



Expectal Photo Gallery

Version 2.0.1

User Guide

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Thank you for your interest in the Expectal Photo Gallery.

What is the Expectal Photo Gallery?

Expectal Photo Gallery ("EPG") is a flash based component for presenting photographs on your web site. Using EPG you can make your photos accessible through the Internet to your friends, family or anybody through a great looking, user-friendly interface. EPG is very easy to install and you can present your unique online photo gallery in less than 5 minutes after you download the free version or buy a full version of the product.

Features

- cool visual presence
- user-friendly, intuitive interface
- very easy to install / use
- use your own music
- add captions to your images
- customize the design to fit your needs

Requirements

In order to use the EPG you need to have your own web space. One possibility is to use one of the free hosting services. E.g. www.doteasy.com/

Free and Full version

The EPG comes in two versions, a Free and a Full (Paid) version.

Free Version

The free version is available for a free download at www.expectal.com/photo_gallery/download. There are no restrictions in using the free version as for as number of photo albums and photos you can use. Although there are some features not available in free version. Please check comparison table below for more details.

The free version contains an advertisement of expectal.com. This shows up at the start up of the photo gallery for 5 seconds and hides behind the bottom thumbnails panel. There is a one line of text (part of the advertisement) visible at all times at the very bottom of the EPG interface. This will say "Powered By Expectal.com" although this text can be changed at anytime.

Free version photogallery.zip package contains:

- this user guide – user_guide.pdf
- photogallery.html
- photogallery.swf
- data.xml
- photos dir. with photographs

Full Version

























The full version of the EPG does NOT have any advertisement. Basically the full version is exactly the same as the free version but in the HTML code you need to enter a license key to the photogallery.swf file. The license key is generated once you'll buy the full version on our website and send to you by email. This way you can use files from any free version and add the license key to the HTML code to the full version.

The full version, which includes a license key also, IS LIMITED to ONE DOMAIN ONLY. You can only use the full version of EPG on one domain e.g. www.mydomain.com. Under this domain you can use EPG in any depth. That means you can have the gallery in any folder under that specific domain, e.g. www.mydomain.com/gallery/ or www.gallery.mydomain.com/ and it will still work fine. This is done to protect paying customers and prevent other people from stealing full version of the product and use it on their websites.

Please look at the "How to activate full version?" section in this document to see exactly how to use your license key.

Full version comes with many interesting features compare to free version. Please have a look at comparison table below to see the list of them.

FREE vs. FULL Version Comparison Table

	FREE	FULL
No Advertisement		
Features		
Unlimited photo albums		
Unlimited photos		
Versatility - any platform, any browser		
Resizable interface		
Background music		
Background music looping setup		
Captions		
Customize the design by changing displays color		
Customize the design by changing panels color		
Customize the design by changing background color and alpha		
Customize the design by changing image border color		
Price	FREE	\$19.00

Music

Music track "Raindrops on the window", by Dan Graham, purchased from Shockwave-sound.com is part of the Expectal Photo Gallery v2 software product. This music can only be used within the context of Expectal Photo Gallery v2 software package and may not be distributed by itself, or bundled with any other software. Users of Expectal Photo Gallery v2 may not mix the music with other music, add instruments or song, or in any other way change the instrumentation or composition.

Description

The main focus of the EPG is put on extreme easy controls with minimum operating elements while keeping all the functions necessary, which together with vivid graphics provides a visual stunning presentation of your photographs.

Interface

The EPG flash interface consists of the following parts:

- Top: albums panel (Image 1: # 1, 2, 3)

Place where you can see the list of your albums with photographs and select the one you want to see. You can open / close top albums panel in order to see / hide list of photo albums.

- Bottom: thumbnails panel (Image 1: # 5, 6, 7)

Place where thumbnails of your photographs of the selected photo album are positioned, waiting for user to choose which photographs to display. It is also used for displaying the advertisement when using the free version of EPG.

