**How-to Use Aquiplicity 2025**

**Your Friendly Guide to Image Magic**

**Welcome to Aquiplicity 2025!**  
Written by Tracy Rose with earliest concept in 2010 for the desktop app, but now this browser-based tool lets you transform a bunch of images into something totally new and exciting—all with just a few clicks and some creative flair. Whether you’re a beginner or a seasoned image tinkerer, this guide will walk you through every step to make the most of Aquiplicity’s unique features. Let’s dive in and start creating!

**Getting Started**

**What You’ll Need**

* A modern web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Edge, etc.).
* A few images (JPEGs, PNGs—anything your browser can handle).
* A sense of adventure!

**Opening Aquiplicity**

1. **Load the Program:** Open the Aquiplicity HTML file in your browser. You’ll see a clean interface with a control panel at the top, a thumbnail strip on the left, and a big working area with a canvas on the right.
2. **Check the Layout:**
   * **Top Panel:** Buttons and sliders for uploading images and tweaking settings.
   * **Left Strip:** Where your image thumbnails will appear.
   * **Right Canvas:** Your creative playground where the magic happens.
   * **Status Bar:** A little helper that tells you what’s going on.

**Tip:** If the page doesn’t load right, refresh it—sometimes browsers need a nudge!

**Step 1: Upload Your Images**

**Let’s Get Those Pictures In!**

1. **Find the Upload Button:** At the top-left of the control panel, click the "Choose Files" button next to "Upload images to begin" (it’s an <input> field, but it looks like a button).
2. **Pick Your Images:**
   * Select multiple images from your computer (hold Ctrl or CMD to pick more than one).
   * You can upload as many as you like, but only the first 15 will show as thumbnails.
3. **Watch Them Load:** The status bar will say "Loading X image(s)…" (X is how many you picked). You’ll see thumbnails pop up in the left strip, each 150x112 pixels, labeled "Image 1," "Image 2," etc.

**What’s Happening?**  
The first image you upload sets the size for your canvas (scaled to fit your screen), and all others adjust to match. They’re stored as pixel data, ready for action.

**Tip:** Start with 2-5 images to keep things simple—think of them as ingredients for your visual recipe!

**Step 2: Compose Your Master Image**

**Mix It Up with Thresholds**

1. **Enable the Compose Button:** Once your images load, the "**Compose**!" button (next to the upload field) lights up—click it! This will stack all your images in to one masterpiece.
2. **Tweak the Sliders (Optional):**
   * You’ll see three sliders labeled T1, T2, and T3, set to 0.10, 0.12, and 0.13 by default.
   * Slide them between 0.01 and 1.0 to control how much each image blends into the first one (lower = less change, higher = more mixing).
   * The numbers next to each slider update as you move them—fun to watch!
3. **See the Magic:**
   * The status changes to "Composing images at multiple thresholds…".
   * Aquiplicity compares every pixel across your many images, picks the ones that differ enough (based on your thresholds), and blends them into a single master image.
   * After a moment, your canvas displays the result!

**What’s Happening?**  
The software creates three versions of your composite (one for each threshold), then averages them into one smooth image. It’s like baking a cake with layers of flavor from every picture.

**Tip:** Try the "By Mr. Tracy Rose" button (bottom-right) to set all sliders to 0.13—a preset that gives an auto preset balanced mix!

**Step 3: Edit with Patches and Lassos**

**Make It Your Own**

Now that you’ve got a master image, let’s refine it with some cool tools: patching and lassoing.

**Option 1: Quick Patch (Click)**

1. **Pick a Spot:** Simple click anywhere on the canvas once.
2. **Patch It Up:** A 5x5 pixel square around your click gets replaced with a chunk from one of your other images—the one that’s least like the spot you clicked.
3. **Check the Status:** It’ll say something like "Patch (5x5) applied at X, Y" (X and Y are the coordinates).

**What’s Happening?**  
Aquiplicity finds the image that’s most different at that exact pixel and swaps in a little 5x5 piece. It’s like patching a quilt with a surprise fabric!

