

## **PhotoStory 3 for Windows**

Presented By:

The Southern Regional  
Educational Technology Training Center  
(ETTC)

Southern Regional Institute and ETTC  
Richard Stockton College of New Jersey  
701 Route 50  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

609-625-6040  
fax 609-625-6057

website: [www.etc.net](http://www.etc.net)  
e-mail: [etc@stockton.edu](mailto:etc@stockton.edu)

Welcome to a tutorial for PhotoStory 3 for Windows.

PhotoStory is a creative software program that allows you to create educational and entertaining video stories. Built into this program are simple steps for adding photos, titles, special effects, narration, background music, and final production.

An online version of this tutorial is available at  
<http://www.etc.net/photostory/index.html>

*Before getting started:*

- 1) Decide on the story you want to tell.
- 2) Collect the photographs you plan to use. If they are digital photos, put them in a folder on your computer. If they are printed photos, scan them into your computer and save them in a folder.
- 3) Use the wizard in PhotoStory to complete the project.

## Importing Pictures

To begin your project, you must import your pictures. For best results, you may need to edit your photos in a true photo editing program such as Photoshop.

1) Open PhotoStory for Windows.



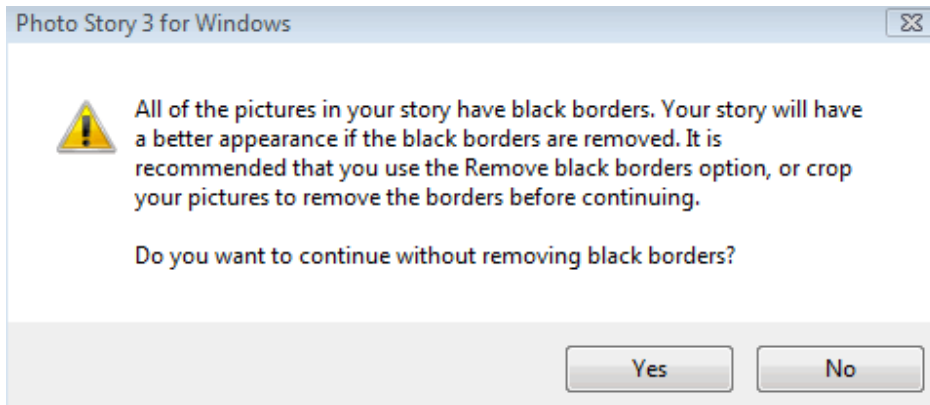
2) Follow the directions in the wizard. The first step offers you an option to create a new story, edit a story or play a story. Select "Begin a New Story" and hit Next.





5) Now arrange your pictures in the timeline area by clicking and dragging them into the proper order. If you decide you don't like a picture, click on it and press the Delete key. You can also do minor editing to pictures at this stage such as cropping and rotating the view of the picture. When done, click Next.

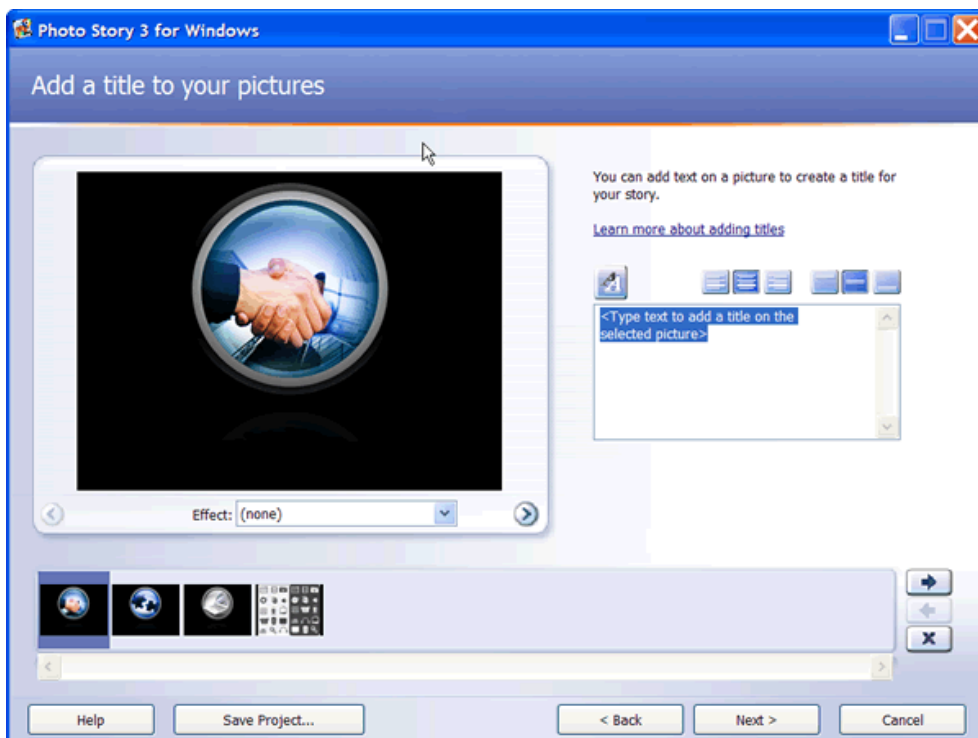
You may get the following message, click "Yes" to continue.



