

Spb Imageer 1.0 User Manual

Abstract:

This document describes Spb Imageer version 1.0. Spb Imageer is an application for viewing JPEG, GIF, BMP, and TIFF images, creating and viewing albums, optimizing and transferring images

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Overview

Spb Imageer is a very powerful imaging engine designed specifically to streamline common processes that Pocket PC users perform with digital photos. Equipped with an incredibly rich set of features, Spb Imageer will make your work with images fast, comfortable and joyful. Even if you edit an 11 mega pixels photo!

Software Features

Viewing modes

Every image can be zoomed, rotated, and viewed in Spb Imageer in several modes:

- **Full screen:** In this mode you can view pictures in full screen, without toolbars. Usually, switching between normal mode and full screen mode is accomplished by double-tapping this screen.
- **Fit to screen:** This mode provides the best zoom ratio to make picture wholly fit to screen.
- **Fill the screen:** This mode does the following:
 - If a picture is larger than the screen in both dimensions, then it will be resized to fit the screen by at least one dimension (width or height). The whole picture may still be not shown, but the screen is filled up completely.
 - If a picture is smaller than the screen area by at least one dimension, it is not resized (Fill the Screen command doesn't increase images).
- **Rotate if needed:** This mode rotates an image in a predefined direction if its height is less than its width.

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- **Slideshow:** In this mode a picture on the screen is substituted with the next one automatically, after a certain time delay. Albums are always shown in slideshow mode. It can also be applied to a certain folder or a group of images. You can choose one of multiple visual transition effects.

Picture optimization

Images stored on your Pocket PC might be far from optimal for such kind of using. Indeed, does one need to keep large images, which are anyway shown small on a small Pocket PC screen? Instead, you can optimize images for best storing and using on Pocket PC. Image optimization implies picture resizing to fit the Pocket PC screen, adjusting picture brightness and color, adjusting JPEG quality, etc. Picture optimization is embedded into such wizards as **Save to Folder**, **Create Album**, and **Publish to Web**. Also, when you insert a storage card with images into your Pocket PC, you will be shown a notification advising you to immediately start the optimization process for these images. Moreover, the optimization is automatically started on your desktop computer at the moment you attempt to copy pictures from the desktop PC to your Pocket PC.

Notes

A powerful tool in Spb Imageer is *notes* support. There are three types of notes you can attach to your images: text notes, audio notes, and drawings.

A text note is a short comment to a picture, shown on a picture or hidden. You can configure the text font face, size and color, position on a picture, shadow, etc.

Example: *Peter and Paul Fortress, Jan 23 2004*

An audio note is a short audio record attached to a picture and played when it is opened. Your car's engine sound, fireworks explosion, little baby's first cry can be good examples of audio notes.

A drawing is something you draw on a picture with your stylus. A celebrity's autograph on his photo is the best drawing note example.

Albums

Albums are a good way to combine pictures of one type. Spb Imageer can view album files as well as simple image files. Actually, albums are just zip files with *.imgr* extension. If you change the extension to *.zip* you can treat them as zip files. However, Spb Imageer has its own means to treat albums. You can create, view, delete, clear albums, add and remove images, etc.

What is the difference between a folder and an album? An album is usually considered one thing, rather than just a pack of isolated images. It is opened in slideshow mode and may be done in one style.

Image Editor

You can edit images stored on your Pocket PC. Here is a short description of actions to be performed with your images:

- You can physically **rotate** and **resize** your images
- You can **crop** a certain part of an image and save it in a separate file
- You can successfully fight the red-eye effect on photos using the **anti red-eye** command
- You can apply different **filters** to your images.
- You can adjust such parameters as **RGB** and **HSL** channels.

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- You can adjust **brightness** and **contrast** manually or apply the **auto-level** command.

Publishing to Web

Publishing to Web in Spb Imageer is as simple as one command. Just select a number of images and open the Publish to Web wizard. It will guide you through the very simple process of image publishing. You can customize publishing preferences in Options menu, but even if you don't, your photos will be published in Web and you will be informed about the address.

Installing Spb Imageer

After you download Spb Imageer distribution file you should install it to your mobile device. For successful installation you will need a Pocket PC or Pocket PC 2002 device attached to your Windows® desktop PC. You will also need Microsoft® ActiveSync™ software in order to install Spb Imageer to your mobile device. During the installation you will be asked if you wish to add an ActiveSync filter. This program allows to optimize images being copied to Pocket PC right before sending.

