

Installing Actions & Presets

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SCRAPBOOKGRAPHICS

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Installing Actions & Presets: PSCS

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyzine Scraps

As with most things in Photoshop CS, there are many ways to install actions and presets.

THE EASIEST WAY (PSCS2+)

Double-click the preset file. It will automatically load in the correct location. Actions (.ATN), brushes (.ABR), styles (.ASL), patterns (.PAT), gradients (grd) and shapes (.csh) can all be installed by double-clicking the file.

AN ALTERNATE WAY

1. Launch Photoshop.
2. View your palette (ie. actions palette).
3. Click on the arrow on the palette and select **LOAD ACTION** from the drop-down-menu.
4. Browse to your “.atn” file, select it and click **LOAD**.
5. Your action(s) will be added to the bottom of your list.
6. A helpful tip: You can organize your actions in the palette. Make your own folders by designer or type of action and drag the actions into them. I keep one folder per designer and group my actions together. Then, you can backup your actions by clicking the arrow on the palette and selecting **SAVE ACTION** from the drop down menu. Then, if Photoshop ever freezes and you lose your actions, you only have to load the backup files and they will already be organized for you! I back mine up monthly.

STILL ANOTHER WAY

1. Launch Photoshop.
2. View your **PRESET MANAGER (EDIT>PRESET MANAGER)**.
3. Select the type of preset you wish to load from the drop down menu (ie. brushes). Click **LOAD**.
4. Browse to your “.abr” file, select it and click **LOAD**.
5. Your brushes(s) will be added to the bottom of your list.
6. A helpful tip: You can organize your presets in the palette. Drag the most often used to the top. Then, you can backup your presets by selecting all the items you want to save and clicking **SAVE SET**. Then, if Photoshop ever freezes and you lose your actions, you only have to load the backup files and they will already be organized for you! I back mine up monthly.

Installing Scripts: PSCS

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyzine Scraps

As with most things in Photoshop CS, you have a choice when installing scripts.

THE TEMPORARY WAY

Scripts loaded using this method will be available only until Photoshop is restarted.

1. Launch Photoshop.
2. Click FILE>SCRIPTS>BROWSE.
3. Navigate your computer to find the “.jsx” script file. Select it and click LOAD.
4. Your script(s) will be added alphabetically to the scripts list. You can find them at FILE>SCRIPTS.

THE PERMANENT WAY

Scripts loaded using this method will be available even if Photoshop is restarted.

1. Quit Photoshop.
2. Copy your script file (jsx) and any other files provided to the following directory/folder:

PC: C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop CS4\Presets\
Scripts\

MAC: Macintosh HD>Applications>Photoshop
CS4>Presets>Scripts
3. Launch Photoshop.
4. Your script(s) will be added alphabetically to the scripts list. You can find them at FILE>SCRIPTS.



Viewing Hidden Files (PC)

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyzine Scraps

***NOTE:** Please make sure you change your settings to **VIEW HIDDEN FILES** before proceeding.*

In Vista

1. Open the Start menu and choose “Control Panel.”
2. Click on Folder Options.
3. Click on the View tab.
- 4. Click “Show hidden files and folders” and click APPLY, and then OKAY.**

In Windows Explorer

1. Click on “Start” and choose “My Computer.”
2. When a window pops up, click on the Tool menu at the top and choose Folder Options.
3. When the Folder Options dialog box comes up, click on the View tab at the top.
4. In the “Advanced Settings” look for the folder called Hidden files and folders. Make sure “Show hidden files and folders” is selected. Click okay.

A Handy TidBit

The following are considered “presets” and they are all in the same area of the program files.

