeholders via the controls in the mask. Anyhow here are the rules how a placeholder is constructed:

- The individual entries are separated with ";"
- The placeholder starts with "{"
- Tag name
in case the saved value shall be used with leading "#"
optional for properties of type "LangAlt": separator "|" and language
- Start position of substring (negative, if counted from the right)
- Length of substring
- Formatting
 - o = original value
 - s = sort values
 - only for data types Rational and SRational:
d0 - d5 = decimal value with 0 to 5 decimal places
- Separator for properties with several values
- The placeholder ends with "}"

Examples

If Iptc.Application2.Caption has the value "abcdefgh", you get following results for placeholders:

```
{{Iptc.Application2.Caption;3}} = cdefgh  
{{Iptc.Application2.Caption,3,4}} = cdef  
{{Iptc.Application2.Caption;-4}} = efgh  
{{Iptc.Application2.Caption;-4;2}} = ef
```

If Exif.Photo.ExposureTime has the value "1/60", you get following results for placeholders:

```
{{Exif.Photo.ExposureTime}} = 1/60 s  
{{Exif.Photo.ExposureTime;;;o}} = 1/60  
{{Exif.Photo.ExposureTime;;;d3}} = 0.017
```

If Xmp.dc.creator has the value "John Doe" and "Barbara Smith", you get following results for placeholders:

```
{{Xmp.dc.creator}} = John Doe, Barbara Smith  
{{Xmp.dc.creator;;;s}} = Barbara Smith, John Doe  
{{Xmp.dc.creator;;;s; and }} = Barbara Smith and John Doe
```

Placeholder definitions for initially listed use cases

Placeholder definitions for the initially listed use cases can be simply copied into the value field of the mask and - if needed - modified in the mask.

1. Persons recognized by Windows Live Photo Gallery:

Windows Live Photo Gallery writes the names of the persons and other data (position in the image, if applicable Windows Live ID) into Xmp.MP.RegionInfo. In order to obtain the names the following placeholder has to be used:

```
{{Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[]/MPReg:PersonDisplayName}}
```

The order results from the order in which Windows Live Photo Gallery writes the values into Xmp.MP.RegionInfo. This may not necessarily be from left to right. Therefore, it may be useful generally to sort the names in order to have a clear order:

```
{{Xmp.MP.RegionInfo/MPRI:Regions[]/MPReg:PersonDisplayName;;;s}}
```

2. Copyright notice:

If you enter your name in Exif.Image.Author, you can create a following placeholder to create a copyright notice:

```
Copyright {{Date;4}} {{Exif.Image.Artist}}
```

When you want to add a copyright notice for older images, you can take the year from the date of recording:

```
Copyright {{#Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal;4}} {{Exif.Image.Artist}}
```

3. Logging of changes:

With the following definition the date, time and name is added to an existing entry in Exif.Image.ImageHistory:

```
{{#Exif.Image.ImageHistory}}; {{Date}} {{Time}} John Doe
```

If this is applied several times, it gives a list showing who has applied changes when.

4. Collecting Comments:

There are some properties that are usable to enter a comment for an image. When various properties such as Exif.Image.ImageDescription, Exif.Photo.UserComment, Iptc.Application2.Caption, Xmp.dc.description and Xmp.dc.title were used in several images, their values can be copied to Exif.Photo.UserComment using following placeholder:

```
{{Exif.Image.ImageDescription}}{{#Exif.Photo.UserComment}}{{Iptc.Application2.Caption}}{{Xmp.dc.description}}{{Xmp.dc.title}}
```

In front of Exif.Photo.UserComment a "#" is added. As the complete placeholder definition is entered in the field for Exif.Photo.UserComment, the placeholder for Exif.Photo.UserComment has to refer to the last saved value for Exif.Photo.UserComment.

The placeholders are specified without delimiters, as it is assumed in this example that only one of the properties is filled. If multiple properties may be filled, a separator should be added:

```
{{Exif.Image.ImageDescription}}, {{#Exif.Photo.UserComment}},  
{{Iptc.Application2.Caption}}, {{Xmp.dc.description}}, {{Xmp.dc.title}}
```

Then it may happen that nothing is between the delimiters, because the properties are not defined. A manual rework then cannot be avoided.

