Welcome to PhotoPress!

Thanks for trying PhotoPress, the easiest way to print your digital photographs.

A Quick Tour
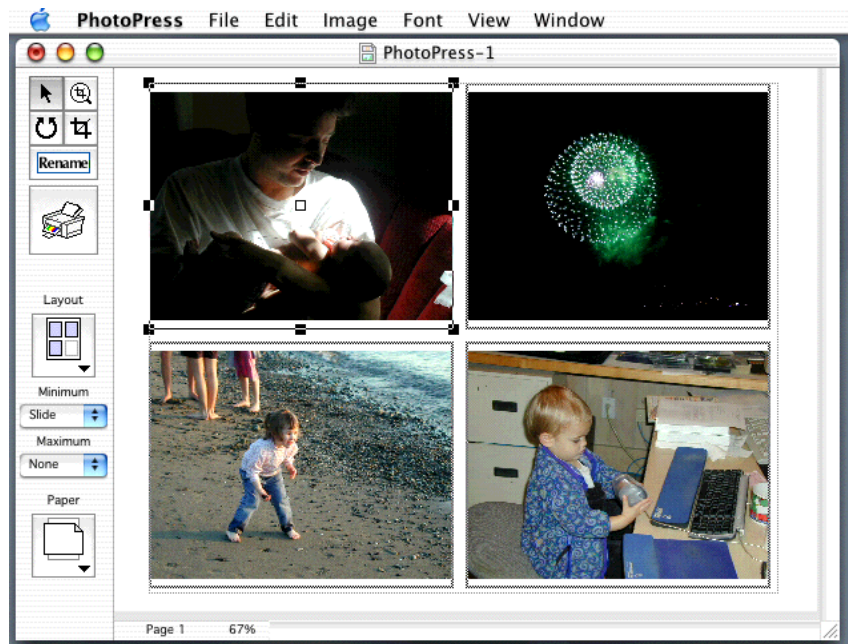
1. Launch PhotoPress by double-clicking its icon.

2. Drag the Sample Images folder onto PhotoPress's window (you may need to switch back to the Finder first). PhotoPress will import each image file in this folder, and lay them out in a grid. Note that it switched the page orientation (from portrait to landscape) so the images could be as large as possible.

3. Open the Preferences dialog (Edit : Preferences, or PhotoPress : Preferences in Mac OS X). Click the Show File Dates checkbox.

Click OK. PhotoPress will give each of the images a caption consisting of the date the photo was taken.

4. Click the Crop-Zoom tool at the left of the window. Click the first image (of a boy holding a computer mouse). Note that the cursor changes to a cross-hair while you're pointing to this image. Click above the head, and while holding mouse button down, drag until you've drawn a dotted box around the head. Release the mouse button. PhotoPress will crop the image to the area you selected, then zoom it up to the size of the other images (without distortion).

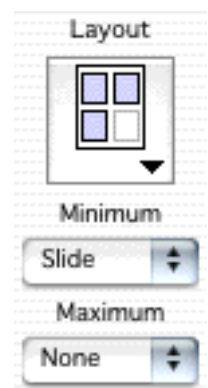5. Click the printer icon at left of the window. Be sure your printer is ready, then click Print.

Using PhotoPress

There are three keys to using PhotoPress: layout styles, drag & drop to import and rearrange, and crop-zooming to zoom in on a region of an image.

Choosing a Layout

PhotoPress lets you control how your photos are printed by giving you a choice of different layouts. A layout appears in a window, and you may have multiple windows open at once. When you launch PhotoPress or choose File : New, your window starts as a Flexible Grid. You can pick a different style by using the Layout popup menu.

The layouts all work about the same way. The difference is how they arrange your photos, and whether they allow more than one different image. There

are three basic layouts: Flexible Grid (or simply "Grid"), Fixed Grid (or simply "Fixed"), and School.

Grid
The Grid layout is the most flexible — you can use it to make index prints or full-page portraits. Its flexibility comes from the fact that as you import more images into a window, they will be resized to fit.
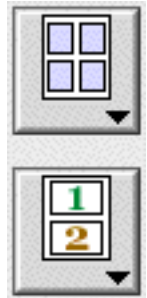
You specify the minimum image size using the popup menu underneath the Layout menu. You can also specify a maximum size — if you plan on putting your photos in an album, there's no need to print them larger than 6 x 4 inches.

It doesn't make sense to have index prints with images smaller than a dime, so PhotoPress will create multiple pages rather than reduce past a certain size.

Fixed
A Fixed layout lets you specify exactly how many images should appear on each page. Each image on the page will be the same size. If you import more than the number of images specified on a page, PhotoPress will create additional pages to hold the excess images.

Fixed layouts are either Singles or Multiples. Singles means that each image in the Fixed layout is individual. Multiples means that each image is the same. Using Fixed with Multiples is an easy way to quickly make multiple copies of an image.

School
The School layout is like the photos you got from your school portrait sitting, with a large copy for your parents, smaller copies for your grandparents, and even smaller ones for your wallet and other relatives and friends. PhotoPress prints a single image in multiple sizes. You can change the number of multiples from the Layout popup. School layouts are just like Fixed Multiples, but with multiple sizes.

Importing Images
PhotoPress works with digital photos that are available on your Macintosh — either you've already transferred them to your hard disk, or you've got a SmartMedia or Compact Flash reader. If your photos are still stored in a camera, you'll need to copy them (see your camera's manual if necessary).

