

HOW TO: Actions, Batch Processing and Droplets

Info:

What is an action?

An action is an automation you want to repeat over and over again, a series of steps you create. (ex: resizing for the web, creating a border)

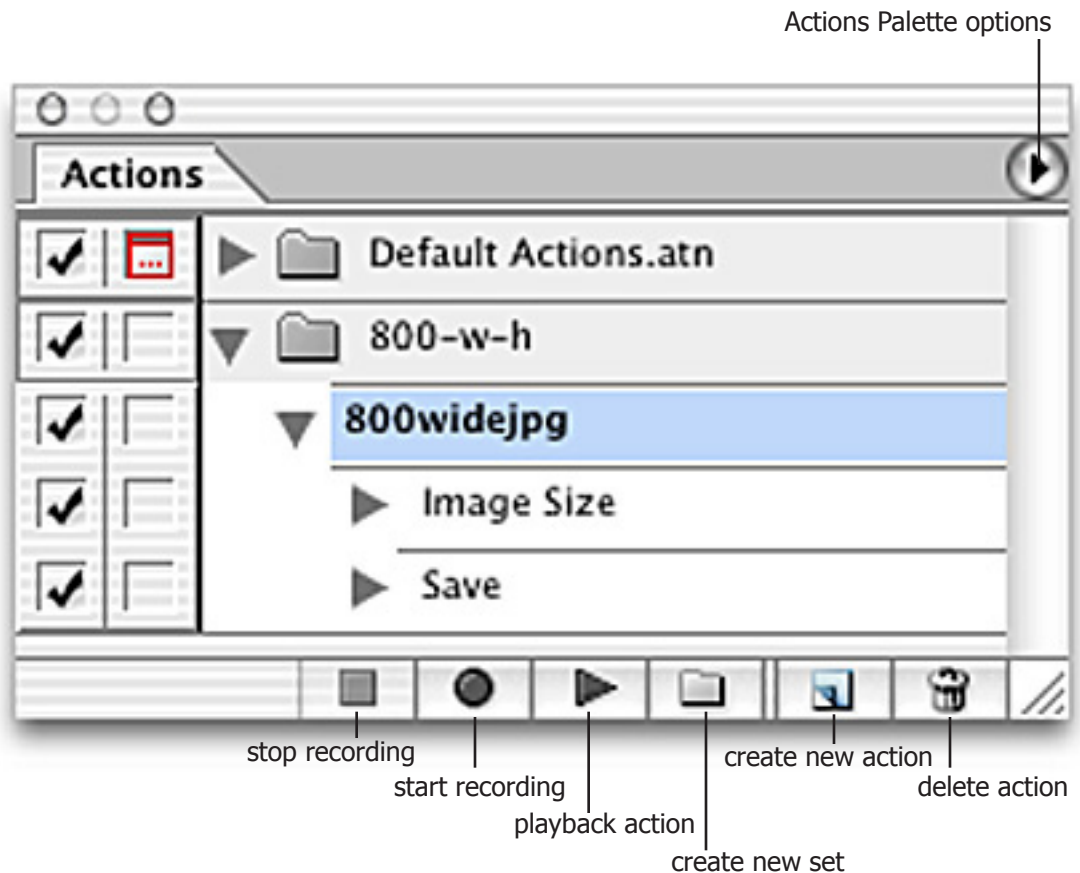
Actions reduce repetitive steps in the workflow.

What is a droplet?

A drag and drop action, A droplet is created from an action you have already made. With many images in a folder, drag the folder to your droplet, on your desktop. The droplet will automate your action to all images in the folder and deposit them in a different folder you predefined.

Actions:

- 1) open image
- 2) open Action Palette
Choose:
-Window - Actions
- 3) click the create new action button at the bottom of Actions Palette
- 4) as you move through the steps, the action is recording your EVERY move.
- 5) when done recording the steps needed, click the stop recording button at the bottom of the Actions Palette
- 6) open a new image to apply the action to
- 7) click the playback action button at the bottom of the Actions Palette



TIP: Figure out your sizing as a percentage instead of pixels and the action will handle both horizontal and verticals the same...

TIP: When moving images from one folder to another, make a copy of the images. By holding down the option key when dragging from the original folder to the new folder a copy of your images will be made.

