

# PhotoGuru Media Player

## *User Manual*

Browse your photos and videos, organize your collections, and create presentations on Android phones, tablets, Android TV, and Amazon Fire TV.



PhotoGuru on a living-room television with an enlarged view of its playback controls.

## **About this manual**

This guide takes you from connecting your first folder to configuring slideshows, metadata, screensaver playback, and automation. It is written for everyday viewing, photographic presentations, and displays in offices or other shared spaces.

Instructions use the English names of settings. Available options and their appearance can vary with your device, app version, and media source. Screenshots show examples; follow the labels in your installed version when the layout differs.

A PhotoGuru folder is a link to a media source. Your collection can include cloud albums, network folders, and local folders in the same Home Screen.

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## **Words used in this guide**

Select means tap an item or highlight it and press the remote's select button. Long-press means touch and hold, or hold the remote's select button, for about two seconds. A media source is the service or storage location that holds your files. A bookmark is the link PhotoGuru uses to open a folder in that source.

## 2 Quick start

Connect one folder and play a few photos before configuring the rest of your collection. This confirms that PhotoGuru can reach your files and gives you a familiar starting point.

### Install and open PhotoGuru

Install PhotoGuru Media Player from Google Play or the Amazon Appstore on a compatible device. Open the app and keep the device connected to the network if your photos are stored in the cloud or on a network server.

### Connect your first folder

1. Open the navigation panel. On a touchscreen, swipe inward from the left edge. With a TV remote, press Left repeatedly until the panel opens.
2. Select Add Folders, then choose the service or storage type that contains your media.
3. Follow the instructions shown for that source. Sign in, select a folder, or enter the connection details as requested.
4. Return to the Home Screen and select the newly added folder. Newly added folders are marked with a yellow star.

### Start a slideshow

1. Open folders until you reach the photos or videos you want to show.
2. Select a photo or video to start playback.
3. Touch near the bottom of the screen, or press Down on the remote, to show the playback toolbar.
4. Select Play to advance automatically. Select Pause when you want to stay on the current photo.
5. Open the toolbar's Settings button to adjust the interval, transitions, and picture frame style.

## 3 Find your way around

The navigation panel gives you access to the Image Browser, Add Folders, and Settings. Open it by swiping inward from the left edge, or by pressing Left repeatedly on a TV remote.

### Image Browser

The Image Browser shows photos, videos, and subfolders in a grid. Select a folder to open it, then continue through any nested folders. When there are more thumbnails than fit on the screen, scroll vertically to see the rest.

### Add Folders and Settings

Add Folders connects PhotoGuru to another media source. Settings contains the controls for thumbnail browsing, playback, advanced options, and screensaver use. It also provides access to subscription information and product support.

The Home Screen brings your connected folders together. It can contain bookmarks from several services, along with folders you create to organize those bookmarks. Section 5 explains how to build this structure.

### Understand the Home Screen

Think of the Home Screen as the starting point for your collection. A bookmark can take you to a local folder, a shared folder, or an album hosted by a supported service. Opening a bookmark takes you into that source's contents; it does not combine all connected sources into a single physical storage location.

Your organizational folders can group bookmarks according to the way you use them. For example, a folder called Family can contain links to albums on different services, while another called Presentations can contain links to collections prepared for an event. The media remains where it is hosted.

### Selecting and long pressing

A normal selection opens a folder or starts playback of a media item. A long press opens the folder's context menu. If you intended to open a folder but a menu appeared, release the item and select it briefly. If you need the menu, keep the item pressed for about two seconds instead of repeatedly tapping it.

On a touchscreen, edge swipes reveal the navigation panel on the left and the clipboard on the right. Swiping through photos during playback serves a different purpose: it moves between media items. Choose the gesture for the screen you are using rather than assuming every swipe opens a panel.

## 4 Connect your media

PhotoGuru can display media from cloud services, local folders, shared network folders, and media servers. You can connect more than one source and organize the resulting bookmarks together.

| Source type        | Available sources                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cloud services     | Dropbox, Flickr, Microsoft OneDrive, SmugMug, Zenfolio      |
| Local folders      | Files on the device and accessible USB storage              |
| Network folders    | Windows shares and Samba/CIFS shares                        |
| Media servers      | UPnP/DLNA                                                   |
| Remote file access | WebDAV, including compatible ownCloud and Nextcloud servers |

### Add a source

1. Open the navigation panel and select Add Folders.
2. Select the source you want to connect.
3. Follow PhotoGuru's instructions for that source. Cloud services generally require authentication; network and remote sources may ask for a server address and account details.
4. Once the connection is complete, open the new bookmark on the Home Screen and check that your folders and media appear.

### Local and network access

For local folders, make sure the storage is connected and accessible to the device. For shared folders or UPnP/DLNA servers, connect the device to the network that can reach the server. Use an account with permission to read the folder you want to display.

### Photos videos and background music

Media support varies by source, as listed below. Available formats also depend on the files and device. Where MP3 playback is supported, place MP3 files in the same folder as the photos and videos to use background music. Section 7 explains how to prepare and test a slideshow with music.

| Sources                                              | Media                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Dropbox, OneDrive, local folders, Samba/CIFS, WebDAV | Photos, videos, MP3 background music               |
| Flickr                                               | Photos, including private photos and public groups |
| SmugMug, Zenfolio, UPnP/DLNA                         | Photos and videos                                  |

## **Choose a source for your collection**

Use local folders when the files are already on the device or attached storage. Use a shared network folder when a computer or storage server holds the collection. Use a supported cloud service when the album is hosted there. UPnP/DLNA and WebDAV provide additional ways to reach media offered by a compatible server.