When you run the software installer on your desktop PC it will ask you to accept the license agreement and will start the Pocket PC software installation program. You will be prompted for the location where you want the software to be installed.

After the installation you will be asked if you wish to set Spb Imageer as a default program for files of JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP, and TIFF types. If you agree, then when you tap such a file in File Explorer it will be opened by Spb Imageer means. Even if you do not assign Spb Imageer to open these files during the installation, you can always do it by configuring a corresponding option (**Tools -> Options -> Associations** tab).

Configuring Spb Imageer

After Spb Imageer is installed on your Pocket PC device it is ready to use. Additionally you can customize some settings and behavior.

Customizing Image List

You can customize the appearance of your image list. You can browse a certain folder of your Pocket PC, a storage card, a flash disk, the contents of subfolders to be included or excluded. To open a certain folder tap **Show** (labeled **My Pictures** by default) and explore your device. You can sort the found images in this list by name, date, size, and type by selecting a **Sort by** method from the top right corner of the screen (labeled **Name** by default).

There are three ways to represent the image list: as simple list, thumbnails or detailed thumbnails. To switch between these modes tap the File List Mode button in the toolbar.

You can choose whether to show 2, 3 or 4 thumbnails per row. Tap the File List Mode button and select a desired number. In that very menu you can choose whether to include subfolders or not.

You can also customize the appearance of thumbnails themselves. If you want to have more screen space to be allocated for thumbnails, select **Tools -> Options -> File list** tab and select **Enlarged thumbnails** checkbox. In this case the thumbnails will be cropped to fulfill the allocated area completely.

Customizing Slideshow

You can customize as the default slideshow mode options, as those of a certain album.

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To customize the default options, go to **Tools -> Options** menu and select the **Slideshow** tab sheet. There you can customize the following:

- **Rotate if Needed:** Select to apply the 'Rotate if Needed' mode to images shown in slideshow mode.
- **Loop:** Select to loop the image list shown in slideshow mode.
- **Delay:** Provide the desired delay time.
- **Effect:** Select a desired image transition effect. Look at the sample to see the result.

Moreover, you can also customize such slideshow options for any certain album. Any album is viewed in slideshow mode and this mode can be customized. To do so, browse the desired album contents and select **Album -> Album Slideshow Options** from the menu there. Customize the slideshow options of this album.

Customizing Notes.

You can customize the behavior of your notes attached to pictures. To do so, go to **Tools -> Options** menu and select the **Notes** tab sheet there. Customize the following:

- **Display text notes:** Select to display text notes along with images.
- **Show file name when text note is absent:** If selected, the image file name will be displayed if there is no text note provided. The file name will be formatted accordingly to Default font preferences for text notes.
- **Display drawings:** Select to display drawings on images.
- **Play audio notes:** If selected, then opening an image will also start an audio file attached to this image.

If you remove any of these this selections, the created text, drawing, or audio notes will still exist, but will not be displayed (played) along with images.

- **Text Notes Settings:** Tap this button to customize the default text note appearance.

Customizing File Associations

You may assign some types of image files to get opened with Spb Imageer when tapped in File Explorer. Go to **Tools -> Options** menu and select the **Associations** tab sheet there. Select the corresponding check boxes.

Note: Spb Imageer does show all image files. In these options you can only set which image files are opened with Spb Imageer.

Using Spb Imageer

Spb Imageer is a universal graphic file explorer. Indeed, you can navigate within your Pocket PC file system, create and delete folders, rename, delete, copy, and move graphic files, beam files, view their properties, send a folder or a pack of files for optimization, etc.

You can start Spb Imageer either by tapping its icon in Programs menu or by tapping an image file in File Explorer (Spb Imageer becomes the default image viewer on your Pocket PC for files of predefined types).

Image List

When Spb Imageer is started you are taken to the image list. You may list the contents of a certain folder by selecting it from the folder list in the top left corner.

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You can open any folder on your device, including those on your flash disk, or a storage card (cards). To open a certain folder tap **Show** and explore your device. In addition to **My Documents** and **My Pictures** you can see a **My Albums** folder. Please do not look for this folder on your device. It's a virtual one, containing all the existing albums on your Pocket PC.