Command buttons:

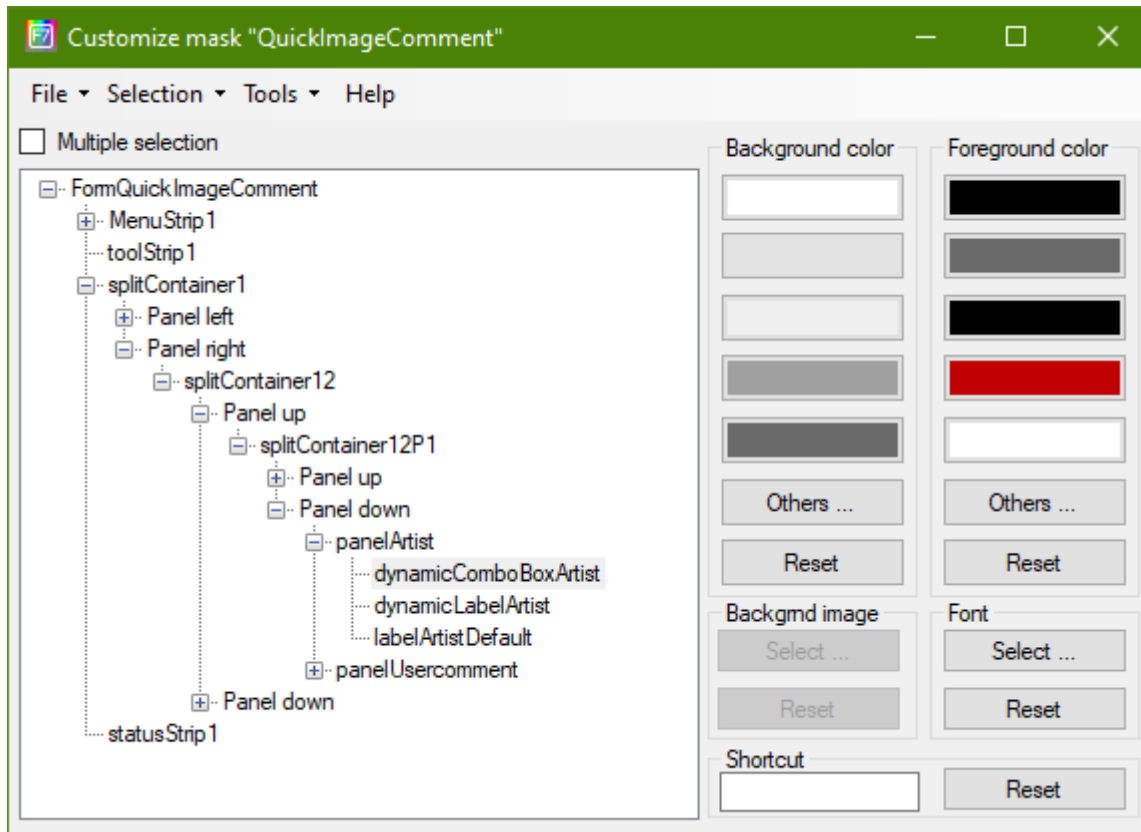
Customize mask	Customize the mask, more details in Mask "Customize mask"
----------------	---

OK	Accept input and close mask
Cancel	Close mask without accepting input
Help	Displays the help for this mask