- Sound control: (Image 1: # 3)

THE sound control is situated on the right side of the control panel and is visible only if the user specifies music for EPG.

- Main image: (Image 1: # 4)

Main image area shows your photographs in full size or if they are bigger than the available area, they are resized to the main image area keeping the proportions.



Image 1: EPG visual interface.

Explanation:

1 – Area with arrow for opening / closing top albums panel. Albums panel can be opened / closed by clicking anywhere within its area except for the sound control area.

2 – Name of currently selected photo album.

3 – Sound control (visible only if music is specified).

4 – Main image area showing a photograph of the selected thumbnail.

5 – Bottom thumbnails panel showing list of thumbnails in the selected photo album. Thumbnails are lined in a row, which is partly visible and can be scrolled. The selected thumbnail is always in the middle.

6 – Thumbnail pointer showing the number of actually selected thumbnails (first digit) of total number of thumbnails in the selected photo album (second digit).



7 – Bottom area of the thumbnail panel used for showing part of an advertisement. Also suitable for opening the thumbnail panel to see the full advertisement. Both functions are ONLY in the free version of the EPG.

8 – Caption of the selected image.

File Structure

The EPG includes following files. All of them are required in order to properly function. All files are included in photogallery.zip file that can be downloaded from our website.

- photogallery.swf

Flash interface file.

- photogallery.html

HTML file containing photogallery.swf. You will place this HTML file on your web server together with all other files and access it in your favorite browser to see your photo gallery.

- data.xml

Data storage file. File you'll need to edit in order to show your photographs in EPG. Please find out how, later on in this document.

- Your photographs to show in EPG

Your photographs files in .jpg format ONLY. Images cannot be in a progressive formatted. Images will not show up in EPG if they are not .jpg or they are .jpg with a progressive formatting.

Tips

- You can use any folder structure to separate you photographs, but then don't forget to specify the path to your images in data.xml file.
- Do not rename any of these files unless you really know what consequences it has. Data.xml file should not be renamed at all.

How to use the EPG Tutorial

4 easy steps to present your photographs

1. Download a free version from www.expectal.com/photo_gallery/download.

Create a directory; give it a name e.g. "MyPhotoGallery". Extract all files into that directory.

2. Prepare your photos.

For example if you have 4 images of your family. Make sure you have them all in non-progressive .jpg file format. In MyPhotoGallery directory create another folder called "PathToMyPhotos". Place all your photographs into PathToMyPhotos directory. Rename them to myPhoto1.jpg, myPhoto2.jpg, myPhoto3.jpg, myPhoto4.jpg.

3. Change data.xml file.

For example if you want the name of your photo album to be "My Photo Album". Open data.xml file in your favorite text editor (e.g. notepad) and change it to look like this.

```
<photoGallery>
  <photoAlbum name="My Photo Album" pathToPhotos="PathToMyPhotos/">
    <photo>myPhoto1.jpg</photo>
    <photo>myPhoto2.jpg</photo>
    <photo>myPhoto3.jpg</photo>
    <photo>myPhoto4.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
</photoGallery>
```

4. Upload files to your server space.

Last step is to upload these files to your server:

- photogallery.html
- photogallery.swf
- data.xml
- PathToMyPhotos directory together with all images inside

For example if your domain name is www.yourDomain.com and you placed all the files into "MyServerFolder" folder on your server space then you can access your photo gallery at www.yourDomain.com/MyServerFolder/photogallery.html. Enjoy your images.

Customizing the design of EPG

What can you customize?

You can customize the following (refer to an image below to see what we are talking about):

1. color of the panels
2. color of the displays (top and bottom display)
3. color and alpha of the EPG background
4. color of the image border
5. color of the HTML background of EPG (Please see "How to change the HTML background color of EPG?" in "FAQ" section for more details.)