The previously opened folder containing images appears in this menu as a separate item.

Spb Imageer can represent the found images in thumbnail  mode, detailed thumbnail  mode, or as a list . In list mode you can see only names of the graphic files. In thumbnail mode you can get the visual perception of every image in this list and in the detailed thumbnail mode you can see thumbnails and the information on the image files: name, time and date of creation; size in bytes and size in pixels with ability to quickly open the image properties dialog. To switch between these three modes tap the File List Mode button in the toolbar. Besides, to specify the number of images in a row, tap the little arrow close to this button and select the desired number from the pop-up menu. The mode (one of the three) can be chosen from this menu, as well.

To make Spb Imageer search for images in all subfolders of a currently chosen folder, too, select **Include Subfolders** from the same menu.

You can sort images in this list by name, date, size, and type by selecting a **Sort by** method from the top right corner of the screen.

You may wish to display images on your storage card allocated by their original folders or view them all at once right after opening the storage card. Customize a corresponding option in the options dialog (select **Tools -> Options** menu, **File List** tab).

In the image list you can select one or more files and/or folders moving your stylus (try also the **Select All** command from the **Tools** menu). You can also enter the select mode by tapping  in the toolbar and select desired pictures one by one. After that depress this button. Tap-and-hold on the selected files and/or folders and select a desired action. You may rename, delete, cut, copy, and paste files and folders. Besides, you may create an album out of this pack of files and folders, save them to a certain folder, publish to web, set as today wallpaper (one file) and beam them (one file).

To create a new folder, select **Tools -> New Folder...** or tap-and-hold somewhere on the image list and select **New Folder...**

You can select an image to view by tapping its name (or thumbnail) in the image list.

Viewing Images

A picture is opened accordingly to predefined preferences. If your picture is opened in full screen mode then double-tap or press the **Action** hardware button on it and you will see the toolbar.

If the displayed picture is larger than the screen area, you can move it with your stylus to see its parts (a pan tool).

In the toolbar:

- **View** menu: in this menu you can select different modes of image displaying, such as zoom ratio, rotation, slideshow, screen filling commands, etc.
- **Tools** menu: in this menu you can select such commands as **Save as...**, **Delete**, **Registration**, and open the options dialog.

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-  A full screen button. Tap this button to enter the full screen (with toolbars hidden) mode.
-  Navigation buttons. Tap left or right to open the previous or the next picture in the image list.
-  A fit to screen button. If the button is pressed then the whole picture is shown with the best zoom ratio.
-  A notes button. This button opens the notes mode.
-  An editor button. This button opens the edit mode.

You can select the zoom ratio your images will be displayed with. This value may vary from 12% to 200%. To set the zoom ratio go to **View** menu and select a desired value. If the image area is larger than the screen you can view its parts by moving it with your stylus (a pan tool).

Choose **Fit to Screen** command to provide the best zoom ratio to make picture wholly fit to screen.

For your convenience the **Fit to Screen**  button has been placed on the toolbar as a separate tool.

The **Fill the Screen** command does the following:

If a picture is larger than the screen in both dimensions, then it will be resized to fit the screen by at least one dimension (width or height). The whole picture may still be not shown, but the screen is filled up completely.

If a picture is smaller than the screen area by at least one dimension, it is not resized (Fill the Screen command doesn't increase images).

You can rotate every image 90 degrees to the right and to the left by selecting corresponding commands from **View** menu. Besides, you can apply 'Rotate if Needed' to your images. This command rotates an image in a predefined direction if its height is less than its width.

The Zoom ratio, Fit to Screen, Fill the Screen and 'Rotate if Needed' modes are applied to all subsequently displayed images while the simple rotation must be done to every new image, if needed.

Note that both Rotate and Rotate if Needed commands rotate your images only for displaying. They do not rotate the original images physically, as well as Fit to Screen and Fill the Screen commands do not change the image sizes. If you want to rotate an image physically, use the Rotate command of the editor.

You may wish to view images in full screen. To do so, tap  in the toolbar or double-tap on an image. To return to normal mode, double-tap on an image or tap the image and then tap  that appears in the low-left corner (you can change this behavior by customizing the corresponding option).