21 Mask "Customize mask"

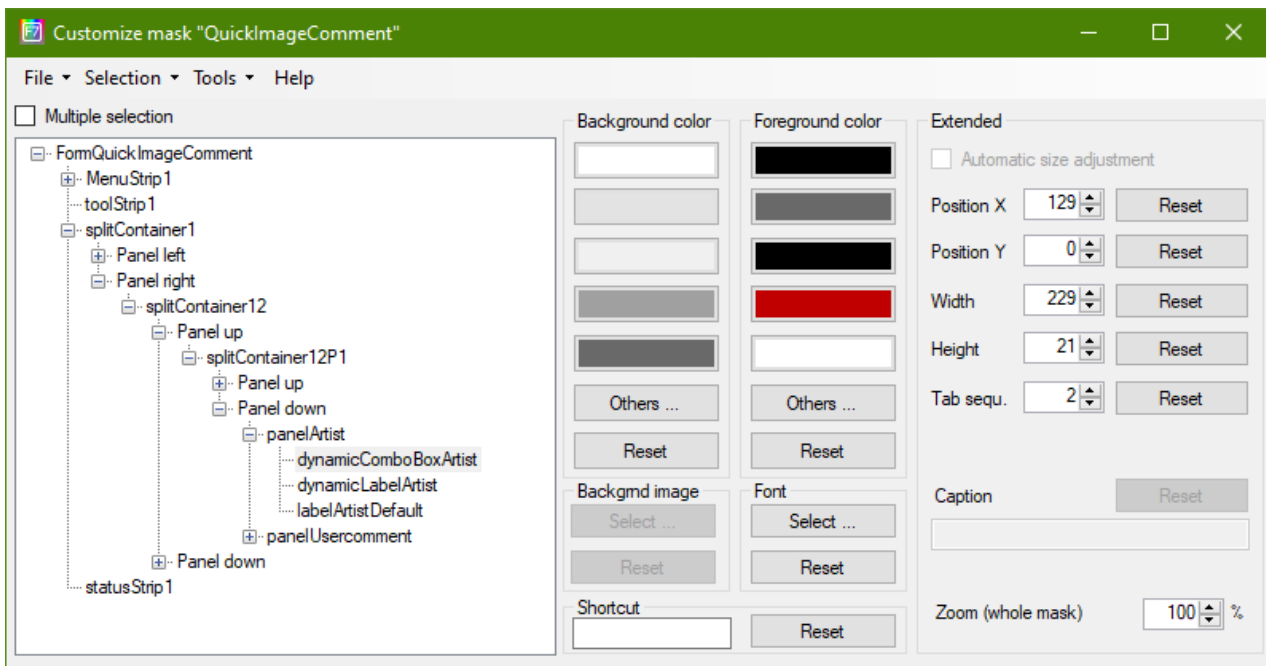
With this mask you can customize following properties of a mask:

- Background color
- Foreground color
- Background image
- Font
- Shortcut



In the advanced settings (show and hide using menu "Tools - Advanced settings") you can customize additionally:

- Position
- Size
- Tab sequence
- Caption
- Zoom



21.1 Select controls and adjust

In the left part of the screen is a tree with all controls of the mask. After opening the mask, the control is selected, which had the focus. Another control can now be selected in the tree or by setting the focus on a control in the mask to be customized (e.g., the main mask).

Some controls (e.g., labels, i.e., fixed text) can be not selected in mask to customize. These are then accessible only via the tree.

With the checkbox "Multiple selection" above the tree you can chose, whether several controls can be selected in the tree at the same time.

Another possibility is using the menu "Selection" to select all controls or all controls of a certain type (e.g., System.Windows.Forms.Label = fixed text).

The selected controls are displayed in the mask to customize with a red frame. The color of the frame can be changed using the menu entry "Tools - Border color for marking".

In the area to the right, you may change settings for the selected controls. With the command buttons "Reset" you restore the original values (i.e., the state of delivery).

Foreground and Background color:

With several command buttons you can directly assign a color. With the command button "Others ..." any other color can be selected. If you want to use this color more often, you can assign them to one of the command buttons using the menu entry "Tools - Customize mask". Another window will open, in order to customize the customization mask itself. There you can change the background color for the command buttons.

Background image and font

With the command buttons "Select ..." a mask to select a picture or font is opened.

Shortcut key

To assign a shortcut key to a control, you have to set the focus into the text box and then press the desired key combination. An editing of the text box is not possible. With the back key, the delete key or the esc key the assignment is deleted.

21.2 Advanced settings and other extras

Advanced Settings

The advanced settings are displayed or hidden using menu "Tools - Advanced settings".

The advanced settings allow users to change the mask layout fundamentally:

- Position and size of controls can be adjusted.
- The tab order (the order in which the focus changes when the tab key is pressed) can be changed.
- Captions (e.g., from labels) can be changed.
- The size of the mask including all controls can be adjusted (zoom). Here, the total size of the mask, the size of all controls and the font are uniformly magnified or reduced. Depending on the zoom factor further individual adjustments are necessary to obtain a coherent overall picture.