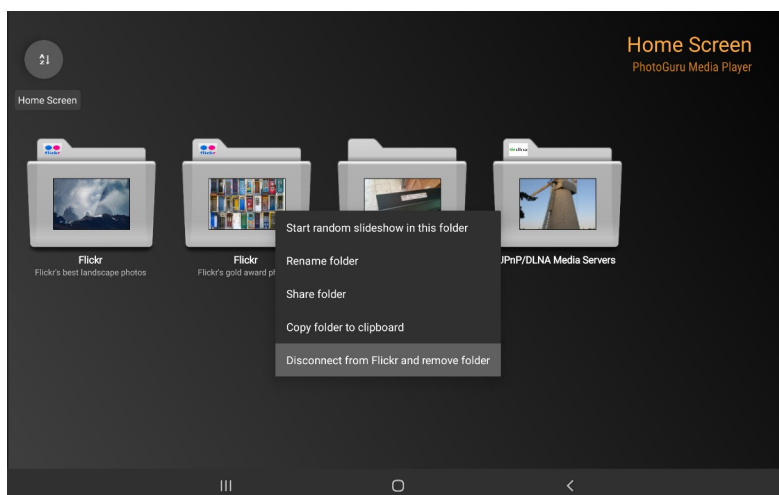
Choose the connection that matches how the files are actually available. A Windows shared folder and a WebDAV folder may be hosted by the same machine, but they use different connection methods. Select the corresponding source type in PhotoGuru and follow its setup instructions.

## 5 Organize folders and bookmarks

Use organizational folders to group bookmarks by trip, subject, client, or presentation. Copying a bookmark changes how you reach a source inside PhotoGuru; it does not copy the source media files.

### Open a folder menu

Long-press a folder for about two seconds. Its context menu provides commands such as copying the folder to the clipboard or deleting the bookmark. Deleting a PhotoGuru bookmark removes that link from your collection; it is separate from deleting media at its source.



Long-press a folder to open its context menu.

### Create an organizational folder

An organizational folder is an empty folder created inside PhotoGuru to hold bookmarks. Create one before copying bookmarks into it. A folder hosted by a cloud or network source is not an organizational folder and cannot be used as the destination for pasted bookmarks.

1. Return to the Home Screen.
2. Open the clipboard. Swipe inward from the right edge on a touchscreen, or press Right repeatedly with a TV remote.
3. Select New Folder, the default item that is always present in the clipboard, and choose Paste Folder. This creates an empty organizational folder on the Home Screen.
4. Open the new organizational folder when you are ready to place bookmarks inside it.

To create a nested organizational folder, open an existing organizational folder, then paste New Folder there. New folders can be created on the Home Screen or within organizational folders; they cannot be inserted into folders hosted by a media source.

### Copy a bookmark into an organizational folder

Only organizational folders can contain pasted bookmarks within your folder structure. Choose one you created using New Folder, rather than a folder belonging to a cloud service, network share, or local media source.

1. Long-press the bookmark and select Copy folder to clipboard. The clipboard opens automatically.
2. Navigate to and open the destination organizational folder. Create it first using the steps above if it does not yet exist.

3. Open the clipboard if it is hidden. Swipe inward from the right edge on a touchscreen, or press Right repeatedly with a TV remote.
4. Select the copied folder in the clipboard and choose Paste Folder. The bookmark is added to the open organizational folder.

If you remove a bookmark accidentally, reconnect the source through Add Folders or paste another copy of the bookmark if it is still available in the clipboard.

## **Plan a useful bookmark structure**

Keep the Home Screen focused on the collections you use most often. Create organizational folders for groups that would otherwise make it crowded. Names such as Family, Portfolio, and Office Display describe a purpose more clearly than a series of generic folder names.

A bookmark can refer to a collection nested within a source. When organizing it, keep enough context to tell similar collections apart. Two bookmarks called Holiday may be difficult to distinguish later, especially when an automation needs to match a title and subtitle exactly.

## **Example of grouping collections**

Suppose one family album is on OneDrive and another is on Flickr. Create an empty organizational folder on the Home Screen using New Folder in the clipboard. Navigate to that organizational folder, then paste the bookmarks you want to group there. Open each pasted bookmark to confirm that it leads to the intended album.

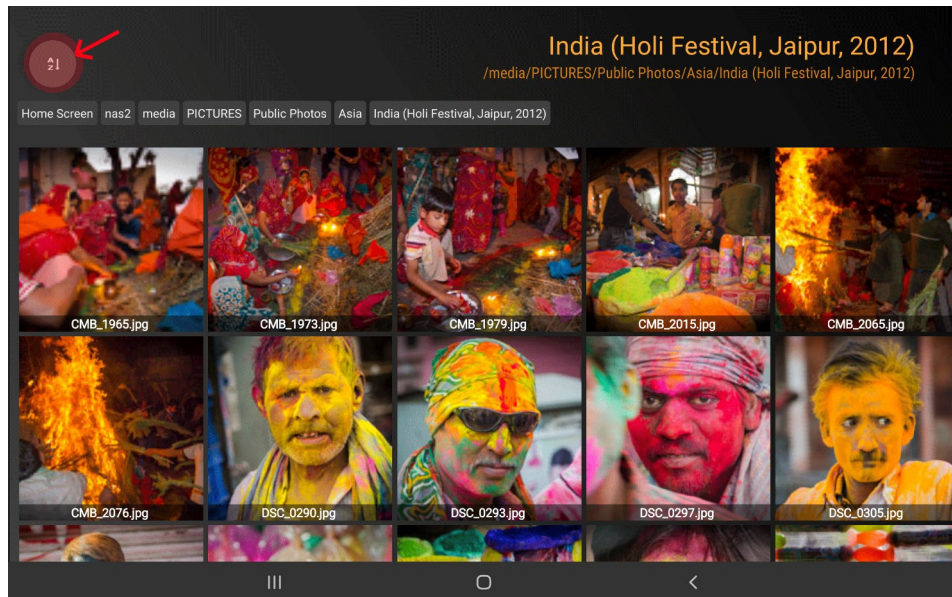
This structure is a convenient way to reach the albums. It does not move the files between services or change the albums at their source. If you want to change the underlying media or the service's folder structure, make that change where the collection is hosted.