Hardware buttons are available in full screen mode. Press **Up, Down, Left** and **Right** to move by the image list not quitting the full screen mode. The **Action** button quits the full screen mode.

The only tool available in full screen mode is a pan tool. If the image area currently being displayed is larger than the screen size, you can move the whole image with your stylus. To return from full screen mode double tap the displayed image.

Note that full screen mode is incompatible with fill the screen mode, which makes a picture wholly fill the screen.

The slideshow mode allows viewing images of the chosen location one by one. To start the slideshow open some picture and select **View -> Slideshow**. The pictures will be displayed in full screen accordingly to slideshow preferences. All the rest functions and

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commands are disabled in slideshow mode. However, you can use **Up, Down, Left** and **Right** hardware buttons to open the previous or next image not waiting until it is open by slideshow. To quit the slideshow mode tap the screen.

Hardware keys are also available in slideshow mode. Press **Up, Down, Left** and **Right** to move by the image list not quitting the slideshow mode.

You can obtain information on every image as from the image list as when viewing it. The common information includes the image file name, type, storage location, file size and picture size, date of creation and update. Besides, Spb Imageer can read and display wide and detailed metadata of images that support *EXIF* - exchangeable image file format. Such information as equipment that produced the picture, picture taking conditions, author, copyright information and so on is available for these pictures.

To open the properties window tap-and-hold the stylus on the desired image and select **Properties** from the drop-down menu. Note that if you may also open the properties window for the whole selected group of images. In this case the properties will include the number of files and their total size. Another way to open the properties window is to tap  in detailed thumbnail mode.

Creating and Viewing Albums

Spb Imageer provides the following way to create an album:

1. Open Spb Imageer image list.
2. Select a desired number of files by moving the stylus over the image list, or, for more accurate selection, tap  and tap desired images to make them selected.
3. Tap-and-hold on the selection and select **Create an Album...** from the context menu.
4. Follow the instruction on optimization and creating album process. Provide the desired optimization and album settings.

Later on when you tap on an existing album on your Pocket PC, it will be opened in slideshow mode.

You can edit an existing album.

You can browse the contents of a certain album not opening it for viewing. To do so, tap-and-hold on an album and select **Browse Pictures in Album** from the context menu.

You can treat the contents of an album as any other image list, with little restrictions. Here is the list of possible commands and actions:

View menu: from it, you can run the slideshow (the normal way to view albums), or view some image properties.

Tools menu: in this menu you can select such commands as **Create an [other] album...**, **Publish to Web**, **Registration**, and open the options dialog.

Album menu: in it, you can re-order images in the album contents and open the **Album Slideshow Options...** dialog. Note that slideshow options customized there are applied to this very album. To change the default slideshow mode options, you should go to **Tools -> Options** menu, **Slideshow** tab sheet.

While customizing the appearance of the album contents, you may also select **Album Order** as the sorting criteria.

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Any picture of the album contents can be treated as a simple image. You can delete, rename, edit, add notes, rotate your album images, etc.

To add one or more images to an existing album:

1. Open Spb Imageer image list.
2. Select a desired number of files by moving the stylus over the image list.
3. Tap-and-hold on the selection and select **Copy** or **Cut** from the context menu.
4. Find a desired album, tap-and-hold on it and select **Browse Pictures in Album** from the context menu.
5. You will see the images of the album contents. Tap-and-hold somewhere in this image list and select **Paste** or **Optimize and Paste...** In the latter case you will automatically get to Create Album wizard.
6. Follow the instructions on optimization process. Provide the desired optimization settings. The optimization will affect only the newly inserted images, not those already existing in the album.

To extract one or more images from an existing album:

1. Find a desired album, tap-and-hold on it and select **Browse Pictures in Album** from the context menu.
2. Select a desired group of files.
3. Tap-and-hold on the selection and select **Copy** or **Cut** from the context menu.
4. Now these images are in clipboard. Paste them anywhere you want.

If you wish to re-order pictures stored in an existing album, you should browse its contents (tap-and-hold on an album name and select **Browse Pictures in Album** from the context menu). Then go to the **Album** menu and select **Pictures Order...**

In this dialog you can select images by tapping them and select the following commands: **Move Up**, **Move Down**, **Make First**, and **Make Last** by tapping the corresponding buttons.

