

# Digital Photography: Creating a Slide Show

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## **Part One: Preparation**-How do I start?

**Step 1**-Choose a theme. What do I want the viewer to experience?

Examples- A vacation, an event, a human interest story, a personal project, favorite photos, family portraits, a collection (antiques, hobby items), a pictorial history

**Step 2**-Create a folder with a name based on the theme selected. Example, "**Photos from Spain**"

Gather all the photos that could be used in the slide show. (Digital shots from camera memory cards, scans from printed pictures, downloads from the internet, etc.) Place these original picture files in the folder. (You may create sub-folders for scans or downloads.)

**Step 3**-Create a second folder titled " \_\_\_\_\_ Show" . Example, "**Photos from Spain Show**"

For this folder, **select** and then **edit** the photos that will actually be in the slide show.

Choose pictures that are the best photographs and pictures that play a role in telling the story.

Edit the selected pictures in a photo editing program like *Adobe Photoshop*, *Adobe Photoshop Elements* or whatever editor is available. Editing will involve things like cropping, lightening, darkening, boosting contrast, enhancing color, deleting unwanted objects, sharpening , etc. If the picture files are from different sources, it is best to rename the files.

**Note:** *If more than fifty (50) photos are selected, it may be necessary to reduce the size of the picture files. Average file size should be around 400KB. The Photoshop Elements editor will allow you to reduce everything in the entire "Show folder" through Batch Processing. Click on **Edit**, then scroll to "**Process Multiple Files**". This will call for one more folder, add the word "final" to the name of this new folder.*

## **Part Two: Setting Up the Slide Show**

*The slide show creation program is **Adobe Photoshop Elements 9 (PSE)**.*

**Step 1-** Open Photoshop Elements -Choose **Organize**-Go to **File**-scroll to **Get Photos and Videos**-

slide right and click on **Files and Folders**- Locate the folder containing the selected and edited

picture files- Select folder and Click **Get Media**. (This will place your photos in the PSE Organizer)

**Step 2-****Create an album** by selecting button labeled **Organize-Albums** and clicking on **Green plus (+) sign**-

choose **New Album**. Name the album and then click and drag the show photos into the album.

**Step 3-**Click the **Create** button in the panels bin and Select **Slide Show**. The **Slide Show Preference Box**

will appear. These are default settings. Click **Okay**. The **Slide Show Editor** will open.

**Step 4-**The show photos should appear in the story board located near the bottom of the page. (If the

story board is blank, go to **Add Media** and select **Photos and Videos from Elements Organizer**.

Locate the album you created and select all of the photos, then click **Add Selected Media**.) Click

on **Save Project**, **name the project**, and **save**. Next, **Click and drag** to arrange the photos in the

order that is desired. (With a large number of slides, arrange by using **Quick Reorder**.)

**Options: Pan and Zoom**-Check box to allow auto panning and zooming or manually set for each slide.

**Titles**-Create Title slide by choosing **Blank Slide** or using a photo slide. Select button marked "**T**",

select a style, drag that "**T**" style over to slide, double click inside placeholder, type titles in

dialogue box. (Font color, size, style can be changed.) The title will display on the slide.

**Graphics**-Click button that looks like a small picture frame. Select a graphic and again drag onto

slide. The graphics can also be edited.

**Music**-To add music go to **Add Media-Audio from folder**-find music file on computer and click

**Open**. The music will appear in the audio track just below the story board.

**Set Transitions**-The **icons** between slides in the story board are transitions. Double click icon to

see other transition styles. Transition length can be adjusted as well.

Suggestion: Click "**Save**" on the toolbar every time a big change is made or every five to ten minutes.

**Step 5-** Click "**Save**". **Preview** the slide show by clicking **play** button above story board or choosing **Full Screen Preview** at top of screen. (This is the final review stage. Make sure everything is as desired. This ends the project stage. The final step is to output the slide show as a movie.)

**Step 6-Click Output**-Choose how the show is to be viewed. Choose **Save as File** and **Movie File (wmv)**.

Press **Details** to see options. The file size choices range from Saving for the web to Saving for a computer to Saving for a DVD. If the slide show is going to be played only on a **computer**, the best file size is **High 800x600**. To make a DVD, **Adobe Premiere Elements** is required, however, the output file size choice should be **DVD NTSC 720x480**. Choose a file size and Click OK.

**Name** the slide show (movie). (This is the name it will be filed under on your computer.)

The Output step involves rendering your slide show into a windows movie file. This may take a while depending on the length of the slide show, the output file size, and the speed of the computer. The movie will be sent to My Videos as the default, but you can choose to send it to any folder you would like. To view your slide show movie, locate the wmv file and double click to play.

### Final Tips

\*Once rendered to a movie, no changes can be made to the wmv file. To make changes to the slide show you must go back to the **PSE Organizer**, find the saved project, click to open it into the slide show editor, make changes, save again and then return to **Output** to render a new movie.

\*If you plan to make a DVD to play on your TV/ DVD player, do not use **itunes** as your music source. itunes usually won't carry over to the DVD format.

**Notes**

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