

Windows XP VIEW PHOTOS AS FILMSTRIP



© Darry D Eggleston, 813.677.2871, DarryD@darryd.com

This same opening page appears in three lessons: this one, Changing Photos & Showing Photos. All other paragraphs are specific based upon the topic.

This is how to view photos using Windows XP Explorer. Windows XP Explorer is accessed by:

1. IF your photos are contained in the “My Pictures” folder of “My Documents” (which is the case normally), click on Start > My Pictures (Figure 1).
 2. IF your photos are contained in a separate folder (outside “My Documents”) on a specific drive, you must use a different procedure. For example, my photos for this year are located in C:\Photos 2005 (the folder “Photos 2005” on the C drive).
- ① Click on Start > My Computer.
 - ② Double-click on the drive containing the photos’ folder.
 - ③ Double-click on the folder containing the photos.

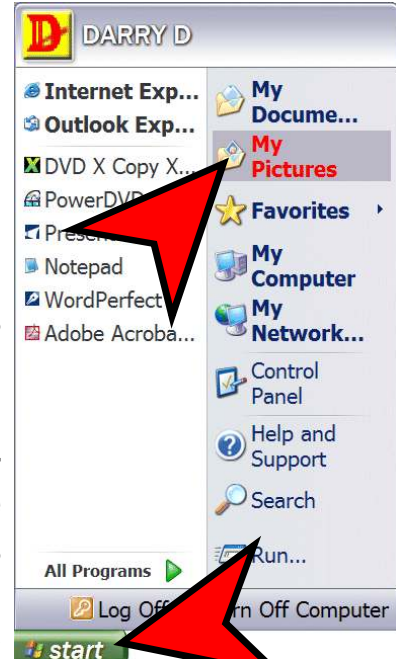


Figure 1

This process will *not* work in the “My Pictures” folder of “My Documents” folder *unless* you create a “My” (or some-such named) folder and *move* all the contents of the “My Pictures” folder into it. Then, delete the “My Pictures” folder. Finally, rename the “My” folder to “My Pictures”. When completed, if you click on Start > My Pictures, this newly created folder will open as the old one did.

VIEWING PHOTOS

1. The default (that which occurs unless the user can and does change it) view in My Pictures is “Thumbnail” which shows a small version of the photo (Figure 2).

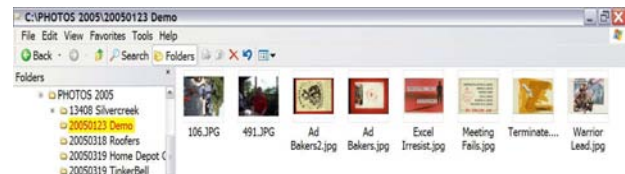


Figure 2

Although it appears to be valuable, it is not as valuable as a little-known alternative.

Let's set it to that *better* alternative.

2. First, customize this folder (Figure 3):

- ❶ RIGHT-click on the file-side (right pane).
- ❷ Left-click on “Customize This Folder...”

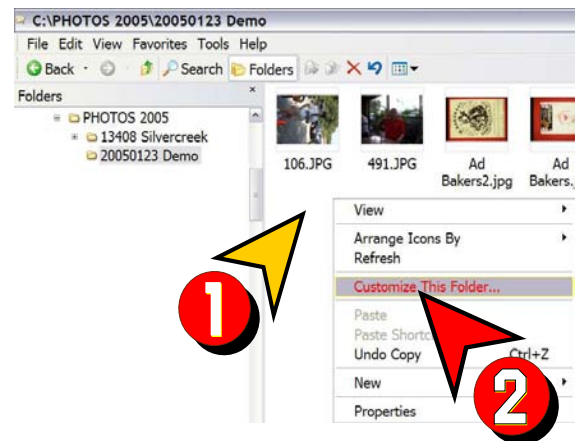


Figure 3

NOTE: IF you click on a folder:

- ❶ RIGHT-click on the folder.
- ❷ Left-click on “Properties”.
- ❸ Left-click on “Customize” tab.
- ❹ Select “Photo Album...” view.

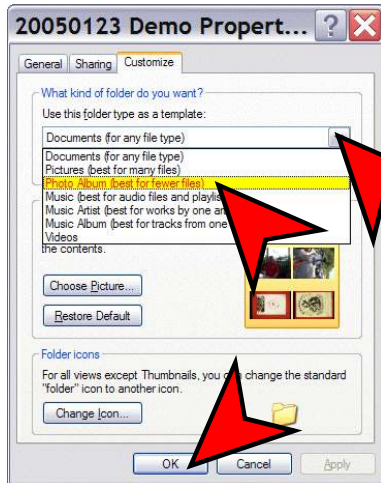


Figure 4

3. Change from the default view (Figure 4):

- ❶ Click on down-arrowhead next to “Documents (for any file type).”
- ❷ Left-click on “Photo Album (best for fewer files).”

6. The new “filmstrip” view places small thumbnails at the bottom while showing the first photo at the top (Figure 5).

You can view the *next* photo by clicking on the *downward* or *right* arrow keys, on the keyboard (Figure 6).

You can view the *previous* photo by clicking on the *upward* or the *left* key, on the keyboard (Figure 6).



Figure 5

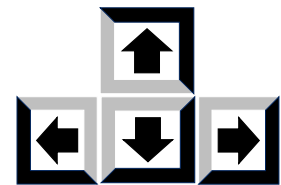


Figure 6

7. You can change the view back to “thumbnails” or any other option by clicking on “View,” on the MenuBar, or clicking on the “View” icon (Figure 7).



Figure 7