If you wish the slideshow options of a certain album to be different from the default ones, you should open the contents of an album and select **Album -> Album Slideshow Options** from the menu there. Unselect the **Use default options** check box and customize the following:

- **Change Defaults** button: Tap to open the options dialog where you can customize default slideshow options.
- **Effect:** Select a desired image change effect. Look at the sample to see the result.
- **Rotate if Needed:** Select to apply the 'Rotate if Needed' mode to images shown in slideshow mode.
- **Loop:** Select to loop the image list shown in slideshow mode.
- **Delay (sec):** Provide the desired delay time in seconds.

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To view all albums stored on your Pocket PC, in the image list go to **Show** menu in the top left corner and select **My Albums**. This is not an existing folder on your Pocket PC; it's a virtual one, just a collection of all your albums.

Adding and Removing Notes

To add an accompanying text note to a picture:

1. Open a desired image for viewing.
2. Activate the Notes toolbar by tapping .
3. Tap  in this toolbar.
4. Type desired text in the corresponding field. Below you will see the final text note as it will look like accordingly to font settings.
5. **Font...:** Tap this button to adjust the font of the current text note. Customize the font and shadow attributes. Set the shadow size to 0 for no shadow. Specify the position of the note: on top or on bottom.
6. **Default Font...:** Tap this button to adjust the default font. Customize the font and shadow attributes. Set the shadow size to 0 for no shadow. Specify the position of the note: on top or on bottom. This font is chosen for the text note if the **Use default font settings** is selected.

To add an accompanying audio note to a picture:

1. Open a desired image for viewing.
2. Activate the Notes toolbar by tapping .
3. Tap  in this toolbar.
4. You will see the standard audio panel. Treat it as usually. Tap the record button to start recording. Tap on Stop to stop recording. Tap Ok to quit the dialog. The record will always be played when the picture is shown.

You can configure Spb Imageer whether to play audio notes in slideshow mode or not.

The audio note is stored as a .wav file with the name of the picture it is attached to.

To add a drawing to a picture:

1. Open a desired image for viewing.
2. Activate the Notes toolbar by tapping .
3. Tap  in this toolbar.
4. Select line width  and color . Draw or hand-write on the image. You can use undo  and redo  commands, which apply to all previous and subsequent drawings.

To remove a note (any of three types):

- Open a desired image for viewing.
- Activate the Notes toolbar by tapping .
- Go to **Notes** menu and select a corresponding deleting command.

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Using Editor

Spb Imageer allows to edit your images. You can show/hide the editor toolbar by tapping . Following is the list of available editor actions and commands:

- **Edit** menu actions:
 - **Undo, Redo:** Select these commands to undo or redo any of your editing.
 - **Resize:** Resize your images by providing exact or proportional height and width values.
 - **Rotate:** Select **Left** or **Right** to rotate an image 90 degrees counter-clockwise or clockwise.
 - **Filter:** You can apply a filter to your image. Select a desired filter to open its dialog.
 - **Adjustment:** These tools allow to edit picture colors by customizing such parameters as RGB or HSL channels.
 - **Return to Saved:** Select to return to the very last saved version of the edited picture.
 - **Save as...:** Select to save a copy of the edited picture.
- **Crop** : As you tap this button, you can crop a rectangle part of a currently displayed image and make a separate image out of it. Move your stylus by the image to select a desired area. Then you will be asked to tap somewhere inside the selected area to finish. The selected area will appear as a new image. Later you can save it in a separate file.
- **Anti Red-Eye** : Tap this button to get rid of red eyes on photos.
- **Brightness** , **Contrast** : Customize these parameters manually or select the **Auto-level**  command to provide considerable improvement of picture quality, which especially concerns digitalized photos.

After you finish editing, tap **Save** to save the picture with its original name (or select *Edit -> Save as...* to provide another one). Otherwise, tap **Cancel**.

Transferring Images from Desktop

Spb Imageer allows you to optimize your picture on the very early stage. When you try to copy some images from your desktop PC to your Pocket PC, you will be prompt to optimize them immediately, before transferring. The Spb Imageer desktop side is opened in such a case automatically and you can change the picture size, rotate them, adjust the output JPEG quality – so, you can prepare your pictures for best storing and displaying on Pocket PC.