

# Quickstart Guide SamePic v1.0.1

## Credits

SamePic is developed from the ground up by Robert van den Eijk and made available under the Gnuv3 license.

## Introduction

SamePic is specifically designed for finding and deleting (almost) similar pictures on your computer. Often, over the years, pictures are edited, mailed, received and stored again over and over on different locations. Checking them all out manually is a tedious process. SamePic is here to help.

Two main routes of operation exist when working with SamePic.

1. Searching for duplicates with one or more example pictures. An allowed deviation between the example picture(s) and the pictures in the search directory can be specified.
2. Searching for duplicates without one or more example pictures. Specifying a deviation is not allowed here. Pictures must be the same according to the program's algorithm. Often there is still a slight leeway.

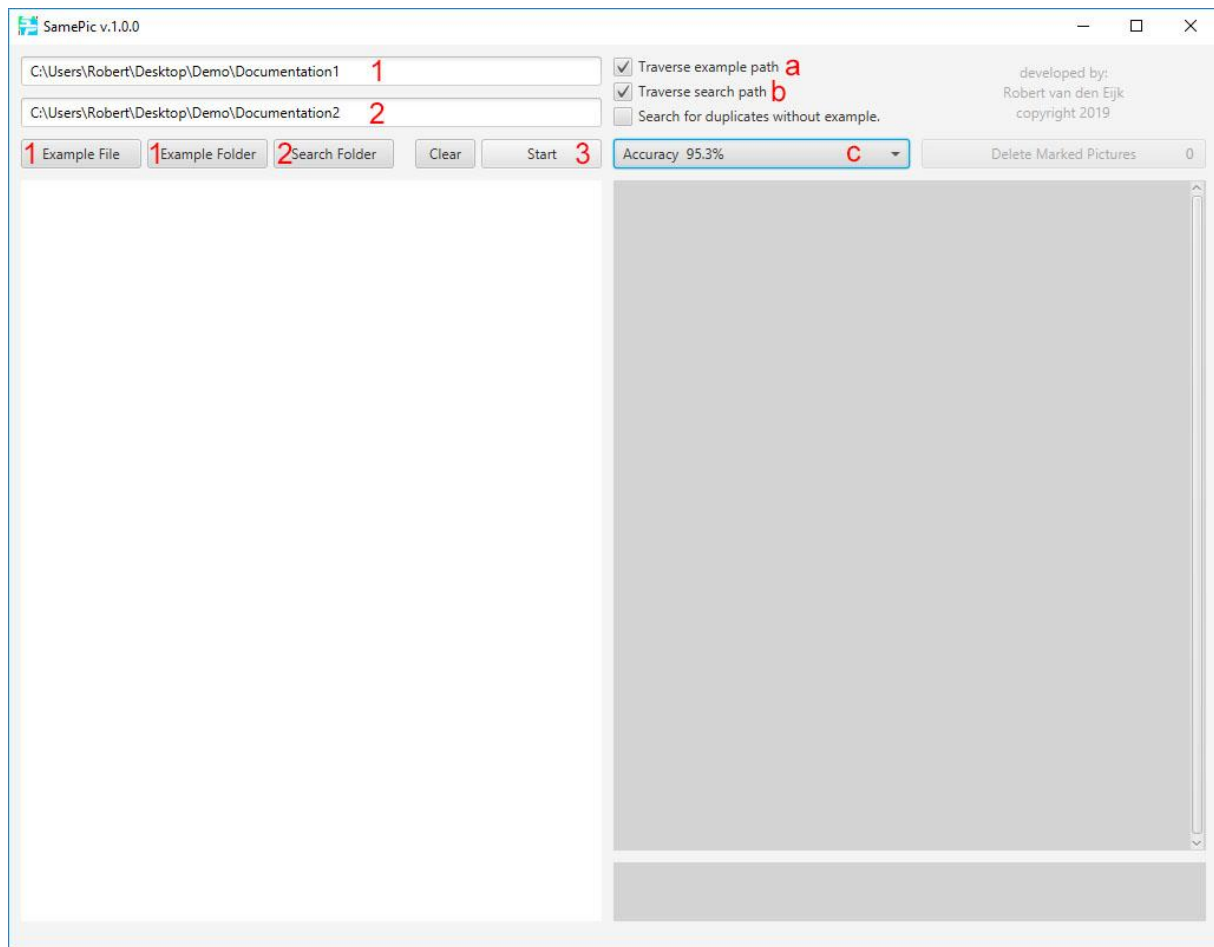
### Notes:

Supported file types are .jpg, .jpeg, .png and .bmp.

