



Using Soundslides

Soundslides is a program that allows you to easily create photo slideshows with audio. To use Soundslides, you should first optimize your photos using Photoshop. Save at the proper dimensions and use the Save For Web feature. Save them all in a folder together, with nothing else in the folder.

You will also need an mp3 file. To do a photo slideshow without audio, you can use a silent mp3 (I know, it's a hack). We'll do this first, then add real audio later.

When you open up Soundslides, you are asked to create a new slideshow or to open an existing one. Choose New and save it on the computer. This creates a folder that the project will be stored in. Name it your lastname (no spaces, caps, etc.) The default settings for Standard size create two slideshows, one is 400x300 and one is 600x450. I would recommend using the Custom Slideshow options to select your own dimensions.

Click on Custom Slideshow. Consider the size you made your jpgs. Leave the audio and image spacing defaults. Click on the JPG button to select your folder of jpgs. Click on the SND button to select your mp3 file.

When the Soundslides interface opens, you can modify the project:

- Slides: You can add or delete photos from the slideshow
- Slide Info: Give captions to each photo
- Template: Adjust display options (Show captions by default); fonts (change typefaces, sizes, and caption background opacity); transitions (modify transitions and time); shell (minimal options for changing template, leave as default)
- Project Info: Change Headline and add Credits
- Audio: Upload New Audio File

In the timeline at the bottom, you can scroll through the photos. Timing between slides can be adjusted with the bars between clips.

Save frequently. The test button will open a test version in a browser. Use Export when you have completed the project. Soundslides creates an swf (flash file) and other associated files. To use on the Web, we will be uploading your entire directory, then using Javascript to have a small window open from your story to play the slideshow.

```
<a  
href="filename.html"onclick="javascript:window.open('lastname/index.html','Slideshow',  
width=650,height=600,scrollbars=yes,resizable=yes,screenX=50,screenY=250,top=50,le  
ft=250'); return false ;" >Link Text</a>
```

You can also embed the swf in any Web page. In Dreamweaver, select Insert, Media, Flash, then find the file. But you still must have all the other files that Soundslides creates for it to work on the Web.