

Stitching Panoramic Photos

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1. Introduction

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| The Photoshop |
| Microsoft ICE |
| Other software |



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This is a summary of what was discussed at a recent group meeting. It looks at how to stitch photos to make a panorama using Photoshop Elements (tm). I'll also take a brief look at other stitching software. You might want to read 'Taking Panoramic Photos' before reading this.

2. The Photoshop Elements(tm) Way

Open Elements (choose the editor, not the organiser) and click File and then click New.... This gives a flyout menu with Photomerge Panorama... as the last item; click it. You will see the following dialog box

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| | and find the photos that make up your | panorama; this shows n | ny folder with the | e images. | |
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Click OK and see how Elements gets on. Mostly, it will do a very good job. One member reports that you don't even have to take the photos in order, Elements will sort it all out even if you take, say, the centre photo last.



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3. Microsoft ICE

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| | • Open Wind | ows Explorer and find | the images that you want to | o stitch together. Select them | |
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• The final stage is to choose an output format in the Export area (I use TIFF for further tweaking, but JPEG is often fine), click Export to Disk and give the file a suitable name.

ICE's ability to handle raw files can be useful. You have to have Microsoft's Camera Codec Pack installed but this is also a free download.

It will stitch JPEGs and TIFFs without the codec pack.

4. Other software

There are lots of alternatives for stitching photos, some of them free. Canon and Olympus cameras used to come with very good panorama stitching software, they may still do so.

Unfortunately, the very capable, free photo editor PaintDotNet doesn't seem to have the ability to stitch panoramas yet. Googling for "free panorama stitching software" brings up quite a few options.

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