

# dMagy Portable Archive Data

A support folder created and used by dMagy Picture Prep (dMPP)

## **Do not delete this folder**

This folder stores portable, human-readable data that helps dMPP keep your photo archive organized without modifying your original photo files.

## **Why this folder exists**

- People names are consistent across the whole archive (no retyping and no duplicates).
- Locations, tags, and crop presets are reusable and shared across folders.
- The archive stays portable - when you move or copy the archive, this data travels with it.

## **What is stored here**

Typical structure (names may evolve over time):

- People/ - one JSON file per person (record-per-file)
- Locations/ - one JSON file per location
- Tags/ - one JSON file per tag
- Crops/ - one JSON file per crop preset
- \_locks/ - soft locks that warn when someone else may be editing the same photo
- \_meta/ - schema and app version info used for safe upgrades
- \_indexes/ - optional, rebuildable index files used for speed

## **Collaboration and shared archives**

If multiple family members use the same shared archive (Drive, Dropbox, etc.), dMPP supports working on different photos at the same time.

## **Soft locks (warning only)**

- dMPP may create a small lock file in \_locks/ while a photo is being edited.
- Locks are warnings only and never block work.
- Locks become stale after a while and are ignored.

## **What you can safely delete**

- Stale files under \_locks/ (optional)
- Any files under \_indexes/ (dMPP can rebuild them)

## **What you should not delete**

- People/, Locations/, Tags/, Crops/
- \_meta/
- Any sidecar JSON files stored next to photos

## **Where photo metadata is stored**

Per-photo metadata is stored next to each image as a dMPMS sidecar JSON file. This keeps the archive portable and avoids a separate database export step.

## **If something looks wrong**

- If you moved the archive, open dMPP and re-select the archive root folder.
- If this folder was deleted accidentally, restore it from a backup.

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