

PicturesToExe (PTE) - How to Get Started

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1. Pictures to Exe can be obtained from www.wnsoft.com once downloaded updates are available for life without paying (except for the Deluxe Version)
2. The Exe is as in **Executable**, which means you can save your project as an Exe file and it will play on other computers, without the need for it to have the PicturesToExe (PTE) programme. You can also save the project for a MAC.
3. Procedure for producing a basic slide show. Before starting PTE you will need to have set up a project folder containing your cropped and resized JPEGs – usually 1800 x 1200. Plus any sound tracks, narration and animations.. A soundtrack can be music only or music and speech. **(However I would add that I tend to size my images through Actions in Photoshop 2100 pixels wide by 1400 pixels high to allow for zooming an image)**
I would always advise using Raw images in the first instance as they will produce better images after processing. It is vital that you process your images and do not think that you can slip in a slightly poor image into an AV, this will not work.
4. I would also suggest that you try and avoid verticals (portraits) in your AV unless you can find a suitable transition or way to make the show blend together well.
5. Open the programme (currently PTE AV Studio):
6. *Click on File>New* - enter name of project ..
7. *Click on File>Save as* - ensure that the project is saved in one of your Show's Project *folders – usually the JPEGs sub folder. N.B.* There is an automatic prompt to save changes, but click *File>Save* before you close PTE as good practice.
8. **Click on Project Options** (at the bottom of the screen),
Main: Aspect Ratio – Choose the ratio you wish to display, 3x2; 16x9; 16x10 4x4; 1x1
Timing: Set the length you would like the slide to be shown 5 seconds is the default.
Default setting is Close show after last slide. Leave this setting for a normal slide show.
Audio: Add music by clicking on Add audio file (if you have it ready)
Control: Leave as default – **except untick the Show Navigation Bar and Hide Mouse Cursor**
Transitions: Basic Transition and Dissolve is a good one to use. Clicking on each once gives you an idea of what it will look like.
Defaults: Not necessary to touch at this stage, although sometimes it is good policy to tick the Cover and Apply to all slides.
Advanced: Not necessary to touch at this stage.
9. **Click on Settings** and make sure you have the File Tree ticked. This will allow you to see your files so that you can locate your folders. This can be unchecked once found giving you more room on your screen. Click on the folder and the images will appear in the adjacent pane. Insert the images in the slide film strip along the bottom of the screen (if on time line click the box at the bottom marked slides, either by double clicking or drag and drop). Make sure that you position the image in the correct location – images can be moved in the slide list by dragging and dropping.
10. **Lightbox.** You can see a full screen version of the images in the file by pressing F4 or going to **View/Settings and clicking on Fullscreen view of Slide List.** You can add images to the 'filmstrip' from this view. Each slide can be put in as many times as you like,

11. **A blank black slide** is available under Slide>Insert Slide. It is good practice to have a blank black slide at the beginning and end of your show.
12. Do not make the mistake of having too many slides in an AV, sometimes you have to delete a slide, even if it is a good one, because it does not really match the rest of the AV. A short AV – no more than 5 minutes – would be preferable than a long one that could be boring after a while.
Please note, you can delete an image from the Time Line without altering the timings, this is most important, do not delete from the Slide List.
13. You will notice that each slide shows a figure at the top and bottom. The figure at the top is the time this slide is displayed (in seconds) and the figure at the bottom is the length of the transition in seconds.
14. **Click 'Timeline'** - you will see the time line and if you have inserted your sound track this will appear in green
15. Now you can adjust your slides by moving them on the time line to match the soundtrack by holding down the left mouse on the numbered box. The grey line shows the length of transition time for the slide and can also be adjusted by hovering with the mouse over the end of the line and moving it one way or the other by holding down the left mouse. You can also split the soundtrack or narration wherever you like.
16. You can **preview the show** from any point by right clicking on a slide and clicking '*Start Preview from the current slide*'
17. In the preview window on the top right you can pause the show, make any adjustments, and then press play again. This means you don't have to keep playing the whole show;
18. Each slide can be customised by right clicking on the slide you want to change the transition effect or time and choose '**Customise Slide**'. By choosing the '*Effect*' tab and ticking '*Use own transition effect*' and then dotting a different effect or just changing the length of time you want for the transition;
19. If you want to alter an image or the soundtrack during production you can do this as PTE updates as long as you use the same file name and location. If you should wish to change your mind on certain images, i.e. adding or deleting, this is best done on the Timeline by going to Change Image File at the top of the screen. This will then not alter your sound track or mess up your settings. **Do not remove or insert slides whilst in the Slide List mode**, this will alter your settings in the Timeline.
20. **Editing Music & Images You can click on an image or sound file and Ctrl W will open the software programme.** (However you will need to specify the programme you are using by going to Preferences under Settings and clicking on System and entering the Graphical, Video and Audio editors)
21. The Timed Points button is very useful for altering your timed points and putting the last slide to the end of the music.
22. Text can be added in the Object and Animations. Click on this button, then click on the grey area around the image. Click on the Text Button (A) and a box will open. In the Properties Tab on the right you can type and alter the word text. A Dropped Shadow can be added by clicking on the Common Tab and click on Customise.

23. Creating an executable file: On the top right hand corner, press Publish and click on Executable File for PC making sure that the *.exe file is located in the right folder. You can also make an Mp4 by again clicking on Publish Show and click on HD and 4k Videos
24. The latest version of PTE is always available on its Web site <http://www.wnsoft.com>. You can also visit PTE's Forum: <http://www.wnsoft.com/forum> for further help and FAQs.
25. **Sound:** For Editing your **music** and other sound tracks Audacity is a free programme which can be obtained on the internet. Another programme is Adobe Auditions. It is advisable to try and match your slides to the beat of the music and if using a voice over to get this in the right place. Try to get the right music to suit the slides, do not be afraid of using something completely different.
26. Objects and Animations is a way of creating more subtle effects, perhaps a gentle zoom but this would require another separate session.
27. Enjoy your show!