## **Keep bookmark changes separate from media changes**

Copying a bookmark into another organizational folder is a navigation change. Removing a bookmark is also a navigation change. Adding or removing photographs in the source folder changes the media collection itself. Keeping these operations distinct prevents confusion when tidying the Home Screen or preparing a presentation.

## 6 Browse and sort your collection

Before starting playback, open the folder that contains the photos and videos you want to display. The browser's sort order controls the slideshow sequence unless playback randomization is enabled.



The sort control is highlighted above the thumbnail grid.

### Choose a sort order

Use the sort control in the thumbnail browser to arrange items by filename, file date, or capture date. Choose the order that matches your presentation: filenames can follow a deliberately named sequence, while capture dates can help tell a trip or event in chronological order.

Capture-date sorting requires the relevant metadata. Some hosting services do not provide all EXIF information, so the available sort choices and results can vary by source.

### Control slideshow order

Open Settings > Playback Settings and check Randomize the order of images. Disable it when you want playback to follow the browser's selected order. Enable it when you prefer a shuffled presentation.

### Adjust thumbnail density

Use Settings > Browser Settings to choose how many thumbnails appear in a row. On phones and tablets, the number can be configured separately for portrait and landscape orientation. Use fewer thumbnails per row when you want larger previews, and more when you want to scan a large collection.

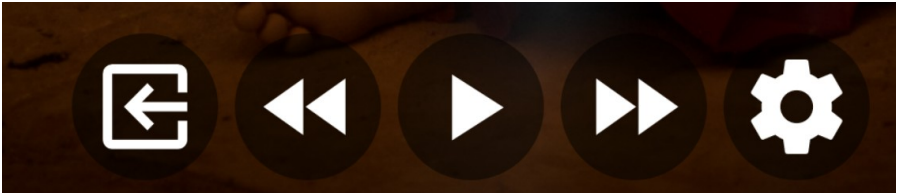
The Image Browser scrolls vertically through a grid. Select a subfolder to explore its contents, or use the folder path above the thumbnails to find your place in the collection.

# 7 Play photos and videos

Select a photo or video in the browser to start playback. PhotoGuru plays the media in the selected folder, using the browser order unless image randomization is enabled.

## Show the playback toolbar

Touch near the bottom of the screen, or press Down on a TV remote. The toolbar provides previous, play or pause, next, and settings controls.



Playback toolbar with navigation and settings controls.

| Control | Action                  | Touchscreen                             | TV remote                                     |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|         | Previous or next item   | Swipe right or left, or use the toolbar | Press Left or Right, or use the toolbar       |
|         | Automatic slideshow     | Select Play in the toolbar              | Use Play/Pause, or select the toolbar control |
|         | Pause automatic advance | Select Pause in the toolbar             | Use Play/Pause, or select the toolbar control |
|         | Adjust the presentation | Select the toolbar's Settings button    | Select the toolbar's Settings button          |

## Cycle through the five toolbar modes

During playback, press Down on a TV remote or touch near the bottom of the screen repeatedly to cycle through the toolbar modes. Each mode changes the information and controls shown with the current photograph. The following sequence and screenshots reproduce the five modes described in the original manual.

### Mode 1 Toolbar hidden

Only the photograph is displayed. The toolbar and EXIF information are hidden, giving the image the viewer's full attention.



Mode 1 shows the photograph with the toolbar hidden.

### Mode 2 EXIF information

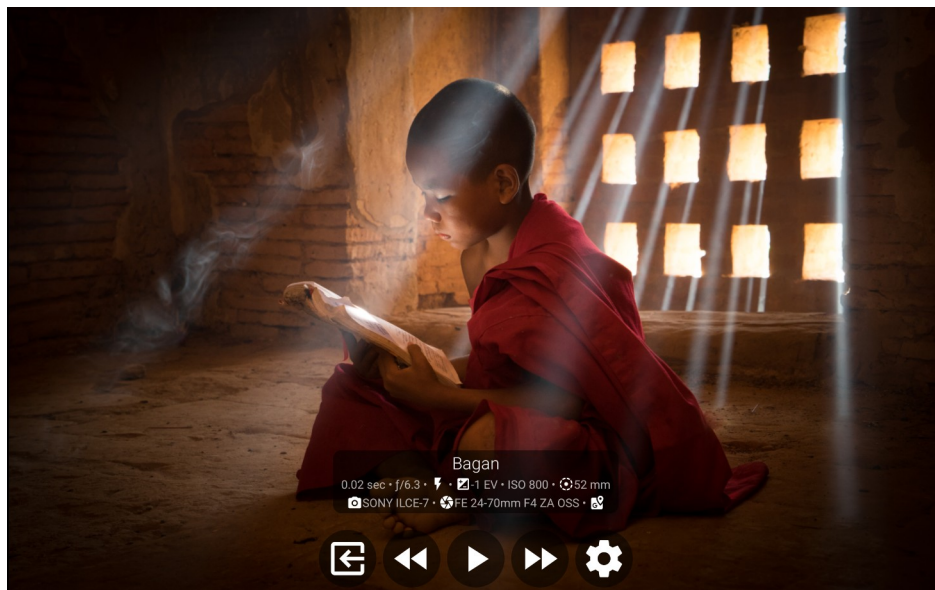
The photograph is displayed with EXIF metadata. The information fields are user configurable under Settings > Playback Settings > Display Of Meta Data. See section 9 for how to choose up to five rows.