Note: While the Zoom setting can have a practical use (enlarge to improve legibility, downsizing to display more information), the other settings are more likely not relevant in practice.

Border color for marking

The selected controls are displayed in the mask to customize with a red frame. The color of the frame can be changed using the menu entry "Tools - Border color for marking".

Customize mask

Using the menu entry "Tools - Customize mask" you can also customize the customization mask itself.

Reset all settings

With the menu entry "Tools - Reset all settings" you can reset all settings of that mask back to their original values (factory setting).

List shortcut keys

With the menu entry "Tools - List shortcut keys" all shortcut keys assigned in the mask are listed.

21.3 Saving and loading of settings

The settings that are made using this mask are stored in a separate configuration file. The name of this file is stored in the general configuration file (see [General configuration file](#)).

In the File menu you have the following options:

Load settings - overwrite	Via a separate mask, a configuration file is opened. The existing settings are deleted and the settings in the file are loaded.
Load settings - supplement	Via a separate mask, a configuration file is opened. The existing settings are not deleted. The settings from the file are loaded. If there is an existing setting and the file contains a different value, the existing value is overwritten.
Save settings	The changed settings are stored in the configuration file. If there is no associated configuration file, the menu item is not selectable (grey). Otherwise, the file name of the configuration file is also displayed in the menu entry.

Save settings as ...	The settings are stored in a configuration file. Name and location to store are given in a mask.
Close	Close the mask.

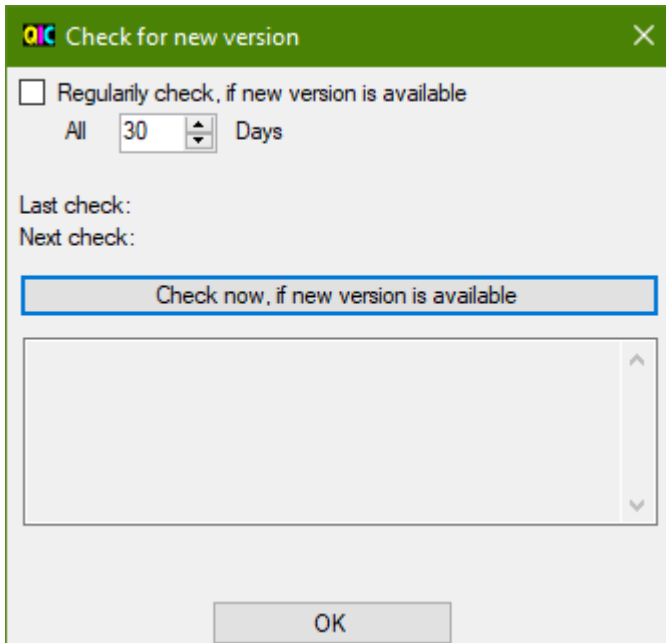
If settings have been made, but these are not yet stored, you will be asked when quitting the program, if they should be saved or not.

The configuration file is a simple text file and can be edited with a text editor. But this carries the risk that errors are made that make the file unreadable for the program.

In the program directory some sample files are included (FormCustomization-xxx.ini). Their purpose is just to illustrate, which customizations are possible. Use in practice is not intended.

22 Mask "Check for new version"

The program can check if a new version is available. With this mask you can start this check and can configure if and in which time interval the check is performed automatically at program start.



The mask contains (from top to bottom):

- Checkbox to select if the regular check is done or not
- Input field to select the cycle time for automatic check
- Information, when the last check was performed
- Information, when the next check will be performed
- Command button to start the check directly
- Output area with the result of the check. If a new version is available, the new version as well as a short summary of the changes is displayed.
- If there is a new version available: Command button to open the download area of the website of the program

23 Command line arguments

If QuickImageComment is started via the command line or a corresponding shortcut is created, arguments can be given:

- The folder to display
- One or more files to display
- A user-specific configuration file
- Parameters that override the settings in the general configuration file.

The order of the arguments is arbitrary. Different arguments can be combined. However, if files are passed as arguments, folder arguments are ignored.