Batch Processing

Batch Processing executes an action you have already created to a folder of images

1) from the file Browser menus
choose -Automate - Batch

2) The dialogue box appears

3) choose the set and action to be
played

4) choose the source
-File Browser

5) click check

-Suppress file open Options
Dialogue

-Suppress Color Profile Warnings

6) choose the destination **folder**

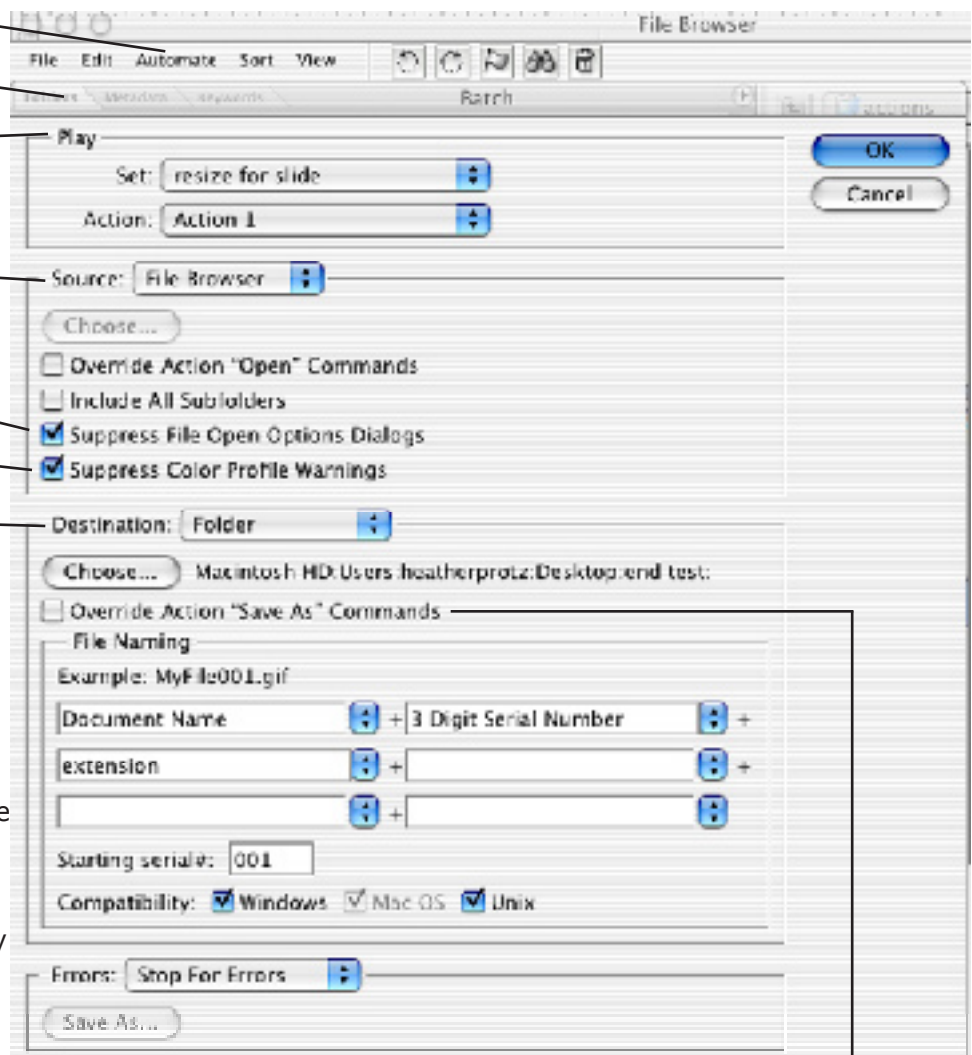
-None to leave the files open without
saving changes (unless the action
includes a Save command).

-Save and Close to save the files in
their current location, overwriting the
original files.

7) this is also a place to batch rename
your files

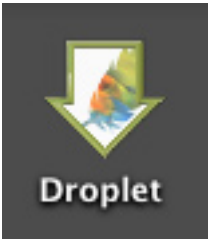
8) remember to click the compatibility
check boxes

9) click OK



Saving files using the Batch command options usually saves the files in the same format as the original files. To create a batch process that saves files in a new format, record the Save As command followed by the Close command as part of your original action. Then choose Override Action "Save In" Commands for the Destination when setting up the batch process.