## Adding Titles

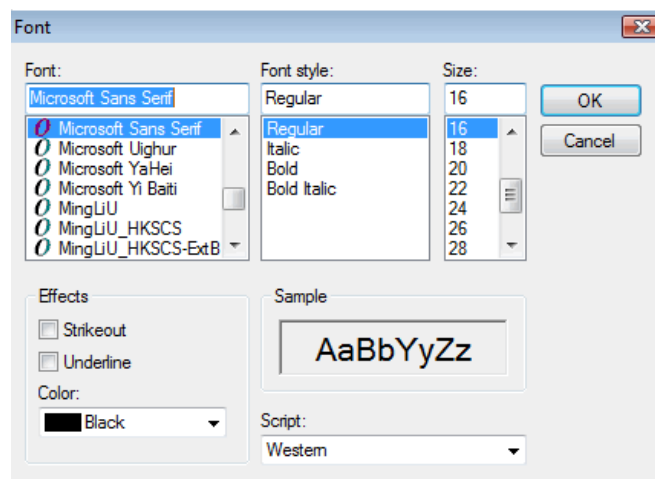
You can add text (title) to each picture of your story. Be careful that the text does not cover key areas of the photo. Also, be sure to use a text color that contrasts well against the black background.

1) Here is the "Add a title" step of the wizard. Click on a picture and type your title in the text box to the right of the picture.



2) Click the Select Font  button.

3) In the Font dialog box, select desired Font, Font style, Size, Effects, Color, etc. and then click OK.



4) Select the horizontal and vertical alignment for your text on the picture.



5) Repeat Steps 1-4 to add text to another picture, and experiment with different text styles, sizes, and alignments.


6) When you are finished adding text to your pictures, click Next.

## Adding Narration and Customize Motion

Narration can be an important part of telling a story. Use narration (your voice) to enhance your story. You do NOT need to add narration to each photo.

To add narration to your story you need to have a working microphone attached to your computer and set up correctly. A wizard will help you set up your microphone to record narration. There is also a text input area which is an extremely helpful memory aid when it comes to narrating your pictures. I recommend using it!

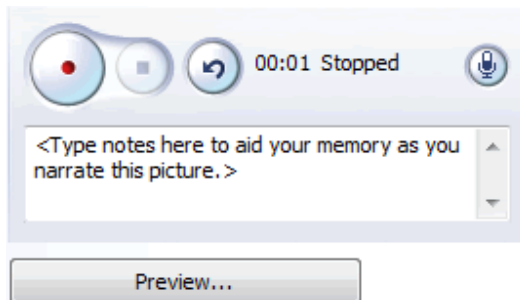


1) On the "Narrate your pictures and customize motion page," click the Microphone button.  This will launch the Sound Hardware Test Wizard. Complete the wizard by following the onscreen instructions. Once you have completed the wizard, your microphone should be ready to record narration.

2) Click a picture in the filmstrip in which you want to add narration. Type any desired text in the cue card area. (Note: This text will NOT

appear on your photo. It is only to help you with your narration.)