Mode 2 adds EXIF information without the playback toolbar.

## Mode 3 EXIF information and toolbar

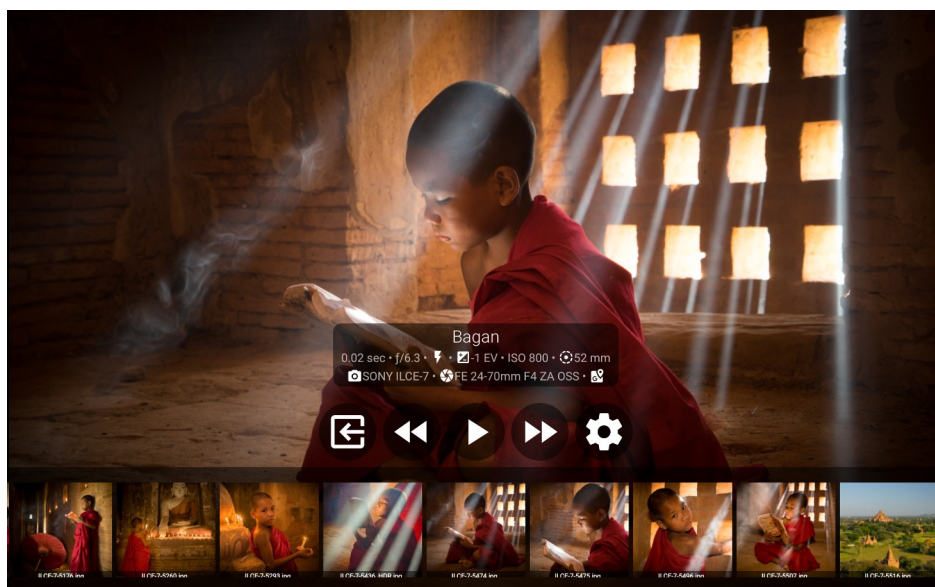
The photograph, EXIF information, and playback toolbar are displayed together. Use the toolbar to move to the previous or next item, pause or resume automatic advance, or open playback settings.



Mode 3 shows EXIF information and playback controls.

## Mode 4 EXIF information toolbar and related images

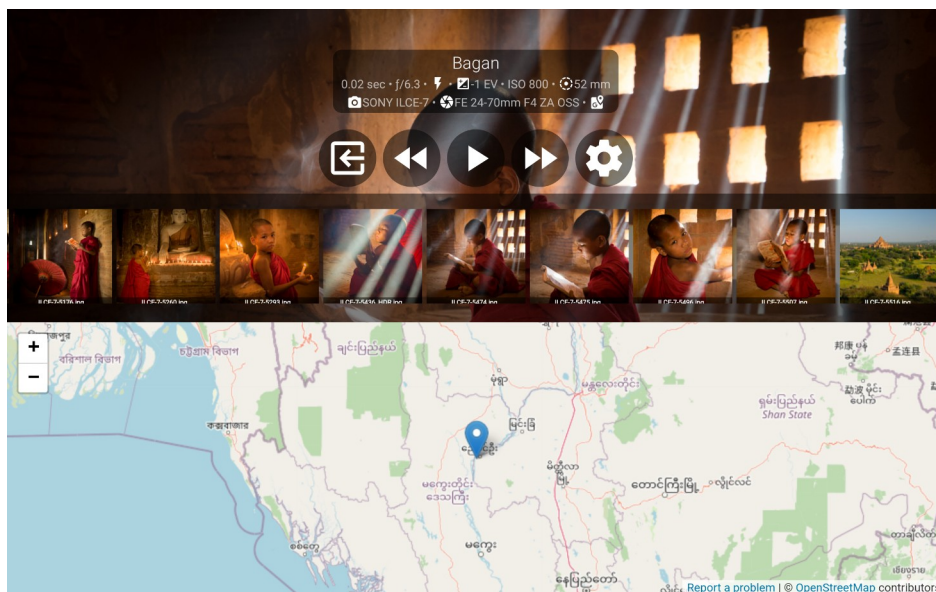
The EXIF information and playback toolbar remain visible, with a related images row added beneath them. The thumbnail row provides a visual overview alongside the current photograph.



Mode 4 adds the related images row below the toolbar.

## Mode 5 EXIF information toolbar related images and map

The EXIF information, toolbar, and related images row are joined by a map showing the photo's location. This mode is unavailable if the photograph does not contain GPS coordinates.



Mode 5 includes the photo location map when GPS coordinates are available.

## Play videos

The Internal Video Player is the default and is integrated into PhotoGuru. Keep it selected for normal use. If a video has playback problems, try Internal Video Player in Compatibility Mode under Playback Settings.

VLC and MXPlayer are alternative players that must be installed separately before they can be selected. External players cannot be used for PhotoGuru screensaver playback. Enable Mute Videos in Playback Settings when the presentation should be silent.

## Background music during a slideshow

PhotoGuru can play MP3 background music while a slideshow is running. Place the MP3 files in the same source folder as the photos and videos you want to display. This lets you prepare a collection with its music together, whether you are presenting family photographs, showing a portfolio, or creating a display for a shared space.

Background music is supported with Dropbox, Microsoft OneDrive, local folders and accessible USB storage, Samba/CIFS network shares, and WebDAV.