If you choose to run the .jar variant of SamePic, a recent version of Java 8 or 11 should be installed on your computer. For now, SamePic is tested only on Windows machines.

When searching through really large amounts of pictures, you should be aware that this can take hours or even days depending your computer.

## Searching with example pictures



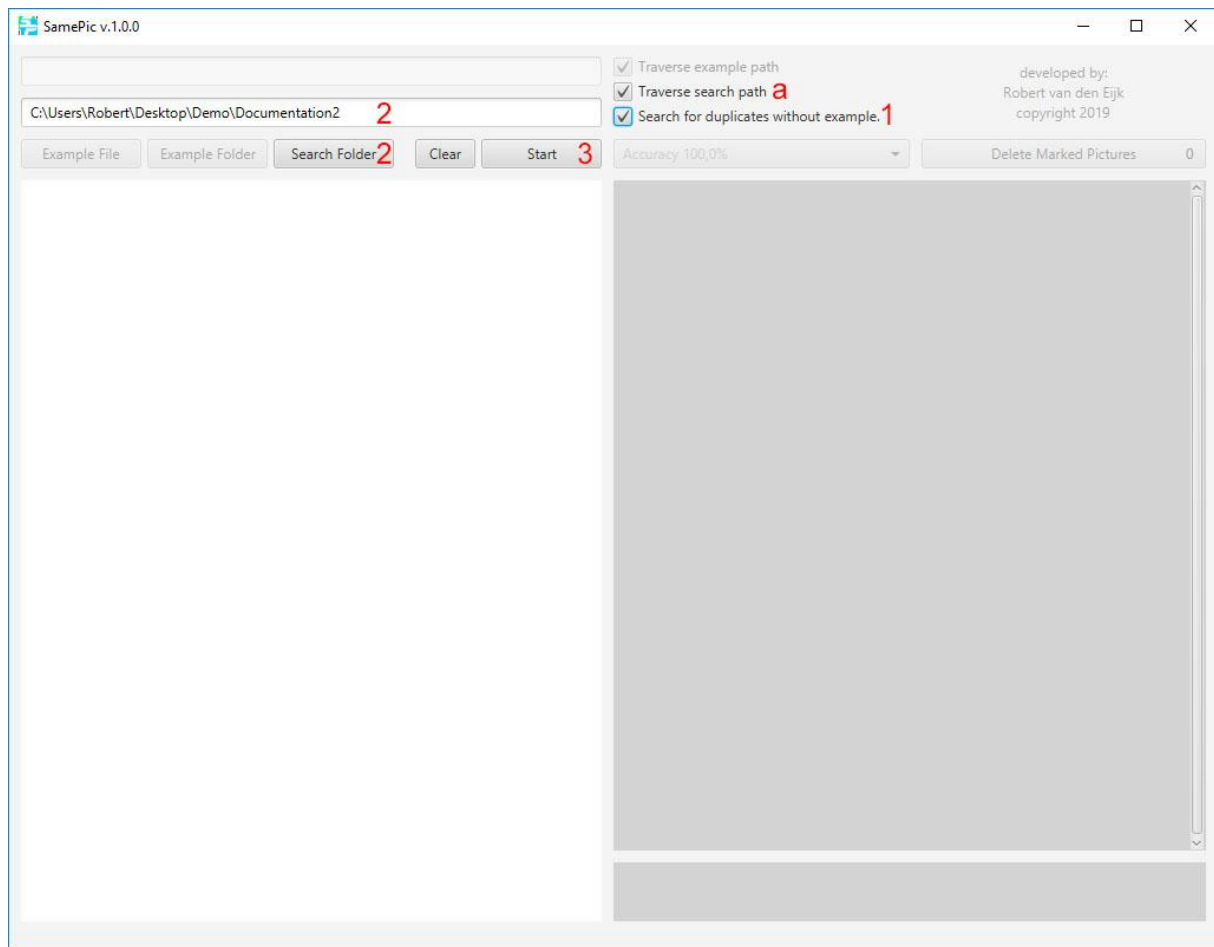
Searching with example pictures is a 3-step process with 3 optional settings:

1. Fill in the path of the example file or the path of the directory with example files. This can be done by filling the text field or by pressing one of the "Example" buttons.
2. Fill in the path of the directory that needs to be searched for duplicates. This can be done by filling the text field or by pressing the "Search" button.
3. Press "Start" to start the search process. Optionally you can choose if child directories should be searched (options a and b) and the accuracy of the match you are looking for.

