

# Installing Styles in Photoshop® and Photoshop Elements

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SCRAPBOOKGRAPHICS

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# Table of Contents

Viewing Hidden Files (PC) .....	3
Installing Style: PSCS .....	4
Installing Styles: PSE	
PSE v4 .....	5
PSE v5 .....	5
PSE v6 .....	5
PSE v7 – v10 .....	6
PSE v11 .....	6
Troubleshooting PSEv6, PSEv7-v10, PSEv11 .....	7



# Viewing Hidden Files (PC)

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***NOTE:** Please make sure you change your settings to VIEW HIDDEN FILES before proceeding.*

## **In Windows Vista/Windows 7 (W7)**

1. Open the Start menu and choose “Control Panel.”
2. Click on Folder Options.
3. Click on the View tab.
- 4. Click “Show hidden files and folders” and click APPLY, and then OKAY.**

## **In Windows XP**

1. Click on “Start” and choose “My Computer.”
2. When a window pops up, click on the Tool menu at the top and choose Folder Options.
3. When the Folder Options dialog box comes up, click on the View tab at the top.
4. In the “Advanced Settings” look for the folder called Hidden files and folders. Make sure “Show hidden files and folders” is selected. Click okay.

## **A Handy TidBit**

The following are considered “presets” and they are all in the same area of the program files.

Brushes are xxx.abr

Color Swatches are xxx.aco

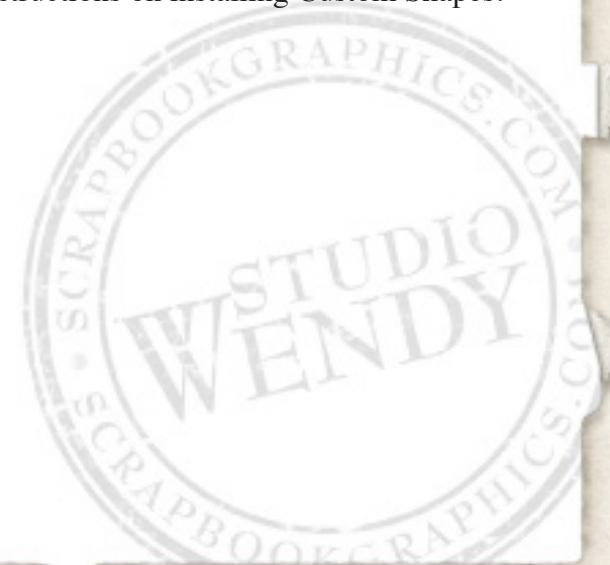
Gradients are xxx.grd

Patterns are xxx.pat

Styles are xxx.asl

Textures are xxx.jpg

Custom Shapes are xxx.csh and are handled slightly differently than the other presets in Elements. See my separate tutorial for instructions on installing Custom Shapes.



# Installing Styles: PSCS

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As with most things in Photoshop CS, there are many ways to install actions and presets.

## **THE EASIEST WAY** (PSCS2+)

Double-click the preset file. It will automatically load in the correct location. Actions (.ATN), brushes (.ABR), styles (.ASL), patterns (.PAT), gradients (grd) and shapes (.csh) can all be installed by double-clicking the file.

## **AN ALTERNATE WAY**

1. Launch Photoshop.
2. View your PRESET MANAGER (EDIT>PRESET MANAGER).
3. Select the type of preset you wish to load from the drop down menu (ie. brushes). Click LOAD.
4. Browse to your “.asl” file, select it and click LOAD.
5. Your style(s) will be added to the bottom of your list.
6. A helpful tip: You can organize your presets in the palette. Drag the most often used to the top. Then, you can backup your presets by selecting all the items you want to save and clicking SAVE SET. Then, if Photoshop ever freezes and you lose your actions, you only have to load the backup files and they will already be organized for you! I back mine up monthly.

# Installing Styles: PSE

A Photoshop® Elements Tutorial by Wendyzine Scraps

## PSE V4:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension.  
Copy this file.
3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:  
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\Presets\Styles
4. Start PSE.
5. You can now access your styles in the styles palette.

## PSE V5:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension.  
Copy this file.
3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:  
C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\Presets\Styles
4. Start PSE.
5. You can now access your styles in the styles palette.

## PSE V6:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file. It should have the .asl file extension.  
Copy this file.

3. Paste your .asl file into the following directory:

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

**VISTA/W7:** C:\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

**MAC:** Macintosh HD\Library\Application Support\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

4. Locate the .xml file included with your style.  
Copy this file.

5. Paste your .xml file into the following directory:

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

OR

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Photo Creations Metadata\Layer Styles

6. Start PSE.
7. You can now access your styles in the styles palette under SHOW ALL or under the assigned category if an XML was provided.