## Prepare a slideshow with music

1. Choose a folder on a source that supports MP3 background music.
2. Place your MP3 tracks in that folder alongside the photos and videos. Add the files at the source, such as on the device, network share, or cloud service; copying a PhotoGuru bookmark does not copy music files.
3. Open the folder in PhotoGuru. If it was already playing when you added the music, reopen it so that the collection can be read again.
4. Start the slideshow and check that background music is audible. Adjust the device or connected audio system to a suitable listening level.

## **Organize music with the media it accompanies**

Keep the music with the media folder being played. For example, a folder called Holiday can contain its photographs and MP3 tracks together. If you prepare separate collections for different presentations, put the intended music in each presentation's source folder. A PhotoGuru organizational folder groups bookmarks; it is not a storage location for MP3 files.

## 8 Shape your presentation

Open Playback Settings from the toolbar's Settings button, or use Settings > Playback Settings. Choose the timing, movement, transitions, and framing that suit your photographs and viewing space.

### Display images without scaling

Picture Frame Style includes Display image unscaled and without frame. This uses a 1:1 pixel mapping: each image pixel maps to a screen pixel. It is useful when images have already been prepared for the device's rendering resolution, such as 3840 × 2160 for a compatible 4K setup.

An image smaller than the rendering area appears smaller. An image larger than the area is cropped, so only part of it may be visible. Use a scaled frame style when your collection contains mixed sizes and you want complete photographs to remain visible.

### Refresh folders during playback

Automatically reload image folders during playback controls how often PhotoGuru re-enumerates the folder. The default is No Refresh. Choose a refresh interval when photos or videos are added to or removed from the source while the slideshow is running.

Folder refresh is useful for changing office displays and shared albums. It updates the list of media in the folder; it is a separate control from the transition interval between individual photographs.

### Sound and video player choice

Use Mute Videos for quiet presentations, particularly screensavers and shared spaces. Keep the internal player unless you have a playback problem that another player resolves. See section 7 for compatibility mode and external players.

## 9 Display EXIF information and maps

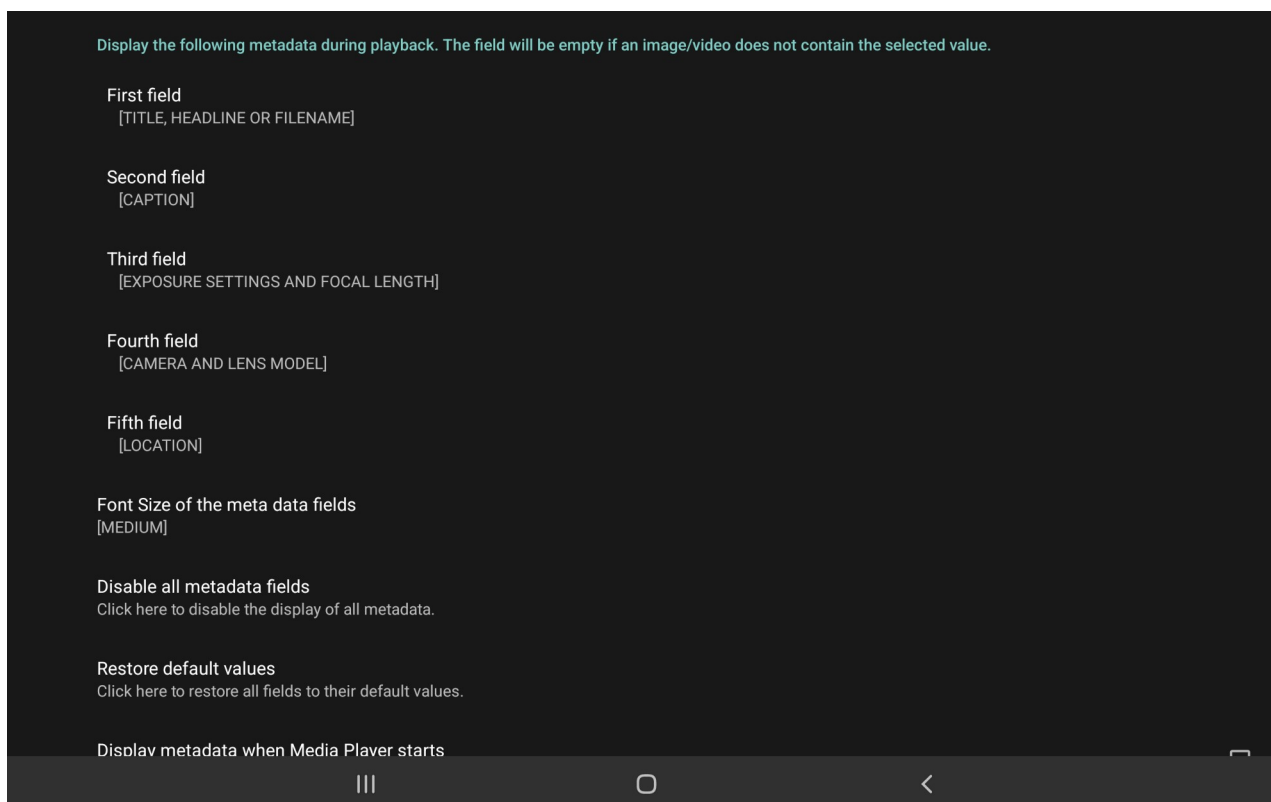
PhotoGuru can display captions, exposure settings, camera and lens information, and location data alongside a photograph. This is useful for discussing how an image was made or identifying where it was taken.



An enlarged inset makes the caption and camera information easy to read.

### Choose your metadata fields

1. Open Settings > Playback Settings > Display Of Meta Data.
2. Choose the EXIF information to show in each of the available fields. PhotoGuru supports up to five rows.
3. Return to playback and cycle to a view that displays metadata.



The metadata settings screen from the original manual shows the five configurable fields and text-size controls.