Note 1: Depending the file size, picture dimensions and number of pictures, the entire process may take a while or be done in seconds.

Note 2: Changing the accuracy can be useful in situations where you are looking for similar pictures which may or may not have (different) watermarks, masked faces or have been resized where some sharpening/blurring has changed the overall picture somewhat.

## Searching without example pictures

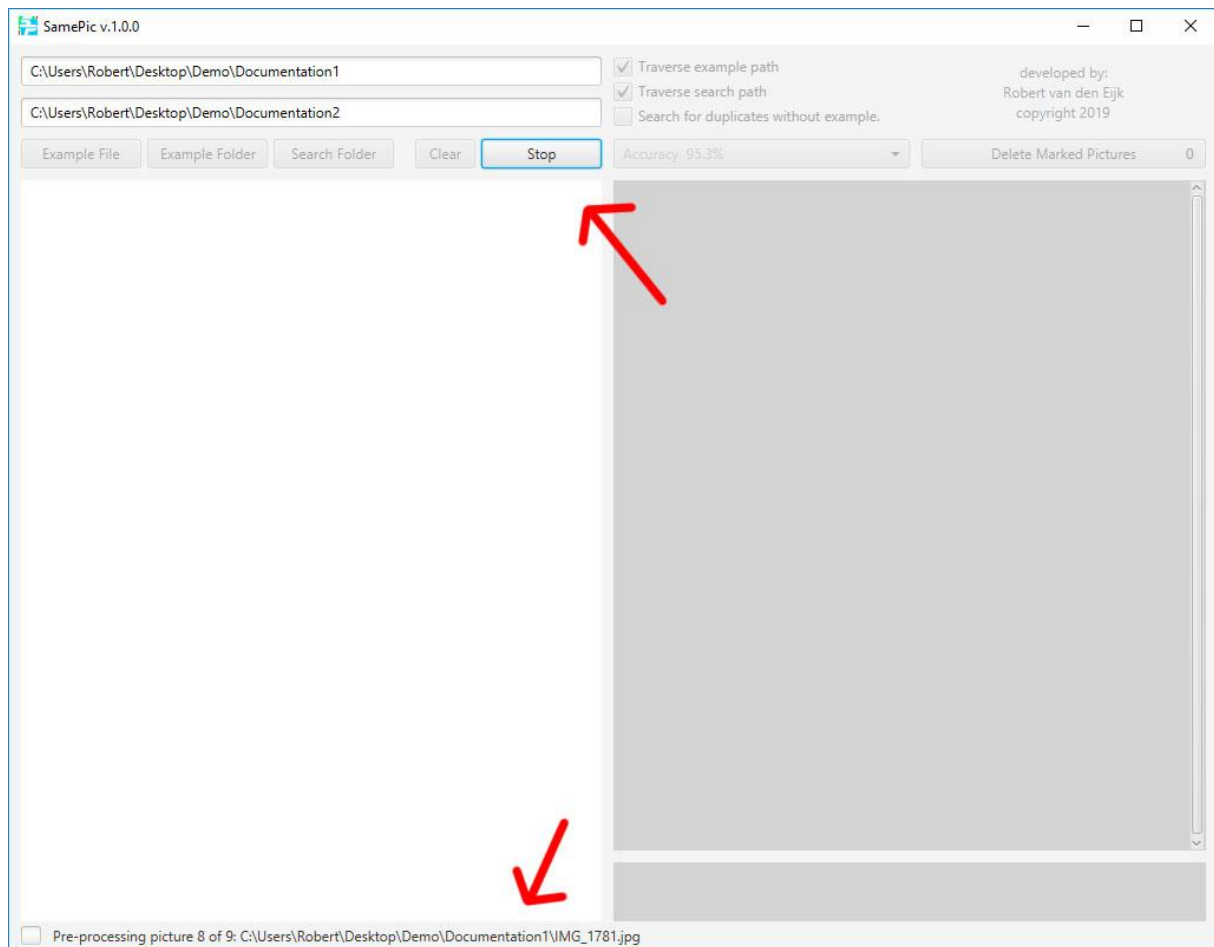


It is also possible to search without example picture. All matches in the searched folder will be shown as a collection after the search. There will be no example picture. For that reason, it is impossible to deviate from an accuracy of 100%. Searching without example picture is a 3-step process with 1 optional setting:

1. Select the "Search for duplicates without example" checkbox.
2. Fill in the text field or press the "Search Folder" button.
3. Start the searching process by pressing "Start".

