



Creating a Web Photo Album in Dreamweaver MX

1. Before you start Dreamweaver MX collect all of the pictures you want to use in a single folder. They need to be JPG format. Place (or create) this folder inside your main site folder. If needed, use Fireworks MX or Photoshop Batch Process to resize the pictures if they are too big. (Anything wider than 600 pixels is way too big. A width of 300 to 400 pixels is about right.) In Fireworks MX just open the picture and then use MODIFY > CANVAS > IMAGE SIZE (IMAGE > RESIZE > IMAGE SIZE... in Photoshop Elements 2.0) to reduce a picture's size. Be sure that the Constrain Proportions check box is marked so the picture doesn't get distorted. MOST IMPORTANT! Be sure that Fireworks MX is closed (not running) on your computer before you do any of the following. Exit Fireworks MX before continuing!
2. Start Dreamweaver MX. Create a new page (FILE > NEW and select the blank HTML file. This page will not actually be used; you just need to get to the page menus for the next step.
3. Select COMMANDS > CREATE WEB PHOTO ALBUM. A dialog box will appear. Here is a sample:

A screenshot of the "Create Web Photo Album" dialog box in Dreamweaver MX. The dialog has a blue title bar with the text "Create Web Photo Album" and a close button (X) in the top right corner. The main area is light beige and contains several input fields and checkboxes. On the right side, there are three buttons: "OK", "Cancel", and "Help". The fields include: "Photo Album Title:" (text box), "Subheading Info:" (text box), "Other Info:" (text box), "Source Images Folder:" (text box with a "Browse..." button), "Destination Folder:" (text box with a "Browse..." button), "Thumbnail Size:" (a dropdown menu showing "100 x 100" and a checked checkbox for "Show Filenames"), "Columns:" (a text box with the value "5"), "Thumbnail Format:" (a dropdown menu showing "JPEG - Better Quality"), "Photo Format:" (a dropdown menu showing "JPEG - Better Quality" and a "Scale:" text box with the value "100 %"), and a checked checkbox for "Create Navigation Page for Each Photo".

Create Web Photo Album

Photo Album Title:

Subheading Info:

Other Info:

Source Images Folder: Browse...

Destination Folder: Browse...

Thumbnail Size: 100 x 100 ☒ Show Filenames

Columns: 5

Thumbnail Format: JPEG - Better Quality

Photo Format: JPEG - Better Quality Scale: 100 %

☒ Create Navigation Page for Each Photo

OK Cancel Help

4. Enter a name for the Photo Album Title. This will appear at the top of the index page.

5. If you wish to include a subheading or other info just enter it in the appropriate boxes.
6. Click on the Browse button next to the Source Images Folder text box. Navigate to the folder that you created in step 1.
7. Click on the Browse button next to the Destination Folder text box. Again, navigate to the folder that you created in step 1.
8. Pick a thumbnail size from the drop down list. 100 by 100 is generally a good size.
9. If you don't want the filenames to appear on the index page, clear the Show Filenames checkbox. If you think you want to caption the thumbnails on the index page later leave it checked. After the page is created you can type over the filenames with your captions.
10. For most applications 5 columns is the best setting, especially if you have used the 100 by 100 pixel thumbnails.
11. The JPEG - Better quality settings for both the Thumbnail and Photo Formats are just fine.
12. Make sure the checkbox next to Create Navigation Page for Each Photo has a check in it.
13. Click OK. The computer will set to work creating the Web Photo Album. It will open Fireworks MX and quickly make a thumbnail for each picture in the folder. Then it will assemble these thumbnails on a web page and create other pages to hold the actual size photos. Finally it will link everything together.
14. This process creates several things in you site folder. First, it creates three new folders inside the Destination Folder you selected in step 7. These are named thumbnails, images, and pages. It also creates an index.htm web page. Use the put button in the Site Files screen to transfer index.htm and the pages folder to Wonders. When it asks to "Include Dependent Files?" click Yes. The thumbnail and images folders will then also be automatically transferred.
15. Place a link from any other page in your site to the index.htm page. All of the other links in the album have already been made.