Available information includes filename, caption, copyright, exposure settings, camera and lens make or model, and GPS location. Empty fields and unavailable metadata are omitted. A photo can contain EXIF information that a hosting service does not pass through to PhotoGuru.

The illustrated settings screen also includes Font Size of the meta data fields, Disable all metadata fields, and Restore default values. Adjust the font size for readability on your display, disable metadata when you want a clean presentation, or restore the default field selections when you want to start again.

## Related images and photo locations

Continue cycling through playback views to show the related images row and, when GPS coordinates are available, the location map. A photo without coordinates cannot provide the map view.



The related images row and photo location map are highlighted.

## Understand missing information

An empty display field does not necessarily indicate a playback problem. The original photograph may not contain that field, an exported copy may omit it, or the hosting service may not provide it. PhotoGuru omits unavailable values instead of filling the screen with empty rows.

When checking a missing field, use a photograph for which you know the information is present. Compare the result with another image from the same source. This helps distinguish a setting problem from a difference in the files or information returned by the service.

# 10 Configure browsing and image quality

PhotoGuru separates thumbnail preferences from full-screen rendering preferences. Start with the view you want to change, then use the corresponding settings screen.

## Browser Settings

Browser Settings controls the thumbnail display, including the number of thumbnails per row. On phones and tablets, portrait and landscape orientation can use different values. Larger thumbnails make individual previews easier to inspect; smaller thumbnails show more of the collection at once.

## Image rendering quality

Open Settings > Advanced Settings and find Image rendering quality. This sets the maximum resolution used to display images. Higher settings can show finer detail, but may increase loading and rendering time.

Native 4K/UHD rendering uses 3840 × 2160 pixels on supported devices. A 4K television alone does not guarantee that PhotoGuru can render at that resolution; the playback device and its supported modes also matter. Choose a 4K/UHD option when it is available in PhotoGuru's settings.

For a sharp presentation, use sufficiently detailed source images as well as an appropriate rendering setting. Increasing the output resolution cannot recover detail missing from a low-resolution image.

## Reduce Network traffic

When enabled, Reduce Network traffic asks remote services for lower-resolution images where supported. This can reduce downloads on mobile connections, but may limit visible detail on a large screen. Disable it when image detail matters more than bandwidth. Some sources do not support the option.

## Balance detail and loading speed

If images load slowly, test a lower rendering resolution or enable Reduce Network traffic. If they look soft on a TV, check the rendering resolution, turn off the traffic reduction option, and confirm that the source contains a high-resolution version. Cache settings can also improve repeated playback; see section 11.

# 11 Configure storage and caching

PhotoGuru caches downloaded media to reduce repeated transfers and improve loading during subsequent viewing. Cache storage is temporary app data and is separate from your original media collection.

## Choose the cache location

Under Settings > Advanced Settings, use Temporary file and cache location to select where cached files are stored. Devices that support external storage may offer a microSD card or USB drive as an alternative to internal storage.

Choose a location with enough free space that will remain available during playback. A removable drive is useful only while it stays connected and accessible to PhotoGuru.

## Choose the cache size

Maximum size of the disk cache controls how much storage PhotoGuru can use for caching. A larger cache can help when you replay the same collection, particularly when it includes videos or large photos.

Leave enough free storage for the device and other apps. A cache setting should fit the available storage rather than consume every remaining byte. If storage is limited, reduce the cache size or select a suitable external location.

## Choose reliable storage

If you use external cache storage, keep the device and drive arrangement consistent. A USB drive that is regularly removed is less suitable for an unattended display than storage that remains connected. If a problem begins after storage is disconnected or changed, check the selected cache location first.

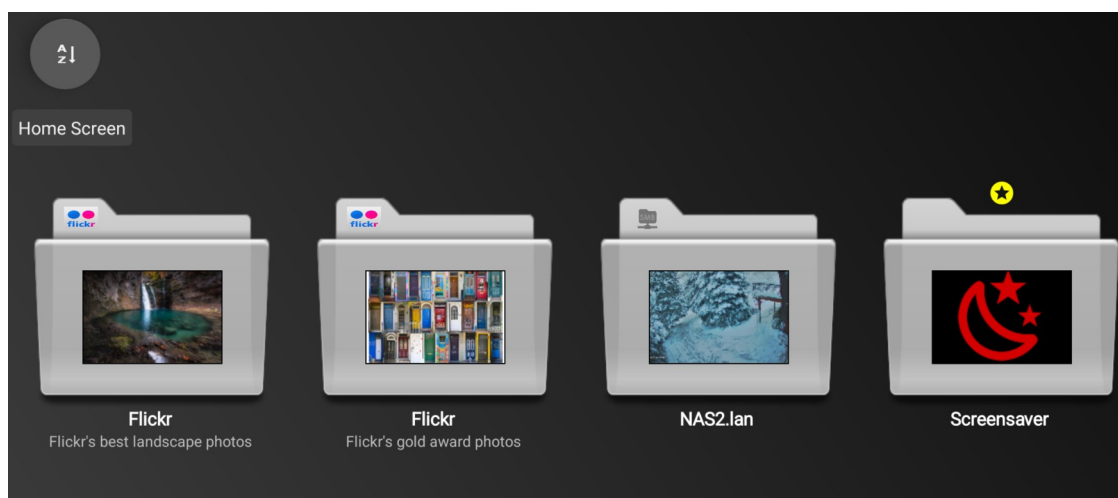
The cache is not a backup of your collection. Keep the original photographs and videos at their source and protect them according to your normal storage practices. Changing cache settings should be considered separately from organizing or safeguarding the originals.

# 12 Set up the screensaver

On devices that support it, PhotoGuru can act as the system screensaver, also called Daydream. Availability and the conditions that start it depend on the device's system settings.