Folder to be displayed/files to be displayed

These arguments are certainly the most frequently used because they are used to display files by drag-and-drop. Without these arguments, the last folder used is read from the user-related configuration file and displayed.

If a folder is passed as an argument, this folder is displayed.

If one or more files are passed, they are displayed. In the folder list, the folder in which all files are located is highlighted. If they are in different folders, the first common top folder is marked. If the files are on different drives, Desktop is marked.

Example for the call with several files:

```
QuickImageCommentX64.exe C:\Users\NN\Pictures\Demo-1.jpg  
C:\Users\N\Pictures\Demo-1.jpg
```

User-related configuration file

To use a specific user-related configuration file, it can be specified after the switch "/cfgUser:".

Example:

```
QuickImageCommentX64.exe /cfgUser:C:\Users\N\Documents\QIC.ini
```

Parameters general configuration file

Parameters from the general configuration file can be specified as arguments. They then overwrite the values from the general configuration file.

Parameters are specified as in the general configuration file, preceded by a slash. If text parameters contain a space, the value must be enclosed in quotation marks.

Examples:

```
QuickImageCommentX64.exe /ShowHiddenFiles:yes  
QuickImageCommentX64.exe /DateFormat1_Name:"<weekday short> DD.MM.YYYY  
HH:mm:ss" /DateFormat1_Spec: "ddd dd.MM.yyyy HH:mm:ss"
```

24 Adjustment and configuration

There are several ways to customize or configure the program.

How to adjust the main mask is described in [Layout of mask and adjustments](#).

Several masks are available to adjust different settings:

- [Mask "Adjust view"](#)
- [Mask "Settings"](#)
- [Mask "Field definitions"](#)
- [Mask "Predefined comments"](#)
- [Mask "Predefined IPTC key words"](#)
- [Mask "Customize mask"](#)

Further adjustments can be done in the configuration files:

- [User related configuration file](#)
- [General configuration file](#)

This chapter also contains information about configuration files to support different languages:

- [TagLookup-file](#)
- [Language files](#)

24.1 User related configuration file

The settings made in the program (via the various masks for configuration) and further information such as the recently displayed folder, size of masks, etc. are stored in a configuration file. Default setting:

- % APPDATA%\QuickImageComment.ini (32-bit version)
- % APPDATA%\QuickImageCommentX64.ini (64-bit version)

Here %APPDATA% is an environment variable and has depending on the operating system normally following value:

Vista and Windows 7, 8, 10	C:\Users\{username}\AppData\Roaming
Windows XP	C:\Documents and Settings\{username}\Application Data

This folder is hidden by default. The easiest way to view the content when the folder is hidden and/or you do not exactly know where it is: Enter %APPDATA% in the field on top of the File Explorer.

The storage location for user settings can be changed via menu entry "Tools - Storage location for user settings":

- %Appdata% (default setting):
 - If several users are created on the computer, each user has his own settings.
 - Settings are kept during upgrade on newer program version.
 - Also, to be chosen, if program folder is write-protected.
- Program folder:
 - Recommended for portable usage on USB-stick: the settings are on USB-stick too, no settings will be stored on other computer.
 - When upgrading to a newer program version, settings need to be copied manually or program files in currently used folder have to be overwritten.
 - Program folder must not be write-protected.

When you start the program, the settings are read from the configuration file and are saved when you quit. This configuration file is a simple text file and therefore in principle can be edited with an editor. But this carries the risk that errors are made that make the file unreadable for the program.

In the following cases editing with an editor can be useful:

- If you want to transfer a lot of settings from one configuration file to another.
- If you want to change the list of the last comments, list of artists or values of the other changeable properties - because that is the only information in the file that cannot be changed by other means.

24.2 General configuration file

The program package includes a general configuration file, which is located in the program directory:

- QuickImageCommentGeneral.ini (32-bit version)
- QuickImageCommentX64General.ini (64-bit version)

In this file you can make additional settings. However, it must be noted that with a new version of the program also a modified or enhanced configuration file is supplied. So it is better, if you copy the file into the folder %APPDATA% (see instructions in [User related configuration file](#)), there delete all rows that are not to be changed and adjust only the remaining settings and/or add further settings. Settings of the general configuration file in %APPDATA% have priority over the settings of the file in the program directory.