3) Click the Record Narration button to start recording narration. The red dot in the record button will flash indicating recording is taking place. A timer is provided to help you keep track of your narration length; however, the narration cannot exceed 5 minutes.




When you have finished narrating the picture, click the Stop Recording button.

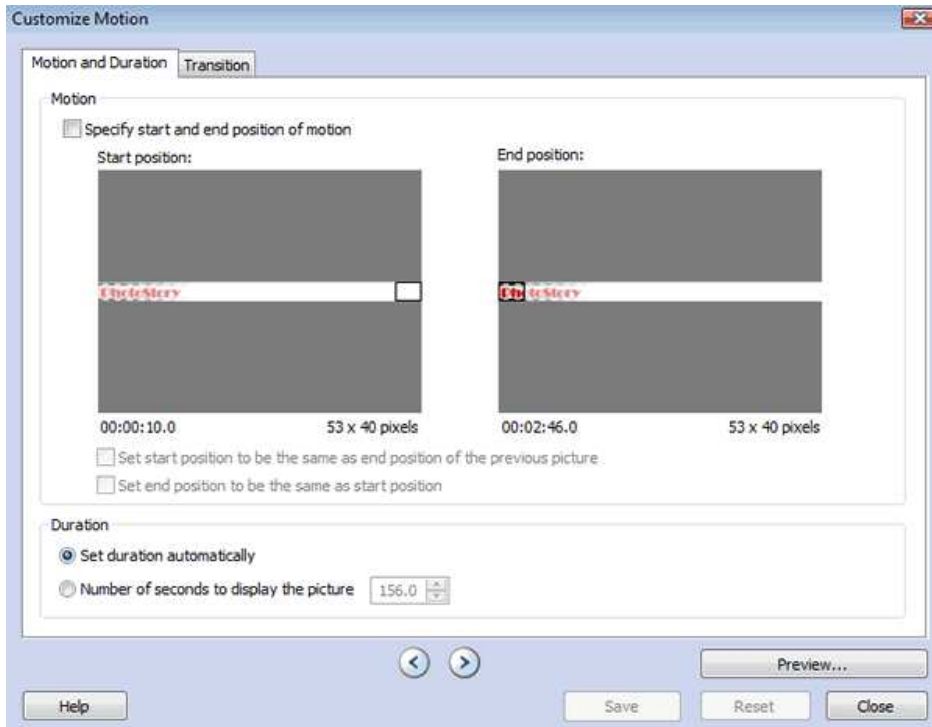
4) Repeat Steps 2-4 for each picture for which you want to add narration.

5) At any time, click the Preview button to listen to your narration and see how your story looks. If you like the narration, you're done. If you do not

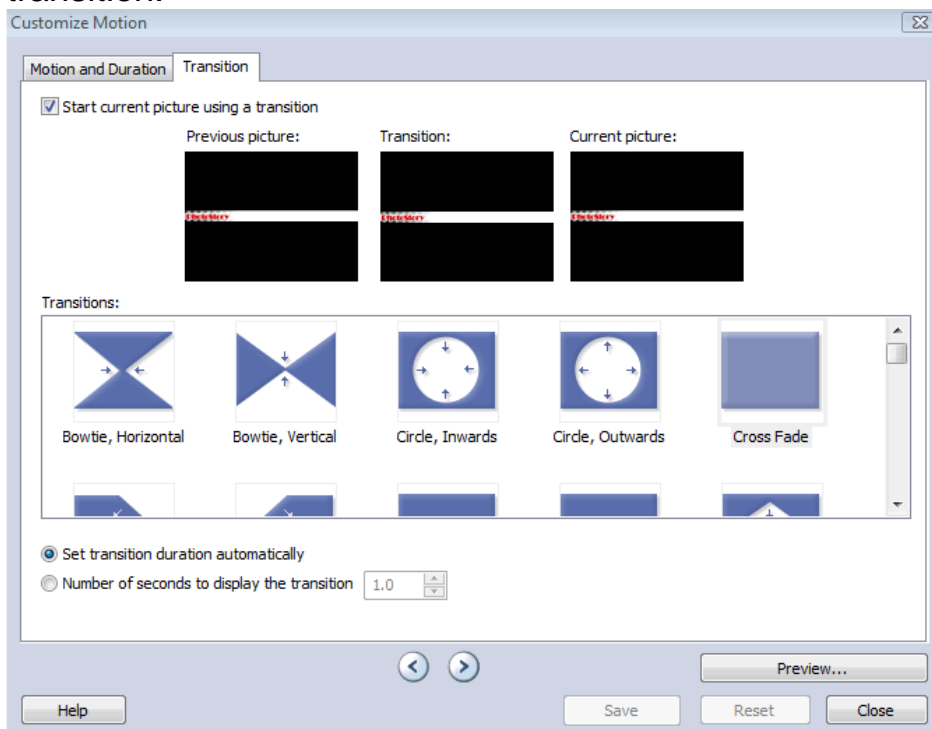
like it, click the Delete button  and re-record your narration.