## Enable PhotoGuru as the screensaver

1. Open Settings > Screensaver Settings.
2. Select Enable Screensaver.
3. In the device's system settings, select PhotoGuru as the screensaver.
4. Return to PhotoGuru and select Select photos.
5. Navigate to a folder, long-press it for about two seconds, and select Add folder to screensaver. Repeat for any additional folders.



The Screensaver folder contains bookmarks selected for screensaver playback.

## Manage screensaver folders

PhotoGuru creates a Screensaver folder on the Home Screen. It contains links to the folders selected for screensaver use. You can also copy and paste bookmarks into it with the clipboard, or remove them through their context menus.

## How screensaver playback selects media

PhotoGuru randomly chooses a folder from the Screensaver collection. It searches that folder and, when necessary, nested subfolders until it finds photos or videos. After completing the folder, or reaching the configured reload interval, it starts the selection process again.

In Screensaver Settings, Automatically reload image folders during playback also controls how long PhotoGuru stays with a selected folder. For example, a two-minute interval can move playback to another folder after two minutes even if the current folder has not finished.

Screensaver Settings has its own presentation controls. Use Mute Videos for quiet playback. External video players are unavailable in screensaver mode. For the advanced Fire TV method, see section 14.

# 13 Subscription and full access

PhotoGuru is subscription based. Once subscribed, all functionality is fully unlocked across the supported media sources. You do not need separate payments to use different sources.

## Subscribe to PhotoGuru

Open the subscription information in your installed version of PhotoGuru and follow the on-screen instructions. Review the price, billing period, and terms shown before confirming your subscription. Use the offer displayed in the app for current details.

After subscribing, return to PhotoGuru and use the app's full functionality. You can connect the supported media sources and configure browsing, playback, metadata, and screensaver options available on your device.

## What full access means

Your subscription unlocks PhotoGuru's functionality. Device and service capabilities still determine which rendering modes, file formats, metadata fields, and screensaver options are available. For example, a subscription cannot add GPS coordinates to a photo or make an unsupported device render images in native 4K.

## Using more than one device

A PhotoGuru subscription is valid on an unlimited number of devices, provided they use the same Amazon or Google account associated with the subscription. You do not need a separate subscription for each device using that account.

For an Amazon subscription, use the same Amazon account on each device. For a Google subscription, use the same Google account on each device. The subscription is associated with the account through which you subscribed.

## Keep useful subscription details

Keep the subscription confirmation or order reference so that you can identify the transaction if support is needed. Also note the store used to install PhotoGuru and the account associated with the subscription. These details help when changing devices or diagnosing unrecognized access.

For pricing and subscription terms, use the information displayed in your installed app and the confirmation provided during subscription. This manual does not replace those terms. Contact support if you need clarification about using your subscription with a particular combination of devices.

# 14 Automation with ADB

Advanced users can start a PhotoGuru slideshow through Android Debug Bridge (ADB). These examples assume that ADB is already configured and authorized to communicate with the device.

## Choose a player and folder

PlayerActivity starts the standard player for the selected folder. RandomPlayerActivity starts the random player, which searches for a media-containing folder, including nested subfolders. Its automatic presentation continues until the user interacts with the device.

Use folder\_title and folder\_subtitle to identify a PhotoGuru bookmark. Both values are case-sensitive. An omitted field acts as a wildcard. Choose a title or title-and-subtitle combination that identifies your intended folder.

## Start the standard player by title

```
adb shell am start -n com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser/.PlayerActivity --es "folder_title" "Flickr"
```

## Start the random player by title

```
adb shell am start -n com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser/.RandomPlayerActivity --es "folder_title" "Flickr"
```

## Match both title and subtitle

```
adb shell am start -n com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser/.RandomPlayerActivity --es "folder_title" "Flickr"
--es "folder_subtitle" "test123"
```

## Match the subtitle only

```
adb shell am start -n com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser/.RandomPlayerActivity --es "folder_subtitle"
"MyPhotos"
```

Enter each example as one command, even if it wraps across lines on the page. Replace the example values with the exact title and subtitle of your bookmark.

## Advanced Fire TV screensaver configuration

Fire TV devices may not expose third-party screensaver selection in the system interface. The following ADB method changes system settings and is dependent on Fire OS compatibility. Record the existing settings before making changes; do not assume the method works on every firmware version or on Fire tablets.

```
adb shell
settings put secure screensaver_components
com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser/com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser.DayDream
settings put system screen_off_timeout 5000
```

5000 is a timeout of 5,000 milliseconds, or five seconds. After configuration, select the screensaver folders as described in section 12. Native 4K rendering in Fire TV screensaver mode can differ from normal app playback.

## Choose an unambiguous folder match

A title-only command is convenient when that title identifies the intended bookmark. If several bookmarks share a title, add the subtitle to narrow the match. A subtitle-only command ignores the title, which is useful only when the subtitle itself identifies the target you intended.

For example, the title Flickr can identify the connected service, while a subtitle such as test123 identifies a particular bookmark within your setup. Replace both with the values displayed for your own folder. Preserve capitalization and spaces inside the quoted argument values.

## **Test launch commands independently**

First confirm that you can open the target folder manually in PhotoGuru. Then run the ADB launch command with the same folder identifiers. If manual access fails, fix the source connection before troubleshooting the launch command. A successful activity launch does not by itself establish that the selected media source can be read.

Test `PlayerActivity` when you need the selected folder's normal presentation. Test `RandomPlayerActivity` when you intend PhotoGuru to choose a media-containing folder from a potentially nested collection. The difference matters even when both commands use identical title and subtitle extras.