Brushes are xxx.abr

Color Swatches are xxx.aco

Custom Shapes are xxx.csh

Gradients are xxx.grd

Patterns are xxx.pat

Styles are xxx.asl

Textures are xxx.jpg



Installing Actions & Presets: PSE v4

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyzine Scraps

TO INSTALL ACTIONS:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Navigate to your program files folder (generally found on your hard drive).
3. Open the ADOBE folder, the PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS folder within that, then finally the PREVIEWS folder.
4. Open the folder labeled EFFECTS. You should see three folders: CACHE, EFFECTS and FILTERS.
5. Create a new folder (right click, Create New>Folder) for each action. Label to make them easy to find.
6. Copy all actions (ends in .atn) and previews (ends in .psd) from your download. Do not copy any text files.
7. Paste into your newly created folder.
8. Navigate back out to the preview folder. You should be back at the same three folders: cache, effects and filters.
9. Open the CACHE folder, and the effects folder within that.
10. DELETE all contents of the cache folder. This ensures that your program will recognize that you have loaded new actions.
11. Start up PSE and go! Have fun with your new actions!

TO INSTALL STYLES:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension. Copy this file.
3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\Presets\Styles
4. Start PSE.
5. You can now access your styles in the styles palette.



Installing Actions & Presets: PSE v5

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyzine Scraps

For PSE5/VISTA OS users:

1. If you are installing your PSE 5 from XP to VISTA, first go to the Adobe.com website and get the “502patcher.exe” download, run and install the download.

TO INSTALL ACTIONS:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Navigate to:

XP: C:/DocumentsandSettings/allusers/application data/adobe/PhotoshopElements/5.0/PhotoCreations/Special Effects/PhotoEffects/

VISTA: ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/5.0/PhotoCreations/SpecialEffects/PhotoEffects

3. Create a new folder for each action.
4. Copy all actions (.atn) and the thumbnail file (thumbs.psd) from your download. Do not copy any text files (directions for use/installation).
6. Paste into your newly created folder.
7. Start up PSE and go! Have fun with your new actions!

TO INSTALL STYLES:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension. Copy this file.
3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\Presets\Styles
4. Start PSE.
5. You can now access your styles in the styles palette.



Installing Actions & Presets: PSE v6

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyine Scraps

TO INSTALL ACTIONS:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.

2. Navigate to:

XP: C:/Documents and Settings/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Photo Creations/Photo Effects

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/6.0/PhotoCreations/ Photo Effects

MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Photo Creations/Photo Effects (this is the MAIN library folder, not the user library folder)

3. Create a new folder for each action.

4. If your thumbnail images are not provided as PNG files, you must open them and resave them as PNGs.

5. Copy all actions (ends in .atn) and “thumbs” files from your download. Do not copy any text files (directions for use/installation).

6. Paste into your newly created folder.

7. PSE 6 allows you to group your actions and styles into “Categories” using XML files. I have provided the XML files for you. Locate the .xml file included with your style. Copy this file.

8. Paste your .xml file into the following directory:

XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US/Photo Creations Metadata/Layer Styles

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US/Photo Creations Metadata/Layer Styles

MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US/Photo Creations Metadata/Layer Styles

9. Start up PSE and go! Have fun with your new actions!

TO INSTALL STYLES INTO PSE6:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.

2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension. Copy this file.

3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:

XP: C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

VISTA: C:\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\ en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

MAC: Macintosh HD\Library\Application Support\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\ en-US\Photo Creations\ Layer Styles

PSE6 (cont)

4. Locate the .xml file included with your style. Copy this file.
5. Paste your .xml file into the following directory:
XP: C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles
VISTA: C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles
MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles
6. Start PSE.
7. You can now access your styles in the styles palette under **SHOW ALL**. Or, select the drop down menu and look for a new category.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

If your new actions or presets do not show up at this point, you can try the following.

1. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file MediaDatabase.db3.

XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US

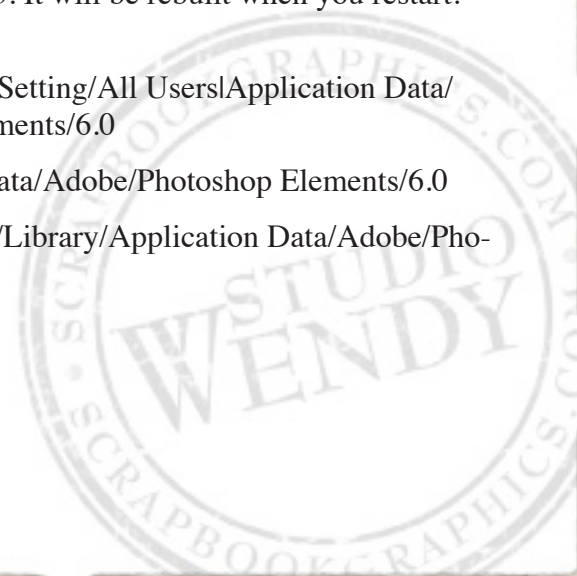
MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0/Locale/en-US

2. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file ThumbDatabase.db3. It will be rebuilt when you restart. Start PSE.

XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0

MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/6.0



Installing Actions & Presets: PSE v7

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyine Scraps

You can find detailed information and tutorials at the following website:

<http://www.hummiesworld.com/plugins.html>

INSTALLING ACTIONS (CLASSIC MODE):

1. Quit PSE.
2. You now have two ways to install actions in PSE7. The “old” or traditional way can be done by copying your ATN, XML & PNG to the following directory:

XP: C://Documents&Settings/ApplicationData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/7.0/PhotoCreations/PhotoEffects

VISTA: C://Documents&Settings/ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/7.0/PhotoCreations/PhotoEffects

INSTALLING ACTIONS (ACTION PLAYER):

PSE7 now allows you to install actions in their new action interface. To install action “sets”, use the following path:

XP: C://Documents&Settings/Application Data/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/7.0/Locale/EnUS/WorkFlowPanels/Actions

VISTA: C/ Documents&Settings/ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/7.0/Locale/EnUS/WorkFlowPanels/Actions

3. Start PSE.
4. You can now access your actions in the actions palette under SHOW ALL and it’s subcategory.

TO INSTALL STYLES:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension. Copy this file.
3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:

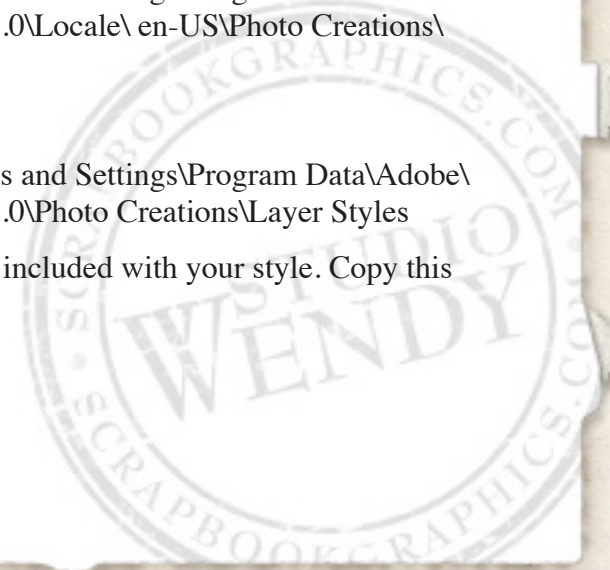
XP: C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

VISTA: C:\Documents and Settings\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Locale\ en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

OR

VISTA: C:\Documents and Settings\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

4. Locate the .xml file included with your style. Copy this file.



PSE7 (cont)

5. Paste your .xml file into the following directory:

XP: C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

VISTA: C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

OR

VISTA: C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

6. Start PSE.

7. You can now access your styles in the styles palette under **SHOW ALL**.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

If your new actions or presets do not show up at this point, you can try the following.

1. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file MediaDatabase.db3.

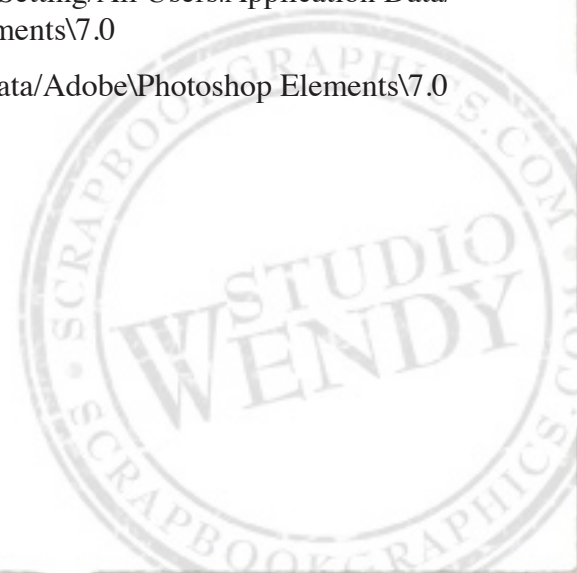
XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/7.0/Locale/en-US

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/7.0/Locale/en-US

2. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file ThumbDatabase.db3. It will be rebuilt when you restart. Start PSE.

XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0

VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0



Installing Actions & Presets: PSE v8

A Photoshop Tutorial by Tricia Curtis & Wendyine Scraps

You can find detailed information and tutorials at the following website:

<http://www.hummiesworld.com/plugins.html>

INSTALLING ACTIONS (CLASSIC MODE):

1. Quit PSE.
2. You have two ways to install actions in PSE8. The “old” or traditional way can be done by copying your ATN, XML & PNG to the following directory:

XP: C://Documents&Settings/ApplicationData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/8.0/PhotoCreations/PhotoEffects

VISTA: C://ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/8.0/PhotoCreations/PhotoEffects

WINDOWS 7: C://ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Photo Creations/Photo Effects

MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Photo Creations/Photo Effects
(this is the MAIN library folder, not the user library folder)

INSTALLING ACTIONS (ACTION PLAYER):

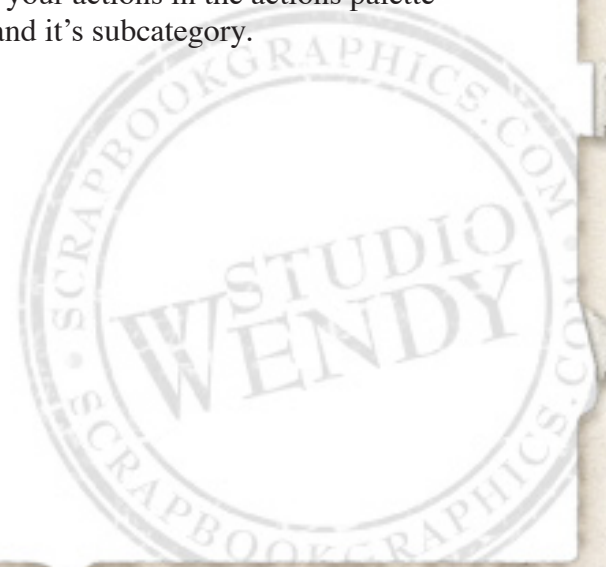
PSE8 allows you to install actions in their new guided action interface. To install action “sets”, use the following path:

XP: C://Documents&Settings/Application Data/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/8.0/Locale/EnUS/WorkFlowPanels/Actions

VISTA: C://ProgramData/Adobe/PhotoshopElements/8.0/Locale/EnUS/WorkFlowPanels/Actions

MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Locale/EnUS/WorkFlowPanels/Actions

3. Start PSE.
4. You can now access your actions in the actions palette under SHOW ALL and it’s subcategory.



PSE8 (cont)

TO INSTALL STYLES:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
 2. Copy both the .asl and .xml to the following directory:
XP: C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\8.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles
VISTA: C:\Documents and Settings\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles
- OR
- VISTA:** C:\Documents and Settings\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\7.0\Photo Creations\Layer Styles
 - MAC:** Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Photo Creations/Layer Styles
4. Locate the .xml file included with your style. Copy this file.
 6. Start PSE.
 7. You can now access your styles in the styles palette under **SHOW ALL**.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

If your new actions or presets do not show up at this point, you can try the following.

1. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file MediaDatabase.db3.
XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Locale/en-US
VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Locale/en-US
MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0/Locale/en-US
2. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file ThumbDatabase.db3. It will be rebuilt when you restart. Start PSE.
XP: C:/Documents & Setting/All Users/Application Data/Adobe\Photoshop Elements\8.0\
VISTA: C:/ProgramData/Adobe\Photoshop Elements\8.0\
MAC: Macintosh HD/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Photoshop Elements/8.0