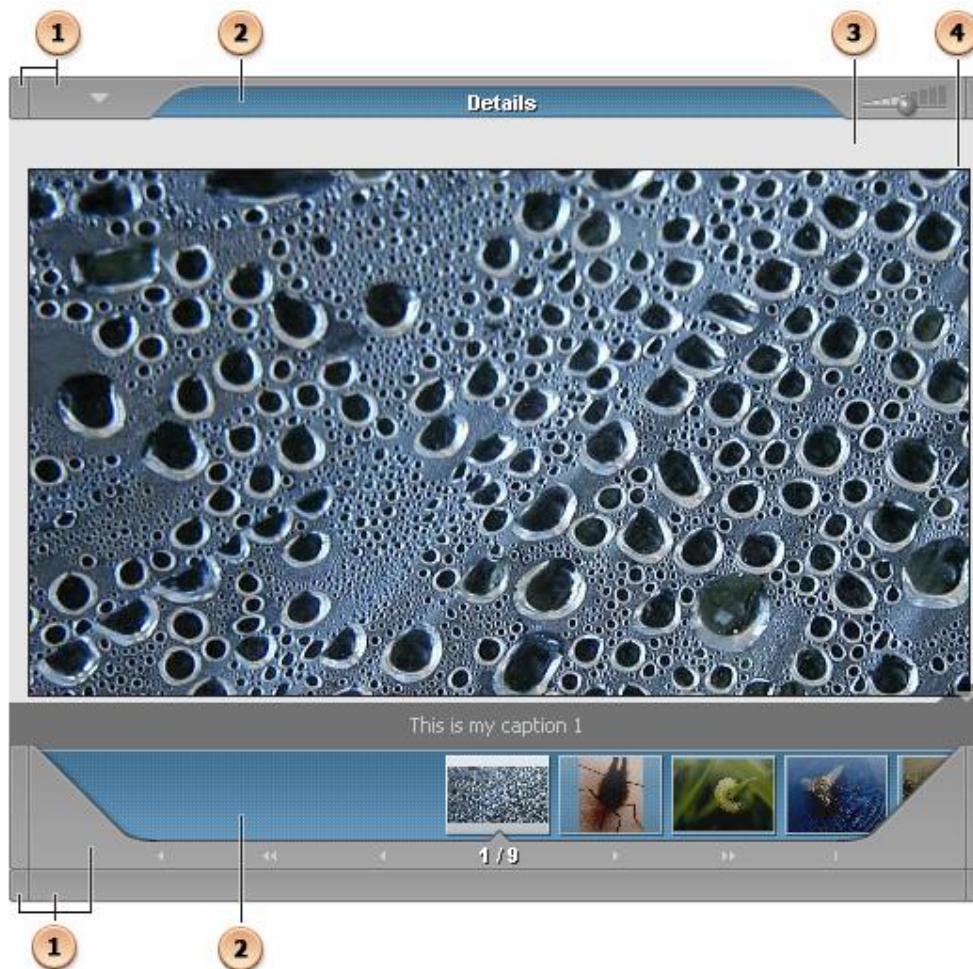


Image 2: EPG design change elements.

How do you customize the design?

Customizing of EPG design is done by changing colors in proper XML nodes in data.xml file. XML nodes are properly named so it shouldn't be a problem to identify which node customizes which part

of the EPG. Please have a look at the following image to see sample data.xml content with XML nodes for design changes highlighted.