6) To change the motion of each picture, click on the Customize motion button  [Customize Motion...](#).

7) Explore the start and end position of the motion for each picture. You can also edit the duration of the photo. Preview your story at any time.



8) Click on the "Transition" tab and explore how your photos will transition from one to the other. Preview your story with the new transition.

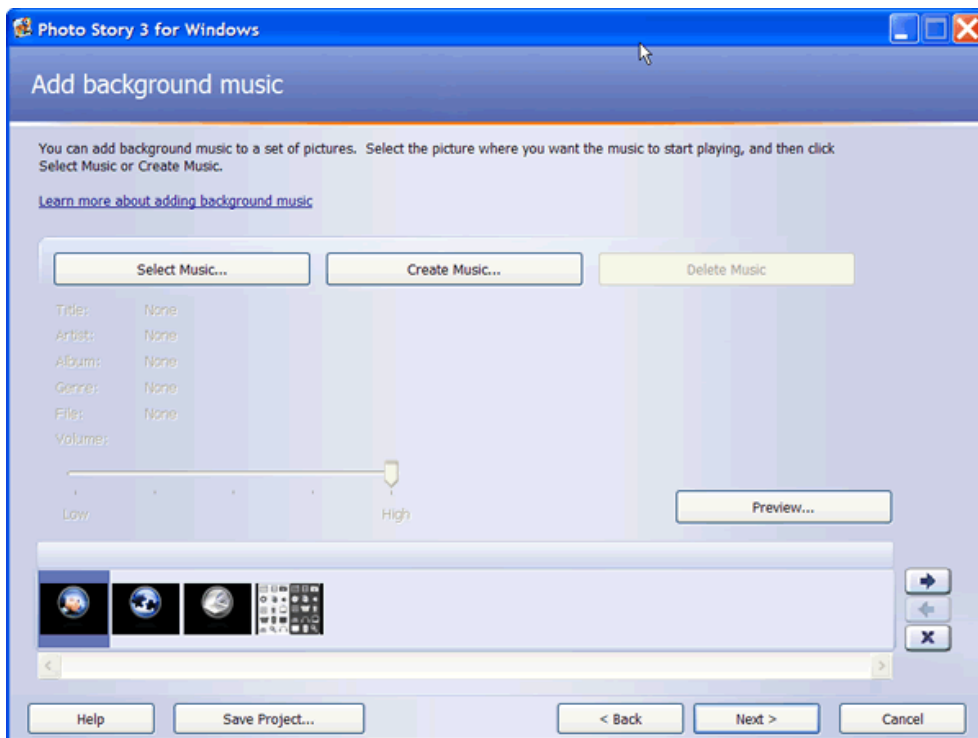


9) Close the Transition, Customize Motion and preview windows, and click Next to continue to the next step.

## **Adding Background Music**

Music can be added to your story by using Windows Media Audio (WMA), MP3, or WAV files or by using the "Create Music" option to create custom music that suits your story and taste.

