

# Web Photo Album with Dreamweaver MX

<http://www.macromedia.com/support/dreamweaver/programs/photoalbum/>

## Prepare your site for the web photo album

The Create Web Photo Album command is installed as part of Dreamweaver MX. It uses Fireworks MX to create a thumbnail and a larger-sized image for each of the images in a given folder. It then uses Dreamweaver MX to create a web page containing all the thumbnails, as well as links to the larger images, and individual HTML pages to hold the larger images, if the user chooses to create them.

You will use the four images you downloaded for this tutorial to create your web photo album. Before you begin, it is important that all of the images are in a single folder named, for example, `original_photos`. This folder will serve as the source for generating your web photo album image files. Fireworks will generate the thumbnail images and the larger images for the web photo album from the source images in this folder. The source images in the source folder remain untouched.

Next, transfer the folder containing your source images to a Dreamweaver site. This step is not required, but it is good practice to create and maintain all of your web photo album files in a Dreamweaver site. For information on creating a site in Dreamweaver, see "Planning and Setting up your Site" in Dreamweaver MX (Help > Using Dreamweaver > Dreamweaver Basics).

Lastly, create a destination folder called `photo_album` in your Dreamweaver site. The destination folder will hold all of the exported images and HTML files that Dreamweaver and Fireworks generate when creating your web photo album.

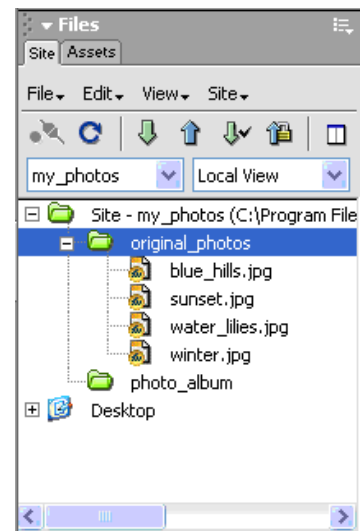
The destination folder should not already contain a web photo album; if it does, and if any new images have the same names as previously used images, you may overwrite existing thumbnail and image files.

When you have finished preparing your site, it should look something like the following example:

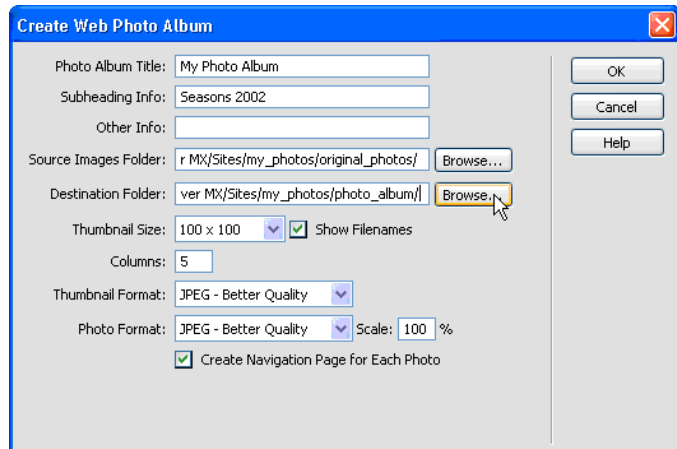
### Create the web photo album

Once you have established a folder for your source images and a destination folder, you are ready to create a web photo album.

1. In Dreamweaver, choose **Commands > Create Web Photo Album**. **Note:** You must have at least one Dreamweaver document file open before executing this command. (This can even be a blank file.) If you don't, you'll receive an error message when you try to create the web photo album. The opened file will not be used or overwritten by this process.