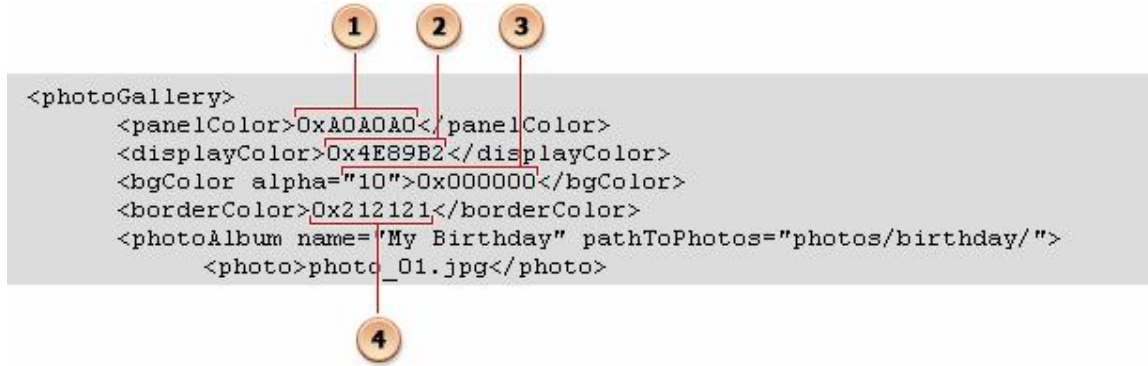


Image 3: XML nodes used for customizing the design of EPG.

Important!

These XML nodes are included in data.xml by default, but WILL ONLY WORK in FULL version.

Color format

Color codes in data.xml file should be in format 0x000000.

FAQ

How do I add my photos to the EPG?

First of all you need to have your photos in .jpg file format that is not progressively formatted. Then it's a good idea to place all your photographs in one or more directories so you can easily navigate and separate them.

For example you have 10 photographs. First 4 are from your birthday, other 3 are from your holiday and the rest are photos of your dog. You can organize them in the directories like this:

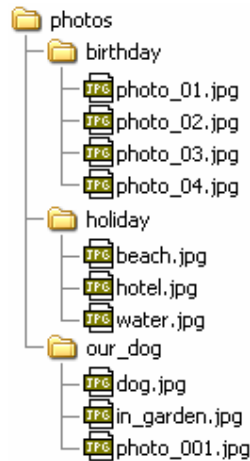


Image 4: Sample file structure of your photographs.

After you have prepared your photographs, you should change the data.xml file to correspond with your file structure. You can use your favorite text editor to edit data.xml file. Your data.xml file should look like this:

```

<photoGallery>
  <photoAlbum name="My Birthday" pathToPhotos="photos/birthday/">
    <photo>photo_01.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_02.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_03.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_04.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
  <photoAlbum name="Our Dog" pathToPhotos="photos/our_dog/">
    <photo>dog.jpg</photo>
    <photo>in_garden.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_001.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
  <photoAlbum name="Holiday - Egypt" pathToPhotos="photos/holiday/">
    <photo>water.jpg</photo>
    <photo>beach.jpg</photo>
    <photo>hotel.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
</photoGallery>
  
```

While editing the data.xml file, you choose the order of photo albums in your photo gallery and also the order of each photo in photo album. Photo albums and photos will be exactly in the order you type them in the data.xml file.

Each photo album has its block of code in the data.xml. You can set a different name and path to photographs for each photo album. In our example we have 3 photo albums with names "My Birthday", "Our Dog" and "Holiday – Egypt".

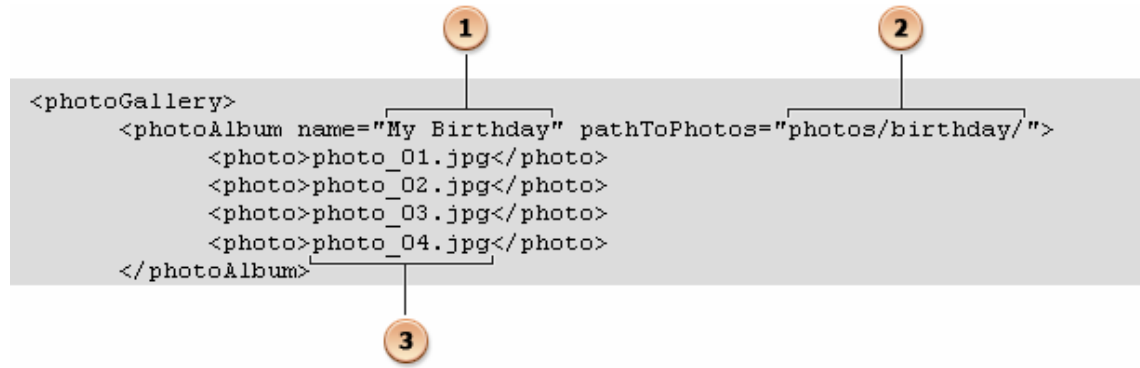


Image 5: Sample xml structure of photo album.