## PSE V7-10:

1. Make sure PSE is closed.
2. Locate your style file and your metadata file. They should have the .asl and .xml file extensions, respectively. Copy these files.
3. Paste your files into the following directory:

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

**VISTA/W7:** C:\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0\Locale\en-US\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

OR

**VISTA/W7:** C:\Program Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0\Photo Creations\Layer Styles

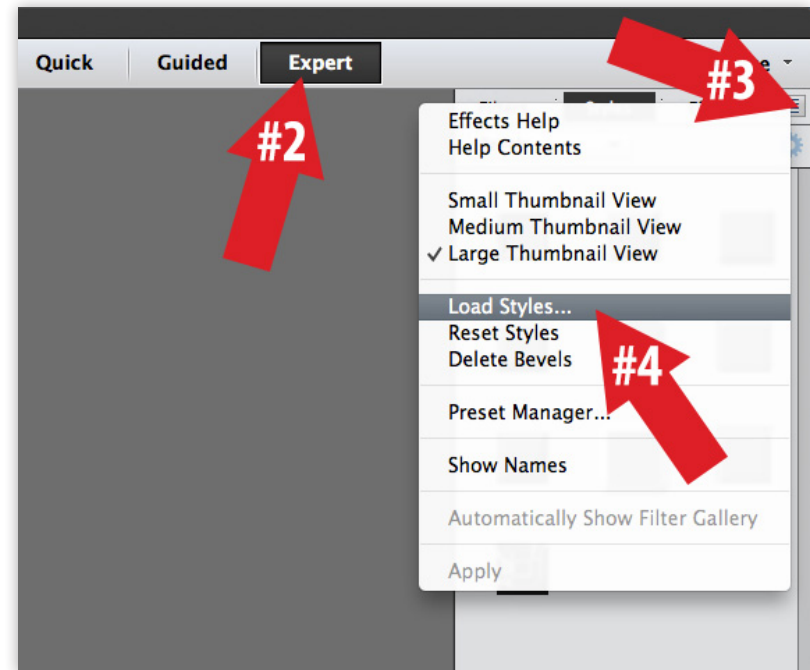
**MAC:** Macintosh HD>Library>Application Support>Adobe>Photoshop Elements>10.0>Photo Creations>Layer Styles

6. Start PSE.
7. You can now access your styles in the styles palette under SHOW ALL or under the assigned category if an XML was provided.

## PSE V11:

Installing presets in Elements 11 is easier than ever before!

1. Launch PSE.
2. Click on EXPERT mode.
3. View your effects panel (Window>Effects or F6) and select Styles from the three tab options.
4. Click the contextual menu on the upper-right of the panel and click LOAD STYLES.
5. Navigate to your download and choose the ASL file and click LOAD.



## **TROUBLESHOOTING PSE V6:**

*If your new actions or presets do not show up at this point, you can try the following.*

1. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file MediaDatabase.db3.

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0\Locale\en-US

**MAC:** Macintosh HD>Library>Application Support>Adobe>Photoshop Elements>6.0>Locale>en-US

2. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file ThumbDatabase.db3. It will be rebuilt when you restart. Start PSE.

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\6.0

**MAC:** Macintosh HD>Library>Application Data>Adobe>Photoshop Elements>6.0

## **TROUBLESHOOTING PSE V7-10:**

*If your new actions or presets do not show up at this point, you can try the following.*

1. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file MediaDatabase.db3.

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0\Locale\en-US

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0\Locale\en-US

**MAC:** Macintosh HD>Library>Application Support>Adobe>Photoshop Elements>10.0>Locale>en-US

2. Quit PSE. Go to the following directory, and delete the file ThumbDatabase.db3. It will be rebuilt when you restart. Start PSE.

**XP:** C:\Documents & Setting\All Users\Application Data\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0

**VISTA/W7:** C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Photoshop Elements\10.0

**MAC:** Macintosh HD>Library>Application Support>Adobe>10.0

## **TROUBLESHOOTING PSE V11:**

*The WINDOW>ACTIONS menu is greyed out and cannot be selected.*

Make sure you're working EXPERT mode! It's the only way to access the Actions panel.

*If you are still having trouble installing or using your actions or presets, email me at [wendyzinescraps@gmail.com](mailto:wendyzinescraps@gmail.com) and I will help you troubleshoot.*