For more info go to Photoshop CS Help Menu



Droplets

Remember you will be using an action you have already created and saved in the Actions Palette

1) Choose File - Automate - Create Droplet

Save Droplet In: This is where you choose the placement of your droplet, desktop or folder. You will also name your droplet in this dialogue box

Play Options:

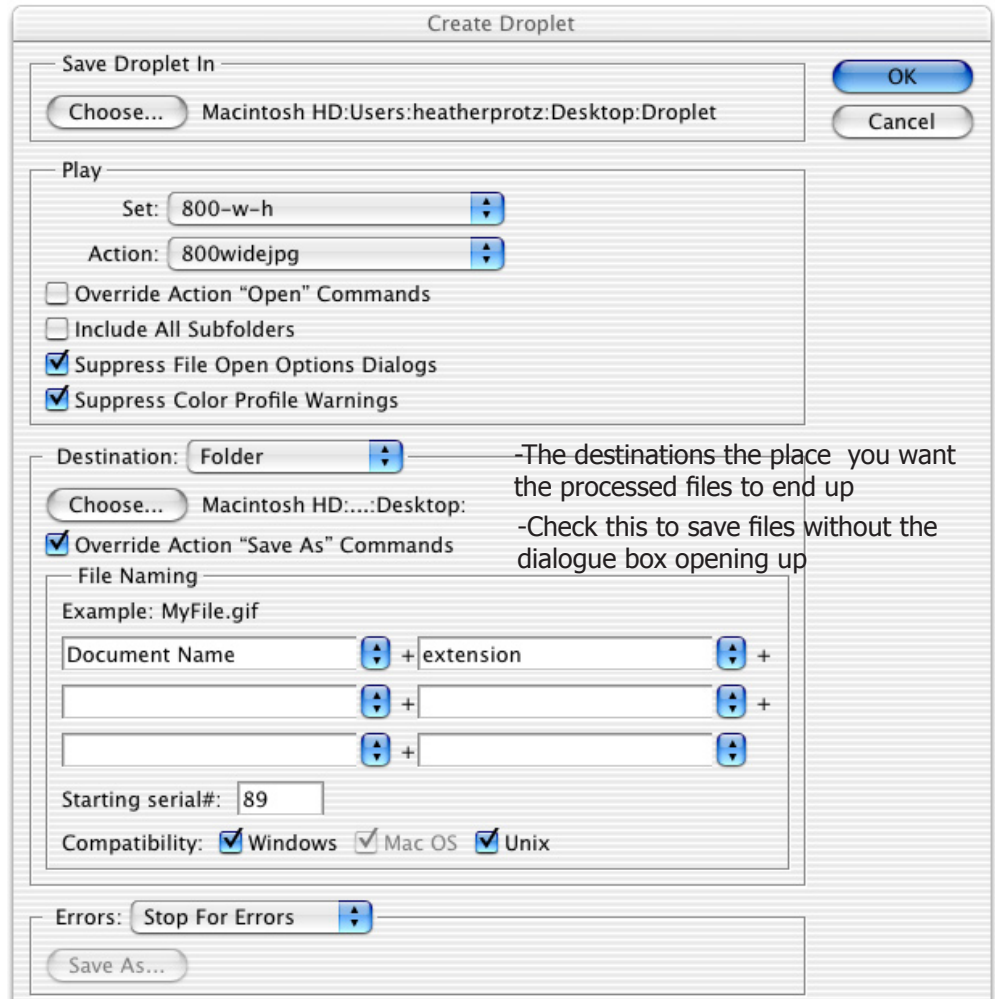
choose the set and action (your actions are in folders called sets in the Actions palette)

Select Override Action "Open" Commands if you want Open commands in the action to refer to the batched files, rather than the filenames specified in the action. Deselect Override Action "Open" Commands if the action was recorded to operate on open files or if the action contains Open commands for specific files that are required by the action.

Select Include All Subfolders to process files in subdirectories.

Select Suppress Color Profile Warnings to turn off display of color policy messages.

Select Suppress File Open Options Dialogs to hide File Open Options dialogs. This is useful when batching actions on camera raw image files.



-The destinations the place you want the processed files to end up
-Check this to save files without the dialogue box opening up

Remember to do a "Save As" in the action if you want the file to close without on "OK" by you

You will also need a dedicated folder for this droplet. The "Save As" will always put the completed task in the folder assigned when creating the action.

Select Folder to save the process files to another location. Select Override Action "Save As" Commands if you want the Save As instructions from the droplet instead of the Save As instructions in the action. If you select this option, the action must contain a Save As command, because the droplet will not automatically save the source files. This is useful for saving documents with options not available in the droplet (such as JPEG compression or TIFF options)