

Save Album Art to Photos

v1.0

Universal, for macOS 12+/Music v1.2+
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This script will export the artwork of the selected Music tracks as image files to the Photos app. Includes options for changing image format, choosing a destination Photos album, custom keyword creation and more.

Universal, for macOS 12 and later only.

This app is free to try full-featured in Demo Mode. In Demo Mode it will only export 5 images per launch. If you like it you can purchase a code for \$1.99 which will unlock the 5-image restriction. Launch the app and click "Register..." in its File menu to make an in-app purchase through PayPal.

Installation:

This script, "Save Album Art to Photos", is an **AppleScript applet** and can be run by double-clicking its icon in the Finder. Thus, it can be installed anywhere you find it convenient to access. However, it is probably best accessed from the Script menu of the Music app, from where it can be launched by clicking its name.

To make an AppleScript available in your **Music app's** Script menu, install it in the Music "Scripts" folder. This is located at *[user name] / Library / Music / Scripts /*. **Music app** will look for AppleScripts in this folder.

*The user Library directory may be hidden by default. To make it visible, hold down the Option key on your keyboard and select **Go > Library** from the Finder.*

If the *[user name] / Library /* folder does not contain the "Music" folder or "Scripts" folder, then create them and put the script in the "Scripts" folder. AppleScripts will then appear in the Music app's Script menu, and can be activated by selecting by name and clicking. Be sure to also save this Read Me document in a safe and convenient place.

See the online [Download FAQ](#) for more info and video on downloading and installing AppleScripts.

How to use:

Launch the **Save Album Art to Photos** script.

Save Album Art to Photos

Source: 75 tracks selected

☐

Add to Photos library

☒

Add to Photos album named:

My Music Artwork

Export image files as

☐ PNG

☒ JPEG

Compression quality:

low

normal

high

✓ best

☒

Do not add to Photos if an artwork image with the same title already exists.

☐

When naming artwork images, prefer Album Artist, if available, to Artist.

☐

Open the session log in TextEdit automatically after a session has ended.

Proceed

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While the applet is running, the **Source** field will update with the track selection in the Music app.

Select the Music tracks whose album artwork are to be exported to Photos. Press the

"Proceed" button to start the export session. Each selected track in Music will be examined for artwork image data and if artwork exists, it will be exported to Photos, its **title** set to *Artist - Album* and its **keywords** set to those in the script's "Settings..." panel.

(In Demo Mode, the applet will quit after 5 image files have been processed per launch.)

Controls and Conventions:

- **Add to Photos library**

Export the image files into the Photos library.

- **Add to Photos album named:**

The name of the Photos album in which to add the imported images. If a Photos album by this name does not already exist then a new album with this name will be created.

- **Export image files as PNG or JPEG**

If choosing JPEG, note that higher quality compression settings create larger files (not by *that much* these days, really).

- **Do not add to Photos if an artwork image with the same title already exists.**

Image files will be identified by their **title** in Photos. An artwork file exported by the script will be titled in Photos using the *artist* and the *album* of the track it comes from, as described below. If a new image file has the same **title** as an item already in Photos library (regardless of its format, its filename or the Photos albums it may also be in), checking this will prevent it from being added again.

As a matter of course, if multiple tracks from the same Album are selected during a session, the script will attempt to export only one of their artworks.

Image naming conventions:

normal track: *Artist - Album*

compilations: *Various Artists - Album*

missing tag(s): *Unknown Artist - Unknown Album*. If a track has no artist tag *and* no album tag, it will be *allowed* to be added to Photos, even if other "Unknown Artist - Unknown Album"-titled items exist.

Obviously, complete and correct tag data is all-important and advantageous.

- **When naming artwork images, prefer Album Artist, if available, to Artist.**

When this box is checked, the *album artist* tag of a track, if available, will be used instead of *artist*. Otherwise, *artist* will be used.

- **Open the session log in TextEdit automatically after a session has ended.**

During each session a log is generated with the results of the session. It will list each track in one of four groups of export results: **OK** imported, **Ignored** no image data, **Pass** added once this session, **Skipped** already exists in Photos.

This log will be available once a session completes and can be viewed in TextEdit by clicking **File > Open Most Recent Log** or by pressing **Command-L**. It will be deleted and then recreated when the next session begins.

When this box is checked, the log will open in TextEdit *automatically* after a session completes.

- **Keywords**

Keywords can be applied to each image file when it is added to Photos. These can be edited by clicking the "Settings..." menu or by pressing **Command-,** (comma).

Notes

The Photos icon will jump in the Dock to let you know image files are being added. This can't be suppressed.

*The script uses the **sips** (scriptable image processing system) command line tool for image manipulation. Enter *man sips* in Terminal for more information.

Helpful Links:

Information and download link for this script is located at:

<https://dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=mxsavealbumartjpeg>

If you have any trouble with this script, please email me.

My name is Doug Adams

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Click on the underlined URL text:

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Recent Version History:

v1.0 October 27, 2025

- Initial release

This doc last updated October 27, 2025

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