## **Keep Fire TV system changes separate**

Starting a player activity is an app launch. Changing `screensaver_components` and `screen_off_timeout` modifies device settings. Treat the screensaver commands as a separate configuration task, record the original values, and test the screensaver behavior after the change.

If the method does not work on your Fire OS version, do not assume that repeating the same commands will resolve a compatibility limitation. Use normal PhotoGuru playback while investigating device support. The screensaver's image quality and video behavior should be tested independently of the normal player.

# 15 Automation with Tasker and MacroDroid

Tasker and MacroDroid can launch PhotoGuru when a schedule or another event occurs. Configure the automation to send an explicit intent to a PhotoGuru activity, with extras identifying the folder to play.

## Intent values

| Field                     | Value                                                       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Target                    | Activity                                                    |
| Package                   | com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser                                    |
| Class for normal playback | com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser.PlayerActivity                     |
| Class for random playback | com.cmpsoft.MediaBrowser.RandomPlayerActivity               |
| Title extra               | folder_title with the exact bookmark title                  |
| Subtitle extra            | folder_subtitle with the exact bookmark subtitle, if needed |

The normal player uses the selected folder. The random player searches for a folder containing media, including within nested subfolders. Matching is case-sensitive; omit a title or subtitle field only when you intend it to act as a wildcard.

## MacroDroid

1. Create a macro with the trigger you want, such as a scheduled time.
2. Add a Send Intent action. In versions that group it this way, it is under Connectivity.
3. Set the target to Activity and enter the package and class from the table.
4. Add folder\_title as an extra with the bookmark's title. Add folder\_subtitle if you need to narrow the match.
5. Save and test the macro before using it unattended.

## Tasker

1. Create a task, then add a Send Intent action. In versions that group it this way, look under System.
2. Set the target to Activity and enter PhotoGuru's package and the player class.
3. In an Extra field, use the name:value format shown below. Add the subtitle extra only when needed.
4. Associate the task with the profile or schedule that should start it, then test it.

```
folder_title:Flickr  
folder_subtitle:test123
```

Tasker uses a colon between the extra name and value. Menu labels can vary by automation app version. If the slideshow does not start, check the exact folder names, target activity, and whether the device allows the automation app to launch activities in the current state.

## Example of a scheduled presentation

To prepare a morning display, create a time-based trigger in your automation app and associate it with a PhotoGuru launch action. Choose `PlayerActivity` for a specific folder or `RandomPlayerActivity` for selection within a nested collection. Enter the exact folder identifiers, then run the action manually before waiting for the schedule.

Test the scheduled event on the device in its normal operating state. A working manual action confirms the intent values, while a working scheduled event also checks the trigger and the device's handling of the automation app. Keep those tests separate so that a missed schedule is not mistaken for a folder-matching problem.

## Check intent extras carefully

In MacroDroid, enter the extra name and value in the fields offered by Send Intent. In Tasker, use the `name:value` syntax in its Extra fields. The required names are `folder_title` and `folder_subtitle`. Do not substitute a display label such as Folder Title for the actual extra name.

Use `folder_subtitle` only when it contributes to the match you want. Leaving it out makes it a wildcard; including the wrong value can prevent a title that would otherwise match from identifying the intended folder. Check spelling, capitalization, and spaces against the bookmark displayed in PhotoGuru.

## Maintain automations after reorganizing

After renaming or replacing a bookmark, revisit the launch action and test its identifiers. A schedule can continue to trigger correctly even when its target no longer matches the folder you intended. Record the purpose of each automation so that you know which presentation to verify when your collection changes.

# 16 Compatibility and support

## Devices and display modes

PhotoGuru is designed for Android phones and tablets, Android TV devices, and Amazon Fire TV devices. Check the app's store listing on your device for installation compatibility. Screensaver availability, external storage access, and rendering modes depend on the device and system software.

Native 4K/UHD image rendering is available on supported playback devices. Check Image rendering quality in Advanced Settings for the modes your installation offers. Normal playback and screensaver playback can have different capabilities.

## Photo and video formats

Photo formats include JPEG, GIF, PNG, and BMP. HEIF and HEIC support depends on the Android device. Video formats listed for PhotoGuru include MP4, 3GP, MKV, M4V, MOV, and 3G2. Playback also depends on the codecs inside the file and the capabilities of the selected video player.

MP3 background music is supported for the sources listed in section 4. Place music files in the same folder as the photos and videos. For setup, audio checks, and troubleshooting, see Background music during a slideshow in section 7.

## Languages

Languages listed for PhotoGuru include English, German, Italian, Polish, Czech, Romanian, and French. Use the language options available in your installed app.

## Contact support

For questions, problems, or suggestions, email [gurusupport@cmpsoft.com](mailto:gurusupport@cmpsoft.com) in English or German. You can also open the product support links in PhotoGuru's settings.

To help identify a problem, include:

- Your device model and Android or Fire OS version.
- The PhotoGuru version and the store used to install it.
- The media source and whether the problem affects photos, videos, or both.
- The steps that reproduce the problem and the exact error message, if one appears.
- For playback issues, the file format and selected video player.
- For subscription issues, the subscription status and order reference.

A screenshot can help explain a display or settings issue. Remove private information before sending it, and never include passwords. For product information and documentation, visit [cmpsoft.com](http://cmpsoft.com).

## Describe the context when contacting support

Explain whether the problem occurs during browsing, normal slideshow playback, screensaver playback, or an automated launch. Include whether it affects a local folder, a cloud service, or a network connection. These distinctions help identify the relevant part of the setup.

When suggesting an improvement, describe what you are trying to accomplish and where the current workflow becomes difficult. For example, say that you are preparing a narrated portfolio, maintaining an office display, or organizing a large family collection. The intended task is useful context for evaluating a feature request.