

How to edit stop-motion animation using Microsoft Photo Story 3 (free PC software) **By Erica Kohn of Reel Youth**

Photo Story 3 is a free and simple way to edit a series of photos you have taken, add music, title, credits and effects to create a stop-motion animation.

Open Photo Story 3

If you do not have it, you can download it at http://www.download.com/Photo-Story-3-for-Windows/3000-2204_4-10339155.html Follow the on screen instructions to install it onto your computer.

“Begin a New Story”

“Next>”

Import and Arrange Your Pictures

“Import Pictures”

“Browse” to the folder on your computer containing the photos. Select all the photos (CTRL A); OR select certain pictures from the folder (highlight the first picture & SHIFT click on the last picture). Make sure you import one background photo for the title and another for the credits.

“OK”

you will see the pictures in the timeline at the bottom of the screen

Arrange the pictures in the desired order, with the picture that will serve as a backdrop to the title at the beginning and the picture that will serve as a backdrop to the credits at the end.

*To change the order of the pictures: select the picture you want to move and use the arrows on the right to move the picture to its intended location.

*To delete a picture: select picture and press the “x” and “OK” at the right of the timeline to delete it.

*To automatically adjust the colour, rotation or size of a picture, click one of the pictures below the previewed picture.

Manually: click “edit” and select edit, autofix or add effect in the tabbed menu.

Edit: to rotate and crop

Autofix: to correct colour contrast, correct colour levels or correct red eye (On or Off)

Add effect: select effect from a drop down menu. If desired, check the box that transfers the effect to all photos in timeline.

“Save Project” browse for desired folder and enter a name for the project.

“Next>”

Add a Title to Your Pictures

Select photo to add title and type title in box at right. Select font style, colour or orientation to adjust attributes of the title.

Select the photo for the backdrop to the credits and type credits to right. Sample credits follow:

Created by:
Sam McGee
Ella Fitzgerald
Bobby Wiseman

@ The School of Life

Music:
Bobby Wiseman

“Next>”

Narrate your pictures and customize motion

Select first frame

“Customize Motion”

in the Motion and Duration tab,

specify start and end position of motion

set start position to be same as the end position of the previous picture

set end position to be same as start position

number of seconds to display the picture (between 2 and 0.25 depending on the number of pictures you have and how gradual the movement is between frames. (more gradual movement in photos and more photos, the shorter the duration to display the picture)

in the Transition Tab,

select start current picture using a transition if you want to use a transition leading into the picture. Select from the list.

Otherwise, de-select start current picture using a transition.

“Save”

“>”

repeat for each photo.

The program is pretty forgiving. Try different things and preview to see how they come together.

“Next >”

Add background music

Choose the frame you would like to music to come in on.

“Select music” if you have music you would like to add to the film.

“Create Music” if you want to try creating music from their bank.

“Delete Music”to try again.

“Preview” to see the results.

“Save Project”

“Next >”

Save your story

Save your story for playback on your computer, computer profile 2.

View film!

Good Luck and have fun!

Note: for films to be submitted to Reel Youth, all music used must be original or you must have permission to use it.

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