

User Manual

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1 First Steps

1.1 Installation & Launch

1.2 User Interface

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. In addition there are three different Modes (Overview, Import view, Tagging mode).

1.2.1 Main view

1.2.2 Context pane

The context pane contains the context menu, but only in the overview and import mode. When you are in tagging mode, the context pane offers you the possibility to turn metadata into tags.

1.2.3 Status bar

2 Import Files

2.1 Import process

[File > Start file import process...] opens a file dialog, which allows you to select folders. By clicking on "Open", the files in the selected folder will be displayed on the main view. 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". By clicking on "Import tagged" only tagged files will be imported.

2.2 Direct import

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

3 Gallery

A gallery is a database file, which can be located everywhere 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.

3.1 Create new gallery

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

3.2 Open gallery

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

3.3 Reset gallery

[File > Reset current database] resets the whole current gallery, deletes all tags and ends the import- or tagging mode.

3.4 Delete gallery

[File > Delete current database] deletes the database file.

4 Tagging

To add new tags, just write the name of the tag into the text field in the tag pane, and press Enter. This tag is now created, but not used yet. When you want to append tags to one or a bunch of selected files, just check tags from the tag pane.

4.1 Tagging mode

Tagging mode can be initialized by a double click on a file or in the menu bar. In this mode you can inspect every single file and give them tags. It's also possible to generate tags out of metadata in the context pane. When you open an image in tagging mode, it will be shown in the main view and fills the whole frame. Other files than images will just be represented by generic icons.

5 Output folders

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

5.1 Create output folders

[File > Create output folder] opens a dialog in which you can check every tag you want to create a folder for. By default this function uses softlinks. This folder will be named after the given tag.

5.2 Create advanced output folders

[File > Create advanced output folder] opens a dialog similar to the simple output folder dialog. However instead of checkboxes for every tag you have created before, there is a text field for the OctoTagger Expression Syntax (Chapter 8 "Expression Syntax"). It allows you to integrate multiple tags into an advanced output folder, instead of just one tag with simple output folders. You can also give that folder a user-defined name and choose between hard- and softlinks.

6 Integrity check

[Tools > Integrity check] starts a service which scans the (invisible) source folder and all output folders on your system. It looks for discrepancies between the current gallery and the generated output folders. When all files are checked, this service offers you multiple options to handle the discrepancies.

7 Cloud services

When you want to synchronize output folders by a cloud service, you need to use hardlinks for your output folders. Otherwise the cloud service will just synchronize the link files, not the original files.

8 Expression syntax

With the help of the OctoTagger Expression Syntax you can easily select multiple tags connected with different operators. You can connect any number of tags together by following operations:

9 Settings