It is also possible to override settings of the general configuration file by passing arguments in the command line, see [Command line arguments](#).

The following settings can be adjusted or amended by the user:

Define new tags

Based on existing tags you can define new tags by extracting individual strings. This can be used to reformat the values of tags.

Syntax:

```
Define:<name of the new tag>=<name of existing tags>|<prefix>|<Start1>-<Finish1>||<Start2> - <time2>| ...
Descri:<name of the new tag>:<Description of the new tag>
```

Example 1:

```
Define:PhotoDateOriginal_YYYYMMDD=Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal||1-4||6-7||9-10|
Descri:PhotoDateOriginal_YYYYMMDD:The date when the original image data was
generated in format YYYYMMDD
```

Here the colons are removed from the Exif-tag Photo.DateTimeOriginal. The value of the tag is e.g., "2012:03:21". The new tag consists of the first four characters (the year), the sixth and seventh (month) and finally the ninth and tenth (day), which results in "20120321".

Example 2:

```
Define:PhotoDateOriginal_YYYYMMDD=Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal|a|1-4|-|6-7|-|9-10|
Descri:PhotoDateOriginal_YYYYMMDD:The date when the original image data was
generated in format aYYYY-MM-DD
```

Here in the Exif-tag Photo.DateTimeOriginal colons are replaced by hyphens and "a" is added as prefix. "2013:03:21" is changed to "a2012-03-21".

Date/time formats

For date values five different date formats can be defined. The definition consists of a name, which is displayed in the selection list for display formats in [Mask "Field definitions"](#), and the format specification itself.

Syntax:

```
DateFormat1_Name:<Format-Name>
```

```
DateFormat1_Spec:<Format-Specification>
```

In the format specification following placeholders can be used:

d	The day of the month, from 1 through 31.
dd	The day of the month, from 01 through 31.
ddd	The abbreviated name of the day of the week.
dddd	The full name of the day of the week.
h	The hour, using a 12-hour clock from 1 to 12.
hh	The hour, using a 12-hour clock from 01 to 12.
H	The hour, using a 24-hour clock from 0 to 23.
HH	The hour, using a 24-hour clock from 00 to 23.
m	The minute, from 0 through 59.
mm	The minute, from 00 through 59.
M	The month, from 1 through 12.
MM	The month, from 01 through 12.
MMM	The abbreviated name of the month.
MMMM	The full name of the month.
s	The second, from 0 through 59.
ss	The second, from 00 through 59.
t	The first character of the AM/PM designator.
tt	The AM/PM designator.
y	The year, from 0 to 99.
yy	The year, from 00 to 99.
yyy	The year, with a minimum of three digits.
yyyy	The year, with four digits.
yyyyy	The year, with five digits.

Further hints see: [https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/8kb3ddd4\(v=vs.71\).aspx](https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/8kb3ddd4(v=vs.71).aspx)

Example:

```
DateFormat1_Name:<weekday short> DD.MM.YYYY HH:mm:ss
```

```
DateFormat1_Spec:ddd dd.MM.yyyy HH:mm:ss
```

Settings for display of a map in Standard Browser

The list of URLs for display of a map in Standard Browser can be adjusted. Especially new entries can be added.

Syntax:

```
MapURL:<Name>=<URL>
```

- <Name> is shown in sub menu of menu "Tools / Map in Standard Browser". It must not contain an equal sign.
- <URL> is the URL, which is shown in Standard Browser. It must contain the placeholders <LATITUDE> and <LONGITUDE> for the coordinates.

Example:

MapURL:Google

Suche=https://www.google.com/maps/search/?api=1&query=<LATITUDE>,<LONGITUDE>

Define alternative values

Some tags have only a code as value which is hard to understand. The vast majority of these are converted to a text by the underlying library exiv2, but you can define your own additionally mapping table.

Syntax:

value:<name of the tag>: <value> = <translation>

Example:

Value: Exif.Photo.Saturation: 0 = normal

Here for the Exif tag Photo.Saturation "normal" displayed as interpreted value if the original value is 0.