2. In the Photo Album Title text field, enter a title. The title will appear in a gray rectangle at the top of the main photo album page (the page containing the thumbnails).
3. If you want, you may enter up to two lines of additional text in the Subheading Info and Other Info text fields. This information will appear directly beneath the title you entered in Step 2.
4. Choose the folder containing the source images by clicking the Browse button next to the Source Images Folder text field. *All recognized image files in the selected folder will be included in the photo album. Recognized image files are those whose names end with the extensions .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .psd, .tif, or .tiff. (Image files whose names don't end with these extensions won't be included in the photo album.)*
5. Choose the destination folder you created by clicking the Browse button next to the Destination Folder text field. Dreamweaver will place all exported images and HTML files in this folder.
6. Choose a size for the thumbnail images from the Thumbnail Size pop-up menu. Images are scaled proportionally to create thumbnails that fit within a square that has the indicated pixel dimensions.
7. To display the filename of each original image below the corresponding thumbnail, select the Show Filenames option.
8. Enter the number of columns for the table that will display the thumbnails. For this tutorial, change the default selection from 5 to 4.
9. Choose a format for the thumbnail images from the Thumbnail Format pop-up menu:
  - a. GIF WebSnap 128 creates GIF thumbnails that use a Web adaptive palette of up to 128 colors.
  - b. GIF WebSnap 256 creates GIF thumbnails that use a Web adaptive palette of up to 256 colors.
  - c. JPEG - Better Quality creates JPG thumbnails with relatively higher quality and larger file sizes.
  - d. JPEG - Smaller File creates JPG thumbnails with relatively lower quality and smaller file sizes.
10. Choose a format for the large-size images from the Photo Format pop-up menu. The large-size image is the image that your user will see when he or she clicks the thumbnail image. You may specify a format for the large-size images that differs from the format you specified for the thumbnails. *Dreamweaver and Fireworks generate a large-size image for each of your original image files. The Create Web Photo Album command does not allow you to use your original image files as the large-size images, because if your original images include formats other than GIF and JPEG they might not display properly on all browsers. Note that if your original images are JPEG files, the large-size images generated may have larger file sizes or lower quality than the original files.*



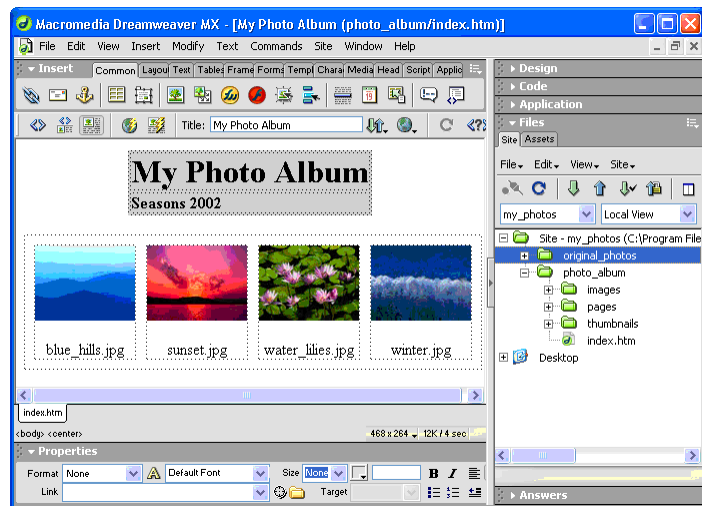
11. Choose a Scale percentage for the large-size images. *Setting Scale to 100% creates large-size images that are the same size as the originals. Note that the scale percentage is applied to all of the images; if your original images aren't all the same size, scaling them by the same percentage may not achieve the desired results.*
12. To create an individual web page for each source image, containing navigation links labeled Back, Home, and Next, select Create Navigation Page for Each Photo. If you select this option, each thumbnail links to a navigation page that contains the corresponding larger image. If you don't select this option, the thumbnails link directly to the large-size images.
13. Click OK.

Fireworks MX launches and creates thumbnails and large-size images from your original images. This may take several minutes if you've provided a large number of image files. When the processing is complete, Dreamweaver becomes active again and creates the page containing the thumbnails.

**Note:** Clicking the Cancel button in the Dreamweaver dialog box after the processing has begun does not stop the process of creating the photo album; it merely prevents Dreamweaver from displaying the main photo album page.

When a dialog box appears that reads "Album Created," click OK. You may have to wait a few seconds for your photo album page to appear. The thumbnails are shown in alphabetical order by filename.

Notice that Dreamweaver has created several folders in the destination folder (photo\_album) of your site. These folders contain the thumbnail image files, the new large image files, and the HTML files for your web photo album navigation pages (if you selected Create Navigation Page for Each Photo in Step 12).



You can now use the Dreamweaver design tools to edit your web photo album pages according to your design preferences.