Explanation:

- 1 – The name of the photo album.
- 2 – Path to photographs for this photo album.
- 3 – Name of the photograph in the photo album.

In our example we have placed all photographs from our birthday party into the directory photos/birthday/ so we used it as a path to the photographs. In the name of the photograph itself, don't place the path to it since it's already specified in pathToPhotos parameter.

How do I use EPG on my website?

In the package photogallery.zip that you have downloaded from the expectal.com website you have the HTML document photogallery.html. This file contains html code with object of our EPG. Sample of EPG html object is here:

```
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#ve
rsion=7,0,0,0" width="600" height="500" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="photogallery.swf" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="photogallery.swf" menu="false" quality="high" scale="noscale"
salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="600" height="500" name="photogallery"
align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain" type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
```


This is the default html object code and you don't have to modify it in order for the EPG to work. You can use this HTML document and place it on your server or copy this object into any other HTML file of your website to place the EPG in it.

Although this code is working as is, you have the following options to customize the look of your EPG to fit your needs. You can customize:

- Path to photogallery.swf
- Width and height
- Background color

How to change the path to the photogallery.swf?

Why would u need to change the path to photogallery.swf? The reason is, a different directory structure on your server or placing photogallery.html file somewhere else then photogallery.swf file.

Let's say you want to show EPG on my_photos.html page and you have this html page stored in similar directory structure to this:



Image 6: Sample directory structure on the server.

You see that your photogallery.swf file is in the same directory as my_photos.html and you don't have to change anything in the default html object code. So it will look like this:

```
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=7,0,0,0" width="600" height="500" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="photogallery.swf" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="photogallery.swf" menu="false" quality="high" scale="noscale"
salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="600" height="500" name="photogallery"
align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain" type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
```

But in case your my_photos.html would reside in different directory as photogallery.swf file, e.g. like this:



Image 7: Sample directory structure on the server.

In this case you'd need to change path to photogallery.swf in your HTML object code like this:

```

<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=7,0,0,0" width="510" height="400" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="graphics/photogallery/photogallery.swf" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="graphics/photogallery/photogallery.swf" menu="false"
quality="high" scale="noscale" salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="500"
height="400" name="photogallery" align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain"
type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
  
```

In the HTML object code you have to change the parameter twice. Once for the Internet Explorer browser and the second time for other browsers like Opera, Netscape etc.

How to change the HTML background color of EPG?

You have the option to change HTML background color of EPG to best fit your needs for your HTML page. This is different from EPG background and color (see Customizing the EPG Design section for more details). This change is done simply, by changing bgcolor parameter in the HTML object to any hex code you like.

```

<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=7,0,0,0" width="600" height="500" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="photogallery.swf" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="photogallery.swf" menu="false" quality="high" scale="noscale"
salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="600" height="500" name="photogallery"
align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain" type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
  
```


How to change the size of EPG?

Another option you have, is to change the width and height of the EPG. By changing these parameters you reset the size of the EPG and there by also set the size available for showing your images in the EPG. All images you use with the EPG, resize to the max available space in the EPG keeping the ratio if they are bigger than the EPG can fit. In photogallery.html, change the width and the height parameters, to apply width and height of the EPG.

```
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=7,0,0,0" width="600" height="500" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="photogallery.swf" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="photogallery.swf" menu="false" quality="high" scale="noscale"
salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="600" height="500" name="photogallery"
align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain" type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
```

There is a minimum size of the EPG required in order to initialize correctly.

Minimum width is 500 pixels.

Minimum height is 200 pixels.

If you use any values lower than these the EPG will not initialize properly and will show an error message.