The supplied configuration file contains a mapping table with the most important Exif tags, where the lines are commented. The values are taken from the Exif specification and differ sometimes from the translation in the library exiv2. This table can be activated by removing the semicolon at the beginning of the line (and possibly translate the texts into your preferred language).

Language definitions for XMP.Datentyp LangAlt

The XMP data type LangAlt allows for a tag to store values in different languages. In the [Mask "Settings"](#) you can select, for which languages an input field is always displayed in the configurable input area. Which languages are offered in [Mask "Settings"](#) can be defined.

Syntax:

XmpLangAlt#: <Sprach-Definition> <Sprach-Beschreibung>

where # is a number from 1 to 5.

Example:

XmpLangAlt1:de-DE Deutsch (Deutschland)

The valid values for the language definition are included as comments in the general configuration file. The language description can be adapted.

File modification date when saving

In the default configuration, the file modification date is updated when saving. With the entry

KeepFileModifiedTime:yes

the old file modification date is kept when saving the file. The modification date then shows the last change, which was executed with another program, e.g., a program with which the picture itself was changed and not just the Meta data.

File name for saving data for the search.

The data that can be used to search for images or videos can be saved to a file so that they are available the next time the program is started. The file name can be changed via the following entry:

FindDataTableFileName:QuickImageComment_FindDataTable.xml

Display of hidden files and folders

With the entry

```
ShowHiddenFiles:yes
```

display of hidden files and folders is activated.

Tag for recording date

According Exif specification "Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal" is the tag provided in a digital camera for recording date and time. If for [Mask "Change recording date and time"](#) and "Set file date to date image generated" another tag shall be used, following line has to be adjusted:

```
TagDateImageGenerated:Exif.Photo.DateTimeOriginal
```

Definitions for views "Thumbnail" and "Tile"

Display in views Thumbnail and Tile can be adjusted, all values in pixel:

- ThumbnailSize: size of thumbnail
- TileVerticalSpace: vertical space between tiles
- LargeIconHorizontalSpace: horizontal space in view thumbnail
- LargeIconVerticalSpace: vertical space in view thumbnail

Example:

```
ThumbnailSize:100  
TileVerticalSpace:5  
LargeIconHorizontalSpace:10  
LargeIconVerticalSpace:20
```

All other settings in the general configuration file are used for testing purposes and should not be changed.

24.3 TagLookup-file

The program package includes a lookup file for German, which is located in the program directory: QIC_TagLookup_Deutsch.ini. This file is used when the language is set to "Deutsch".

In this file translations for tag names and descriptions can be entered and changed. However, it must be noted that with a new version of the program also a modified or enhanced lookup file is supplied. So it is better, if you copy the file into the folder% APPDATA% (see instructions in [User related configuration file](#)), there delete all rows that are not to be changed and adjust only the remaining entries and/or add further entries. Settings of the lookup file in %APPDATA% have priority over the settings of the file in the program directory.

Syntax for translation of a tag name:

```
META_KEY:<original tag name>=<translated tag name>
```

Example:

```
META_KEY:Define.FileCreated_ExifFormat=Define.Datei erzeugt (Exif-Format)
```

Note: in translations you may not add additional points (e.g., for abbreviations), because the point is used as a delimiter for the grouping.

For example, the tag "Exif.Fujifilm.MaxApertureAtMaxFocal" is translated as "Exif.Fujifilm.Max Blende bei max Brennweite" and thus is displayed as "Max Blende bei max Brennweite" under the heading "Exif.Fujifilm". If it would be translated as "Exif.Fujifilm.Max. Blende bei max. Brennweite", it would be displayed as "Brennweite" under the heading "Exif.Fujifilm.Max. Blende bei max.".

Syntax for a replacement tag description:

META_DESC:<original tag description>=<translated tag description>

Example:

META_DESC:Define.FileCreated_ExifFormat=Datum/Uhrzeit, wann die Datei im Exif-Datum/Uhrzeit-Format Exif erstellt wurde (JJJJ:MM:DD hh:mm:ss)

24.4 Language files

Quick Image Comment is multilingual. The basic version is German, the tag names and descriptions are in English, because they are provided by the library exiv2 (which is in English).

