

## Requirements

Advanced PowerPoint Exporter is designed to be a plug-in for Adobe® Photoshop®I7 and Photoshop CS. It requires Microsoft® Windows 2000 or Windows XP operating system and it produces files compatible with Microsoft PowerPoint®II 2002 and 2003.

## Understanding How Plug-In Works

Basically, plug-in iterates through layers of Adobe Photoshop image, selects only a portion of a layer that is not fully transparent, copies that part into a new file and then saves that file. After plug-in finishes with all the layers in the image, it generates necessary HTML files.

A background of the slide is generated in either of two following ways:

- If Photoshop file has true background layer it will be understood as a presentation background.
- If the first layer (one at the bottom of a layer stack) has name "background" or "Background" it will be used as a presentation background.

In all other cases plug-in will automatically add plain background.

Created HTML file resolution when imported in Microsoft PowerPoint is the same as the size in pixels of the Photoshop file you are working on. Plug-in does not alter original file in any way.

## Installation

First, uninstall any previous version of plug-in or demo version if you have any of these installed. Then start installation program that you have received. It will try to find Photoshop plug-in directory and to install necessary files in it. However, if you have manually selected for Photoshop to use different folder for plug-ins, you can choose during installation option to manually select a folder in which you want to install its components.

## Starting Plug-in

In order to start plug-in two conditions must be fulfilled. One is that you have opened one document in Photoshop, and another is that size of that document is less than 3840\*2160 pixels.

Now you can start exporting HTML files, by clicking on file menu, then choose automate, then Export HTML. "Export HTML file" dialog pops up. Choose options that suit your need (they are explained later) and click OK.

## Background And Clip Format, Transparency Of The Clips

Plug-in allows you to choose independently picture format for background and clips.

Background is identified by the name of first layer, one at the bottom of the layer Stack. If you have in document true background layer, or if your first layer, (one at the bottom of picture) is named "Background" plug-in will export it as a PowerPoint background. If there is no true background layer, and name of the first layer is not "Background", plug-in will make PowerPoint presentation with plain background.

Clips are exported using separate picture format. The only thing that is relevant concerning clip exporting is how plug-in exports transparency. If you choose PNG or TIF as clip format, plug-in will export true alpha channel. If you choose any other format plug-in will make clips with solid color background. Color in question is current Photoshop background color.

**"Create Alpha Channel for TIF files"** option will make the separation of an alpha channel embedded in exported TIF files.

Unfortunately not all Photoshop versions produce the same results and not all Microsoft applications read transparency of produced clips equally. In the following table you will find what clip format is safe to use depending on Photoshop version you are using and what is the target application. **Important thing to note is that if you use PNG format for the clips, the transparency will be correctly understood in every target application regardless of version of Photoshop you are using.**

Clip format that is safe to use depending on source and target application:

Exporting application		Photoshop 7			Photoshop CS		
Clip format		PNG	TIF	TIF+ALPHA	PNG	TIF	TIF+ALPHA
Target	Explorer 6	✓	✓	*	✓	✓	*
	PowerPoint 2002	✓	✓	*	✓	*	*
	PowerPoint 2003	✓	✓	*	✓	*	*

You can prevent plug-in from exporting some layers in the picture by simply making those layers invisible (hidden) in Photoshop.

## Exporting Layer Sets

You may choose how to export layer set. If you want that plug-in exports each layer within layer set as a clip set **"Each element as a separate clip"** option. If you want that whole layer set is exported as one clip choose **"Whole set as one clip"** option.

## Overwrite Existing Files

With default settings, plug-in does not allow making HTML file with the same name as file which exists in chosen output directory. For example if you try to save HTML with name "test.htm" and in the output directory is already existing the file named test.htm ,plug-in will report an error by telling that it cannot save file.

Reason for this is that resulting HTML requires subfolder where it places pictures. It would be possible for plug-in to overwrite existing files in this subfolder, either with clips that it exports, or with temporary files it creates. That is potentially very destructive operation.

However,since there are situations in which you would like to save file with name that already exists, plug-in will allow you to do that but you have to check option "Overwrite existing files". You must know that in this case it will overwrite all files having same names as clips that it generates.

## Exporting Effects

Various effects applied on a layer such as drop shadow, inner and outer glow, satin etc, even if displayed as layers in Photoshop, are not actual layers. Plug-in correctly exports effects if you follow few rules.

If effects applied on a layer changes only inner pixels of that layer, you can use any blending mode for effects. That means for example, that you can use multiply or screen blending mode for "Gradient Overlay", "Inner glow", "Inner shadow", and plug in will export clip that will look the same in PowerPoint as in Photoshop.

If effect creates "outside pixels" (pixels outside of boundaries of an object currently drawn on a layer) such as "Drop Shadow", "Outer glow" you can use only normal blending mode for those effects. That is because those effects create additional pixels and blend them with previous layer(s). Since PowerPoint knows only for a normal blending mode, your picture may look different in PowerPoint than in Photoshop if you don't use normal blending mode.

## Importing Files in PowerPoint

To import generated slides in PowerPoint, click on **Insert** menu, than choose **Slides from Files**. Slide Finder dialog pops up. Click on **Browse** button and navigate to the exported

HTML file. Slide preview will be shown in Select slides area. Click on slide picture, check **Keep source formatting box** and then click on **Insert** or **Insert all** button. Your composition will be imported into PowerPoint, and then you may further edit it, add transitions to clips, add interactivity etc.

## Limitations

Unfortunately limitations exist due to differences between two applications.

For example, Photoshop has many layer blending modes, such as multiply, overlay, hard light etc. On the other hand PowerPoint does not understand any of those except "Normal" mode. That does not mean that you can't use those modes while designing, it rather means that you will have to convert those layers to ones that have normal blending mode.

Plug-in also has a limitation that allows maximum resolutions of 3840\*2160 pixels (it is more than almost any graphic card allows). That is the resolution of four HDTV screens. We have intentionally made this limitation but you can receive version without it. Just contact us at [support@arsmedia.tv](mailto:support@arsmedia.tv)

## Errors

Since Plug-in perform many actions during it's work, some errors could occur. Rather than displaying those errors and exiting, plug-in will write them in "error.log" file which is created in clip directory. Check that file if exists and you will be able to see the operations which plug-in failed to execute.

Of course if there are serious errors (usually due to lack of memory to perform operation) plug-in will exit and Photoshop will report an error.

## Evaluation Version

After evaluation period of 30 days evaluation version print "AM demo" watermark on every clip it creates.

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