

User Manual

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1 Definition of Terms

Gallery It contains all your files and tags. OctoTagger makes it possible to create several galleries for different purposes. There is a default gallery from scratch, so you don't necessarily have to care about galleries.

Gallery Folder This is the most uncomplicated way to export tagged files from OctoTagger. You can choose the location and the name of the gallery folder as well as the tags you want to create a folder for. In addition you can choose between soft- and hardlinks, and check the option to automatically add folders for each tag, which will be created later.

Advanced Output Folder This output folder contains every file, which fits the given algorithm from the OctoTagger Expression Syntax. You can give this folder a name, set its location and choose between soft- and hardlinks as well. It's the most advanced way to export files.

Tagging Mode This feature helps you to inspect your images as it enlarges them to fill the whole frame. It should make it easier for you to give proper tags. The Tagging Mode only works when files are already imported. Other files than images will just be represented by generic icons.

Hardlink This link represents a new entry copied from the source file and consists even when the source file is removed or deleted. Due to that, you have to use hardlinks when you want to synchronise your output folder (gallery folder, advanced) with a server by using services like Dropbox.

Softlink This type of link just contains a path pointing at the original file. When the path of the source file changes, or the file gets deleted, the softlink does not work anymore.

Integrity Check [Tools > Perform integrity check] Scans the the folders generated by OctoTagger on discrepancies and displays them.

Expression Syntax This is another feature of OctoTagger. It contains several logical operators to select multiple files with just one expression. You can use it to search files OctoTagger, when they are imported, or for advanced output folders.

2 Warnings

Please keep this in mind when using OctoTagger:

1. Files in the default gallery, located in the OctoTagger installation folder, must not be deleted, moved or renamed.
2. Do not manually save files into folders generated by Octotagger. They might be deleted.
3. It is not recommended to import two files with the same name as it might lead to unexpected behaviour.

3 First Steps

The OctoTagger user interface consists of three frames: the tag pane on the top left, the main view on the right and the context pane on the bottom left. You can find the menu bar in the top. It is recommended to import files first, to gain experience with OctoTagger.

3.1 Import Files

OctoTagger offers you two possibilities for the file import.

3.1.1 Direct import

Choose single files in the file dialog and they will be imported directly into the database.

3.1.2 Import process

[File > Start file import process...] opens a file dialog, which allows you to select folders. By clicking on "Open", the files and sub directories in the selected folder will be displayed on the main view. Navigating through the directories and all sub directories is also possible. You can now tag them, even before they are imported to your gallery. When you want to import them, open the context menu by right-clicking the main view. You can now choose between *Abort import*, *Import all* and *Import tagged*. Go to chapter 4 to learn how to give tags. If you want to remove files from import open the context menu by right-clicking them.

3.2 Gallery

A gallery is a database file, which can be located anywhere on the system. Without it the whole tagging process would not work. This database file contains information about every imported file and connects them with the given tags. There is a default gallery implemented, which is automatically generated in the application directory.

3.2.1 Create new gallery

[File > New gallery] opens a file dialog where you have to set the location and the name of your gallery.

3.2.2 Open gallery

[File > Open gallery] opens a submenu where you can select an already existing gallery.

3.2.3 Reset current database

[File > Reset current database] resets the whole current gallery and deletes all tags.

3.2.4 Delete current database

[File > Delete current database] deletes the database file. Imported files will be deleted irrevocable.

3.3 Filter Files

There are several options to filter files in the main view in OctoTagger.

3.3.1 View

Open [View] in the menu bar to show only tagged files, only untagged files or just the output folders.

3.3.2 Tags

When no element is selected in the main view, the text field in the tag pane changes its functionality. You are now able to search for tags and even use the *expression syntax* for it. When you enter the expression, only files matching this expression will be displayed.

3.4 Expression Syntax

The *expression syntax* offers you an unlimited amount of possibilities. Here are just some of them:

a b Selects all files having both *tag* a and *tag* b.

a -b Selects all files having *tag* a but not *tag* b.

a / b Selects all files having either *tag* a or *tag* b.

a (b / c) Selects all files having *tag* a and either *tag* b or *tag* c.

4 Assigning Tags

4.1 Tagging

To add new tags, just select one (or more) file(s) or directory in the main view, and type in the name of the tag you want into the text field located in the tag pane. Press enter to attach the tag to the file(s). When the tag already exists just check it in the tag pane. When you tag folders, every file in them will be tagged. Do not use blank spaces in your tag names. Replace them by underscores, they will be shown as blank spaces in OctoTagger.

4.2 Rename and delete Tags

Right-clicking a tag in the tag pane opens a context menu with the options to rename and delete tags.

4.3 Tagging Mode

Tagging mode can be initialized by a double click on a file or in the menu bar.

5 Output Folders

Output folders contain links, either soft- or hardlinks, pointing to the original files, located in the OctoTagger directory.

5.1 Create gallery folders

[File > Create gallery folder]

5.2 Create advanced output folders

[File > Create advanced output folder] or save the results of a search directly into an advanced output folder by clicking *Create folder from current expression* in the context pane after entering the search expression into the text field.