Note: Depending the file size, picture dimensions and number of pictures, the entire process may take a while or be done in seconds.

## During processing

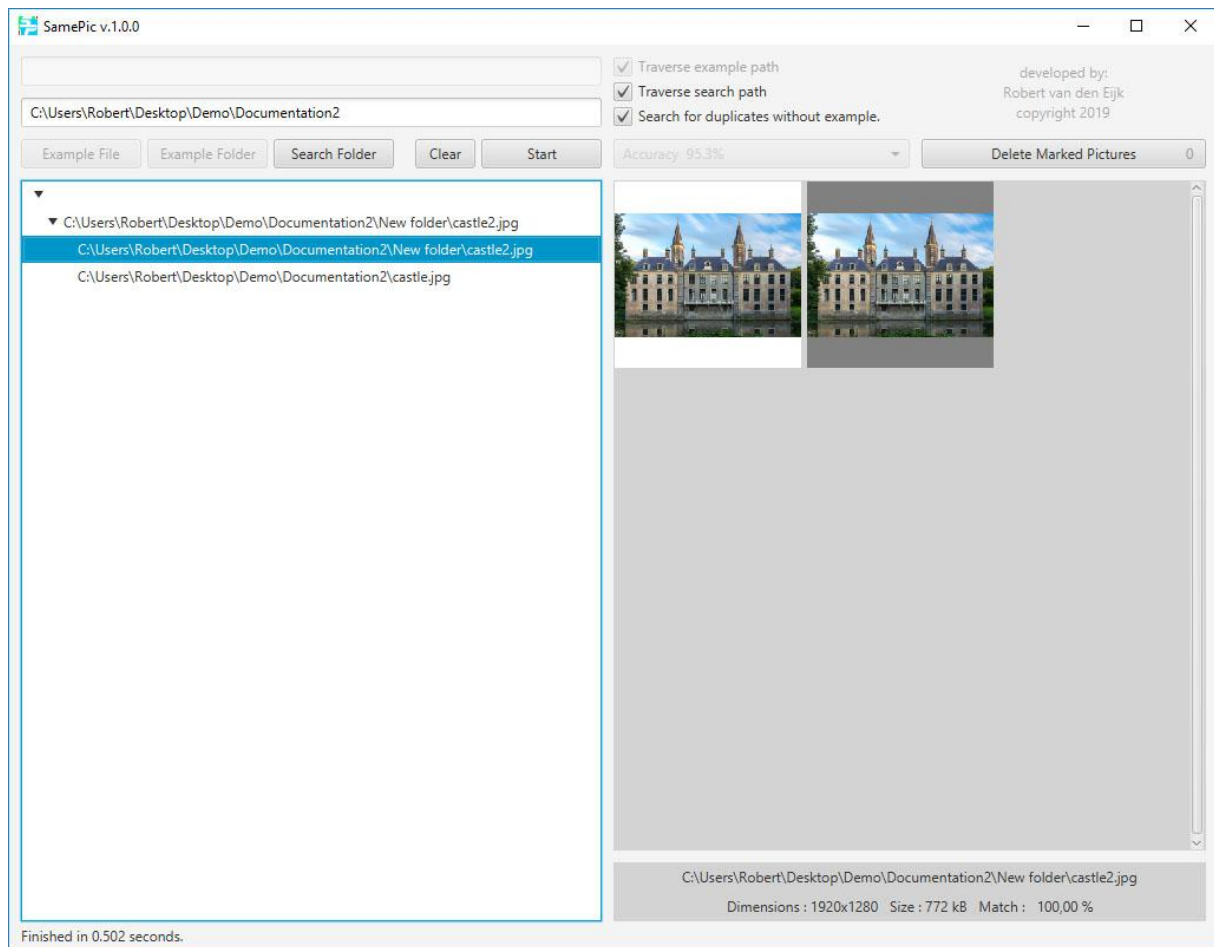


After pressing start, the application goes through 3 processing phases before presenting the results (if any):

1. Reading file information. This process is rather quick and checks which files are available for processing in step 2 and 3.
2. Pre-processing pictures by reading in the actual pixels and converting it to data that can be compared in a consistent manner.
3. Processing the data from step 2 to get to a result that can be presented to the user.

During the processing phase, information is shown in the status bar (see lower arrow). If you want to abort, press the "Stop" button (upper arrow). It may take few seconds before the application stopped all background processes.

