

Technology 2 Go

Using Microsoft Photo Story 3

Photo Story 3 is a free download from Microsoft that allows users to create an image slideshow with transitions, music, and voice narration. One of the best features is the ability to add the appearance of motion to a still image.

1. Download and install the program from:
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.mspx> .
2. Open Photo Story 3 and choose, “Begin new story”.
3. Click the, “Import Pictures” button and navigate to where you pictures are stored. (You can select many from one folder by holding the CTRL key while clicking.)
4. The images will show on the Film Strip at the bottom. As you click on an image, it shows in the Preview window where you can edit it with the tools at the bottom of the window. You can arrange them in any order you desire by clicking-dragging or using the arrows at the right.
5. Scroll through the images and move, edit, and remove red-eye, etc. until you are satisfied. Click NEXT.
6. You may add text to any of the pictures by typing into the text box on the Title screen. Notice, as you type, the text will be black and centered. If you want to change it, click the Double-A icon on the left and choose a different font, style, size, or color.
7. Also, you can place the title Top, Middle, or Bottom. Be sure the text contrasts well with the background so people can see it. Add text to any picture then click NEXT.
8. On this screen, you can record narration for each picture or move through the pictures while you speak by clicking the arrow key. You can type your narration text into the text box so you won't make mistakes.
9. And, for the best feature of the program, you can, “Customize the motion” of each image. Click on the first image then click the, “Customize Motion” button.
10. You can set this to begin at a certain area of the picture then “move” to another area which gives the appearance of motion. Check the box, “Specify start and end...”. “Handles” will appear on each image. Adjust the left image by dragging one of the handles to resize the viewable area. Leave the right image full view.

11. Leave all other settings as they are defaulted and click the “Preview” button to see how it looks. It will go through the whole show but you can stop it at anytime and continue editing.
12. The default transition is, “Cross fade” but you can edit that by clicking the, “Transition” TAB up top.
13. Click the arrow at the bottom to go to the next picture. Save changes.
14. Some pictures will already have a default motion applied but you can change it if you want. Scroll through the pictures and edit your show.
15. Click NEXT for the opportunity to add music. You can, “Select Music” already on your computer or “Create Music” from files that come with the program. Click on the first image or any image you want the music to begin with.
16. Either, “Select Music” or “Create Music”. Choose or create your music clip and it will be inserted above the pictures. It will extend across the pictures as far as the clip is long. If you want different music to begin on a certain picture, click on that picture and choose you music. The previous clip will fade out and the next one will begin. You can Preview it if you like. Click NEXT.
17. IMPORTANT: If you think you may want to change or edit this story, you must save it as a Project first. Click the “Save Project” button, choose a location and name and click SAVE. It will take several seconds according to the number of pictures and music you have inserted.
18. After this, you can save it as a “Windows Media File” by clicking, “Save you story for playback on your computer”. This will allow you to play the .wmf file in Windows Media Player.
19. “Send the story in an email” will reduce the size of the file for sending but it still may be too large to send. Some email programs limit the size of attachments.
20. A three minute story with pictures and music will be approximately five megabytes. If you have a CD writer on your computer, you may also use CD “burning” software to add the file to a CD for playing in a computer.