**Tip:** Click around to swap in bits and pieces— which is great for fixing small flaws or adding quirky details.

**Option 2: Patch with Lasso (Ctrl + Click)**

1. **Start Drawing:** Hold Ctrl (or CMD on Mac) and click on the canvas to begin a lasso.
2. **Trace Your Shape:** Move your mouse to draw an outline (no visible line yet—just imagine it!). Release Ctrl when you’re done (or connect back to the start).
3. **Apply the Patch:** If your lasso has at least 3 points, Aquiplicity picks the image that’s most different in that whole region and replaces it entirely within your shape.

**What’s Happening?**  
It calculates the average color difference across the lasso area and grabs a matching chunk from another image. Think of it as transplanting a big patch of “skin” from one picture to another.

**Tip:** Draw a big lasso over something like a sky or face to swap it out—perfect for bold changes!

**Option 3: Blend Lasso (Alt + Click)**

1. **Start Blending:** Hold Alt and click to start your lasso.
2. **Draw Away:** Move the mouse to outline an area, then release Alt to finish.
3. **Blend It In:** The region inside your lasso gets averaged across *all* your images, creating a soft, dreamy mix.

**What’s Happening?**  
Every pixel in the lasso becomes a blend of the same spot from every image—like mixing paint colors into a new shade.

**Tip:** Use this for smooth transitions, like blending a face into a surreal combo of all your portraits.

**Note:** If your lasso is too small (less than 3 points) or you let go of Ctrl/Alt early, it cancels—no harm done! The status will let you know.

**Step 4: Save Your Creation**

**Keep Your Masterpiece**

1. **Finish Up:** Happy with your image? Click "Save Master Image" (below the canvas).
2. **Download It:** A file named "combined\_master.png" downloads to your computer—no lasso lines or temporary stuff, just your polished result.
3. **Check the Status:** It’ll say "Combined master image saved (without lasso lines)".

**What’s Happening?**  
Aquiplicity creates a clean copy of your canvas and turns it into a PNG file. It’s ready to share or print!

**Tip:** Save often if you’re experimenting—each save captures your latest version.

**Step 5: Start Over (Optional)**

**Fresh Canvas, Fresh Ideas**

1. **Hit Reset:** Click the red "Reset" button at the top.
2. **Back to Basics:** Everything clears—canvas, thumbnails, sliders (back to 0.10, 0.12, 0.13)—and the status says "Upload images to begin".
3. **Start Again:** Upload new images and dive back in!

**What’s Happening?**  
The slate’s wiped clean, ready for your next project. It’s like hitting the restart button on a video game.

**Tip:** Reset if you want to try a totally different set of images or if things get too wild!

**Extra Tips and Tricks**

* **Experiment with Thresholds:** Low values (e.g., 0.05) keep more of your first image; high values (e.g., 0.50) mix in more from the others.
* **Use the Console:** If you’re techy, open your browser’s developer tools (F12) and watch the console logs—they tell you exactly what’s happening (e.g., "Patch applied at: X,Y").
* **Combine Tools:** Patch a spot, then blend over it with a lasso for a layered effect.
* **Image Choices:** Try photos with strong contrasts (e.g., a bright beach and a dark forest) for dramatic results.

**Troubleshooting**

* **Compose Button Won’t Click?** Make sure you’ve uploaded at least one image.
* **Canvas Looks Blank?** Refresh the page—it might need a repaint nudge.
* **Lasso Not Working?** Hold Ctrl or Alt the whole time you’re drawing, and make a shape with at least 3 points.
* **Images Won’t Load?** Check they’re valid formats (JPEG, PNG) and not corrupted.

**Why Aquiplicity Rocks**

Aquiplicity isn’t just another photo editor—it’s a playground where your images become something new. With its threshold mixing, patch swaps, and blend-lassos, you can turn a family photo, a sunset, and a doodle into a wild, one-of-a-kind creation. It’s all in your browser, super-fast, and totally yours to play with.

**Have Fun!**  
  
This manual provides a friendly, detailed walkthrough of Aquiplicity 2025’s features, tailored for users of all levels. Let me know if you’d like to tweak the tone or add more sections!