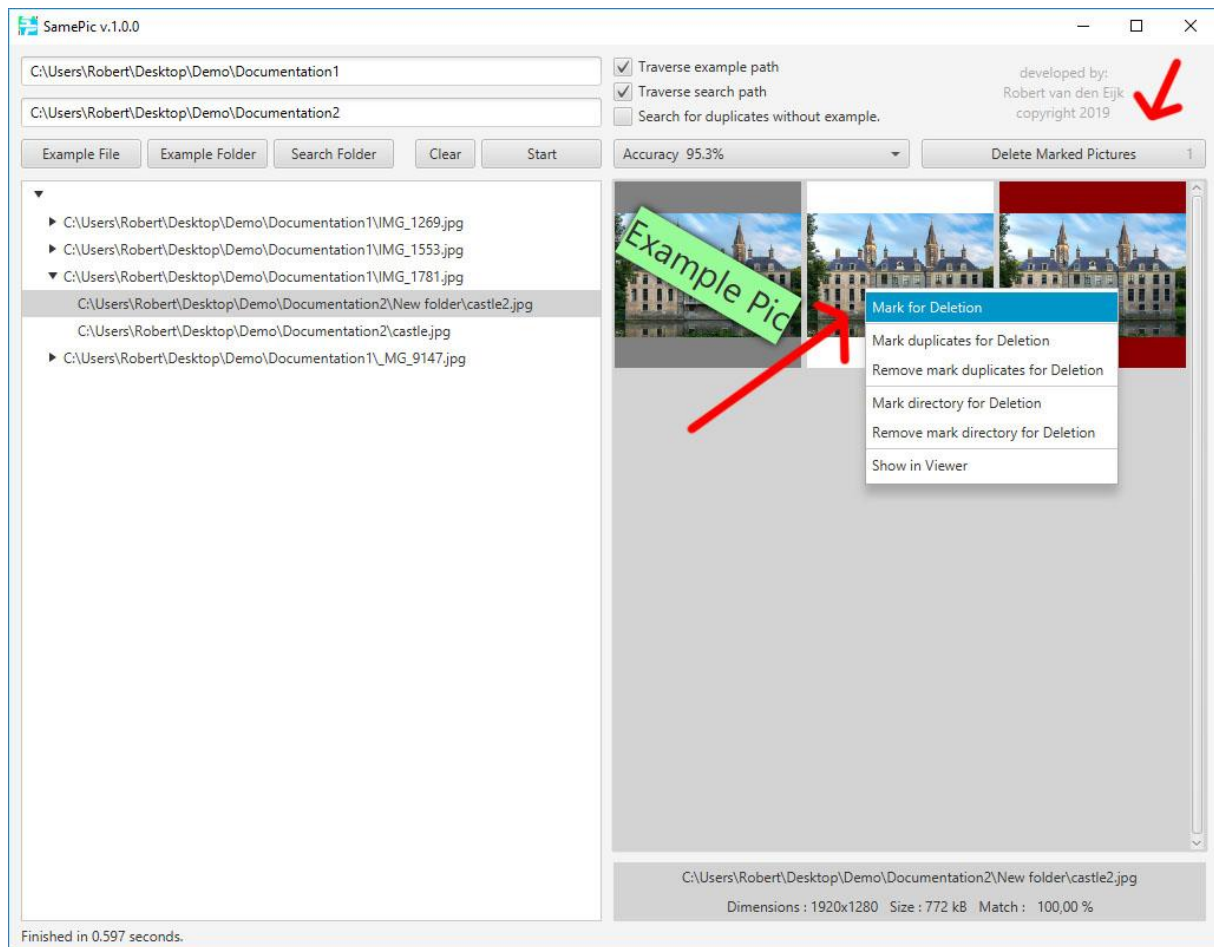
## Tree and thumbnails.



The results of a search will be shown in the tree in the left pane. Each branch of this tree is a collection of similar pictures. Clicking on the various tree items will let you open/collapse branches or select pictures. The thumbnail pane will update accordingly.

The thumbnail pane also allows for selection of a certain picture. A right mouse click will display a context menu with various options. Information about the selected picture is displayed in the metadata box.

## Deletion



When you want to delete pictures, you have to mark them for deletion. Various options are available in the context menu. After that, press the "Delete Marked Pictures" button in the upper right corner. You will be prompted for confirmation after that. To prevent file corruption, the deletion process itself can not be aborted. Even when you close the GUI, the deletion process itself will continue until all previously marked pictures are deleted.