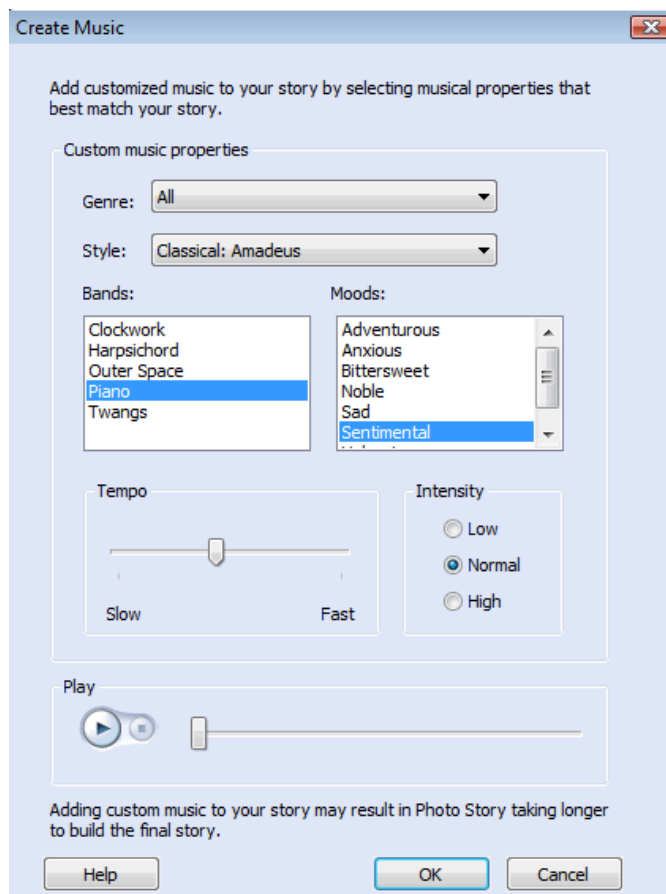
Please check with copyright regulations and fair use guidelines if using professionally produced music. To avoid any concerns with this, I recommend using the "Create Music" option.



1) To add pre-recorded music to your story, click the "Select Music" button. Now browse to your folder where your music file is saved. Select the song and press open. The music you just added will now be shown as a colored bar above the picture or pictures in the filmstrip. This helps you determine which pictures will be shown for each piece of music you add. This is particularly helpful when you

add more than one song to your story. Click on a new picture to add a new song, if necessary. When finished, press Next.

2) To create music for your story, select the "Create Music." This is where you can become a music producer.



In the Create Music dialog box, select a Genre and Style from the drop-down lists. Next explore the Bands and Moods. Click Play to hear what the music will sound like. When the music has finished playing, click OK to close the Create Music dialog box. The music you just added will now be shown as a colored bar above the picture or pictures in the filmstrip. Click Preview to see how well your music fits the story.

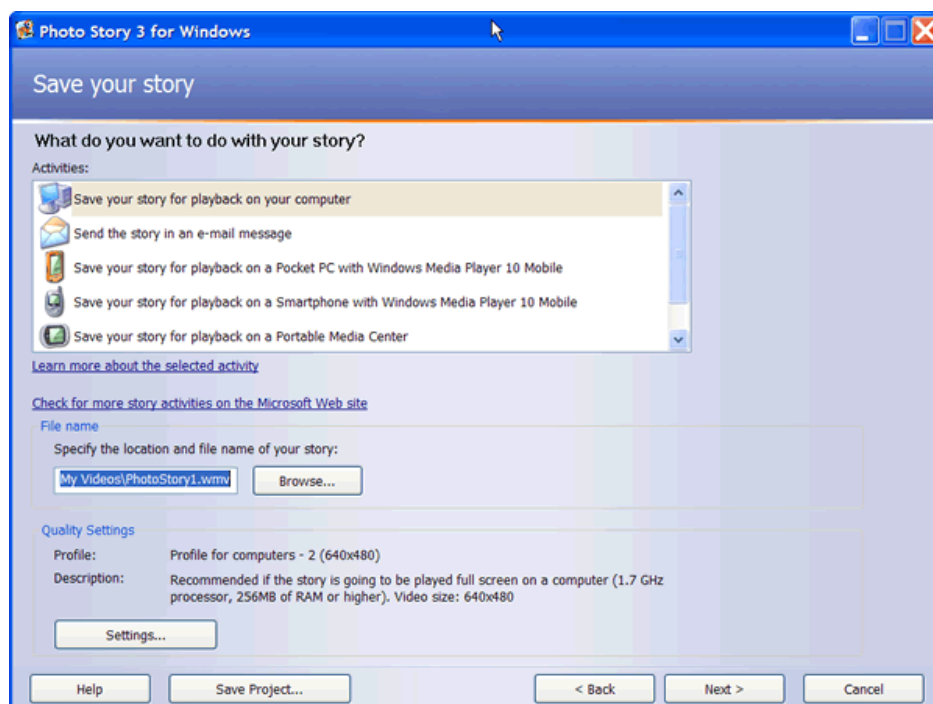
3) You may need to adjust the music volume levels to accommodate your narration. To do this, simply click the picture in the filmstrip and then adjust the music volume using the volume slider bar. You may need to adjust the volume and preview your story a few times to get it