> **Some advanced features of PhotoPress, like** Make Preview & Icon **and the rename tool require the photos to be on your hard drive so as not to confuse your camera.**

Most cameras save photos as JPEG files. PhotoPress reads these, and also imports photos in a bewildering array of formats (essentially any image format that QuickTime can read, including GIF, PICT, and TIFF).

Drag & Drop
The easiest way to import images into PhotoPress is to drag their icons onto an open PhotoPress window.

You can also drag a group of image icons or folder icons onto the PhotoPress icon in the Finder. This will import the images into a Grid layout.

Dragging images within a window will rearrange the images. Dragging images between Layouts will copy the images, or you can hold the option key to duplicate within a window.
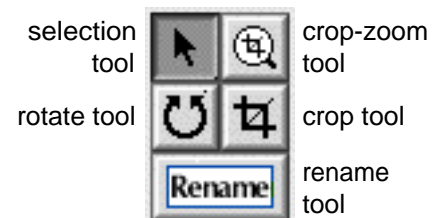
Dragging images out of a window to the desktop will create a screen-resolution (72 dpi) picture clipping of the image.

Open Dialog
You can also use the File : Open command to select one or more images to import. (You can't select an entire folder in this dialog, so you must use Drag & Drop to add an entire folder of images to a PhotoPress window.) The Open dialog will also allow you to open a previously saved layout.

Customizing
Expanding
The Crop-Zoom tool lets you enlarge a portion of a photo. Choose the Crop-Zoom tool, then click and drag on the portion of the photo you want to print. PhotoPress expands the area inside your selection fit in the original image area.

selection tool — crop-zoom tool
rotate tool — crop tool
Rename — rename tool

Hold down the shift key while dragging to select a rectangle that matches the original aspect ratio; this ensures that there won't be visible white space when the selected area is expanded.

Once you've crop-zoomed, hold down the control or option key to drag the image around inside the expansion area — this is usually the easiest way to change your selection a little bit!

Cropping
The Crop tool lets you trim a photo without enlarging it. Choose the Crop tool, then click on the photo you want to crop. Drag one of the handles. Once you have cropped, you can slide the image around by clicking and dragging inside it.
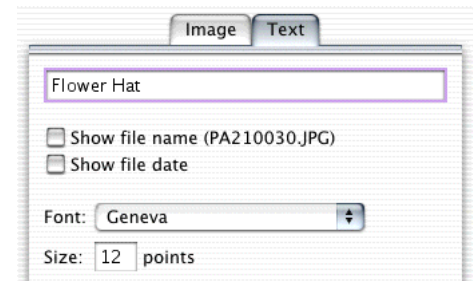
Rotating
If an image is a little tilted, you can correct it by clicking the Rotation tool, then clicking and dragging on the edge of the image. (Due to a bug in QuickTime, rotation only works for 90° increments. We are working with Apple to resolve this problem, and expect to soon re-enable arbitrary rotation in PhotoPress.)

You can also rotate an image in 90° increments from the Image Options dialog. (To bring up the Image Options dialog, double-click on an image.)

Captions
In the Preferences dialog, you can choose to have all
photos labeled with their date or file name, and where this
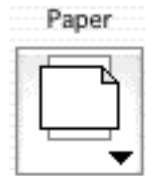caption is placed.

The Image Options dialog lets you type an additional line
of caption for individual images.

You can choose the font for each caption from the Image Options dialog, or by selecting the
images and using the Font menu.

Choosing Paper Orientation
Normally, PhotoPress switches between landscape and portrait pages to best fit
the photos to the printed page. You can pick a particular orientation from the
Paper popup menu.

Printing
Besides using File : Print, you can also print by clicking the printer button in the window.

Other Features
Icons
Most cameras give photos cryptic file names. To help identify photos on your hard disk,
import them into PhotoPress (a Grid layout works best), select them, and choose Image :
Make Preview & Icon. This creates a custom icon for each file, so you can identify them in a
Finder window. It also creates a preview thumbnail, which is shown in the Open dialog of
some applications.

(You can use the Make Preview & Icon command with photos on a SmartMedia card or
Compact Flash card, but this takes some of the card's storage space, so we don't recommend
it.).

File Names
Another way to help identify photo files is to give them meaningful names.
PhotoPress can help you rename the files created by your digital camera. Import
the images you want to rename, then click on the Rename button on the tool palette at the
top left of the window. A name badge will appear at the upper left of each image. Click in
an image or badge, and type the new name. When you switch to a different badge or turn
them off (by choosing another tool), the file will be renamed on your hard disk. You can
cycle through the badges by using tab and shift-tab.

Some applications may prefer that you leave a use a file extension such as .JPEG or .JPG,
but PhotoPress does not require this.

> **Warning: PhotoPress will allow you to rename photos on a SmartMedia card
> or Compact Flash card, but this may confuse your digital camera, so we don't
> recommend it.**

Tips

You can convert a high-resolution photo to 72 dots per inch (suitable for use on a web page) by selecting it, and choosing Edit : Copy. The clipboard will contain a 72 dpi picture, the same size as the photo appears on the screen.

If you want your photos to be sorted on a page, use the popup menu in the Preferences dialog. Note that if you turn sorting on, you won't be able to drag images around to rearrange them (since they will be kept in sorted order).

Support

Be sure to check the Read Me file and our web site. If you can't find an answer, please e-mail us at <photopress@electricfish.com>.

System Requirements
Power Macintosh
32 megabytes of RAM
Mac OS 8.6 or later; Mac OS X 10.0.4 or later
CarbonLib 1.2 or later (or Mac OS X)
QuickTime 4.0 or later

Feedback

We welcome your comments on how you use PhotoPress, and how we can make it better. Please e-mail us at <photopress@electricfish.com>.