The following language files are supplied with the program:

QIC_TagLookup_Deutsch.cfg	(Incomplete) translation of tag names and descriptions to German, see also TagLookup-file
QIC_Language_Deutsch.cfg	List with German texts, which are used by the program dynamically, such as error messages
QIC_Language_English.cfg	List with English texts, which are used by the program dynamically, such as error messages, as well as English translations of static text in the masks (labels)

These files can be changed (at own risk).

In principle new languages can be supported without program changes if an appropriate QIC_Language_xxx.cfg is created. Program changes are only necessary if it is not possible to keep the translations so short that they fit into the available space. A corresponding QIC_TagLookup_xxx.cfg is not required. If it does not exist (or is incomplete as the German) English names and descriptions are used.

Support for providing additional languages is welcome. For more details:

<https://www.quickimagecomment.de/index.php/en/support-for-additional-languages>

24.5 exiv2.ini

Starting with version 0.26 exiv2 optionally uses an initialization file named exiv2.ini. QuickImageComment looks for this file in the location of the general configuration file.

Some makers define a lens-ID. For display of ExifEasy.LensName exiv2 translates these lens-IDs to lens names based on a mapping included in the program itself. However, there are IDs, which are not yet included in the built-in mapping, and some IDs are not unique. For these IDs the mapping can be defined in exiv2.ini. Here an example:

```
# comment

[canon]
110=Samyang 35mm F1.4 AS UMC
247=Samyang 14mm f/2.8 AE ED AS IF UMC

[nikon]
146=a nikon lens

[pentax]
3 255 0 0=a pentax lens

[minolta]
255=a sony lens
```

```
[olympus]  
None=something
```

In case for an ID is an entry in the integrated mapping table as well as in exiv2.ini, the entry from exiv2.ini is used.

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GNU General Public License (GPL)
- [OpenStreetMap](#)
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- [Leaflet](#)
Leaflet is used to display the maps.
- [Newtonsoft.Json.NET](#)
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Version 3, 29 June 2007

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Source:

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26 Meta data standards

Exif-Specification:

Version 2.32:

http://www.cipa.jp/std/documents/download_e.html?DC-008-Translation-2019-E

Newer versions can be found here if necessary:

http://www.cipa.jp/std/std-sec_e.html#cipa-list

IPTC-Specification:

IPTC Photo Metadata Standard:

<https://www.iptc.org/std/photometadata/specification/IPTC-PhotoMetadata>

Namespace Dublin Core:

<http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>

Further information and if necessary newer versions can be found here:

<https://iptc.org/standards/photo-metadata/iptc-standard/>

IPTC Guidelines & Support:

<https://iptc.org/standards/photo-metadata/guidelines-support/>

Reference image with IPTC data according to standard 2019.1:

<https://www.iptc.org/std/photometadata/examples/IPTC-PhotometadataRef-Std2019.1.jpg>

Metadata Schema and Format Specification, version 4.2:

<http://www.iptc.org/std/IIM/4.2/specification/IIMV4.2.pdf>

More information about Information Interchange Model (IIM) and, if applicable, newer version of the specification:

<https://iptc.org/standards/iim/>

Notes on the date format:

According to IIM the date is stored in the format "CCYYMMDD". exiv2 (the library used in this program to read and write metadata) returns the date in the format "CCYY-MM-DD" according to ISO 8601-1. An IPTC date must also be entered in the same format.

XMP-Specification:

Overview:

<https://www.adobe.io/open/standards/xmp.html#!adobe/xmp-docs/master/Specifications.md>

Part 1, Data model, Serialization, and Core Properties:

<https://wwwimages2.adobe.com/content/dam/acom/en/devnet/xmp/pdfs/XMP%20SDK%20Release%20cc-2016-08/XMPSpecificationPart1.pdf>

Part 2, Additional Properties:

<https://wwwimages2.adobe.com/content/dam/acom/en/devnet/xmp/pdfs/XMP%20SDK%20Release%20cc-2016-08/XMPSpecificationPart2.pdf>

Part 3, Storage in Files:

<https://wwwimages2.adobe.com/content/dam/acom/en/devnet/xmp/pdfs/XMP%20SDK%20Release%20cc-2016-08/XMPSpecificationPart3.pdf>

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