just right.

4) Click Next to move on to the final steps.

## Saving and Viewing your Story

When you save your PhotoStory, all the pictures, narrations, and music are compressed into a video file that you can view in Windows Media Player. If Windows Media Player is NOT installed on your computer, you can download it for free at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx>



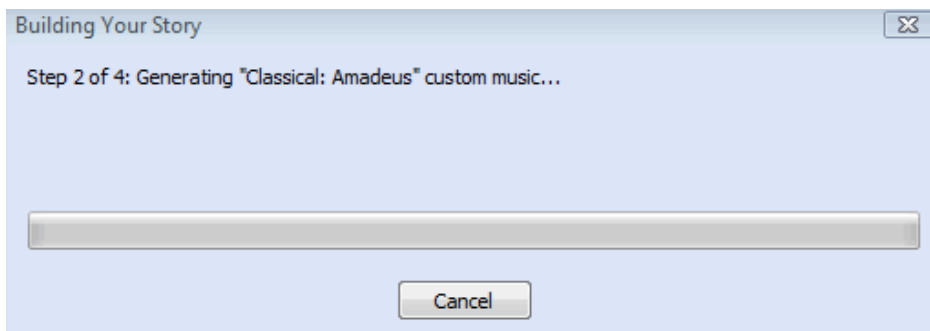
1) There are several options for saving your PhotoStory. Generally, you will want to save your file for playback on a computer. On the "Save your story page," verify that save your story for playback on your computer is selected in the activities list.

2) Click Browse to specify the location and navigate to where you

want to save your file. Also, change the file name of your story; otherwise, default name will be PhotoStory1.wmv which is a difficult naming convention when looking for your file later. Be careful not to change or remove the file extension .wmv.

3) Click Save, and then click Next.

4) You will see a "Building Your Story" dialog box. In 4 steps, this will compile all your photos, text, narrations and music into one file for viewing. It may take a few minutes to complete. When it's finished, your video file will be saved in the folder you browsed to.



5) When your story is built and saved, the "Completing PhotoStory 3 for Windows" screen will appear. You can view your newly created story by clicking on "View your story." Windows Media Player will open and your story will begin to play.



6) You're finished. You have created your first PhotoStory. Now make a new story by clicking on "Create another story" to share with your friends and family.

## **Resources**

To learn more about PhotoStory, visit one of these sites:

- Creating a PhotoStory ~  
[www.teachnet.ie/innovative\\_teacher/default.asp?NCID=365](http://www.teachnet.ie/innovative_teacher/default.asp?NCID=365)
- Jakes Online PhotoStory Tutorial ~  
[www.jakesonline.org/photostory.htm](http://www.jakesonline.org/photostory.htm)
- More PhotoStory Resources ~  
[www.teachingistechrific.com/photostoryresources.htm](http://www.teachingistechrific.com/photostoryresources.htm)
- Nick Maffei Osher Lifelong Learning Institute – PhotoStory ~  
[www.nickmaffei.com/OLLI2008/PS\\_Resources.htm](http://www.nickmaffei.com/OLLI2008/PS_Resources.htm)
- PhotoStory Training Videos ~  
[www.ceap.wcu.edu/kirk/Merlot\\_Resources/PhotoStory/PhotoStory.htm](http://www.ceap.wcu.edu/kirk/Merlot_Resources/PhotoStory/PhotoStory.htm)