Tip

Do not use large resolution images for the EPG that have a small width and height. Images will be resized anyway but their file size will still be big and might cause download problems or delays to users with a slower Internet connection.

How do I add caption to my images?

To add caption you need to add "caption" attribute to each <photo> you want to have a caption with.

```
<photo caption="This is sample caption text.">photo_01.jpg</photo>
```

How do I add music to my EPG?

This feature is only available in FULL version of EPG.

One of the nice features of the EPG is the option of having you own music playing in the background while users, are browsing through your images. Like the one, that is on the sample photo gallery at www.expectal.com/photo_gallery. You can choose if you want to have music playing or not. In case you don't want to have music, even the sound control will not be visible in the EPG.



Image 8: Sound control.

To use music with your EPG:

1. Prepare your music file. It can only be in .mp3 format. There are no size restrictions but a bigger file size means a higher bandwidth requirement.
2. Upload it to the server next to your photogallery.swf file or to any directory.
3. Change your data.xml file. You need to add one line into the data.xml with the name of your file and path to it.

Let's say you placed your music file "my_music.mp3" next to your photogallery.swf file. Then the line you'll need to add will be:

```
<soundFile>my_music.mp3</soundFile>
```

If you put your my_music.mp3 file into a directory let's say "music" you will add:

```
<soundFile>music/my_music.mp3</soundFile>
```

So at the end your data.xml file should look like this:

```
<photoGallery>
  <soundFile>my_music.mp3</soundFile>
  <photoAlbum name="My Birthday" pathToPhotos="photos/birthday/">
    <photo>photo_01.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_02.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_03.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_04.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
  <photoAlbum name="Our Dog" pathToPhotos="photos/our_dog/">
    <photo>dog.jpg</photo>
    <photo>in_garden.jpg</photo>
    <photo>photo_001.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
  <photoAlbum name="Holiday - Egypt" pathToPhotos="photos/holiday/">
    <photo>water.jpg</photo>
    <photo>beach.jpg</photo>
    <photo>hotel.jpg</photo>
  </photoAlbum>
</photoGallery>
```

How do I stop looping of my music?

Add the following attribute to soundFile XML node. This feature is only available in FULL version of EPG. Your background music will then play only once.

```
<soundFile loop="false">music/my_music.mp3</soundFile>
```




How do I activate full version?

You can activate the full version of EPG from any of the free version files using your license key. License key should be purchased at www.expectal.com. One license key is limited to only one domain. Your license key can look like this:

HCmV%2fEdVPSAEZx

Once you have your license key you need to add it to the HTML object code to turn the free version into a full version. After you use your license key, the HTML object code should look like this:

```
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://fpdownload.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=7,0,0,0" width="600" height="500" id="photogallery" align="middle">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="movie" value="photogallery.swf?licence=HCmV%2fEdVPSAEZx" />
  <param name="menu" value="false" />
  <param name="quality" value="high" />
  <param name="scale" value="noscale" />
  <param name="salign" value="lt" />
  <param name="bgcolor" value="#ACACAC" />
  <embed src="photogallery.swf?licence=HCmV%2fEdVPSAEZx" menu="false"
quality="high" scale="noscale" salign="lt" bgcolor="#ACACAC" width="600"
height="500" name="photogallery" align="middle" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain"
type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" />
</object>
```

Technical Information

Flash Player Version

For correct use of the EPG you and the users of your EPG need to have a Flash Player 7 or later installed.

Server

The EPG can be placed on any type of server OS (Windows, Linux ...). There is no need to have any server side script (PHP, ASP ...) available in order to use the EPG.

Terms of use

By downloading the free version or purchasing the full version you agree on Expectal's Terms of Use. Terms of use can be found at www.expectal.com/company/#terms. Without agreeing to these terms you won't be able to download the free or buy the full version of the EPG.

Support

We tried to make the component reliable, simple and easy to understand. However, there may be some individual questions and wishes of the user. Please feel free to contact our customer support with any problems, bugs, wishes or compliments :)

support@expectal.com
www.expectal.com