

Use of the MZ3 Tools to generate a photo book (offline)



Definition: Offline Version

The Offline (also called CD or Flash player version) allows viewing MZ3 titles locally on a PC without the need of an Internet connection. All data is directly accessible, like from a local disk, CD, DVD, memory stick or alike. The MegaZine3-Software is located together with the flash player and all data for the MZ3-Title (in this case the photo book) in one folder and can be easily copied or made available for download.

The Offline-Version of MegaZine3 is different from the Online version; it is bundled together with the flash player as an executable program.

In this paper we'll discuss the Offline version.

Variant Photo Book

A MZ3-Title can be created in different ways:

1. As individual pages with one to many elements (images, videos, ...) on every single page.
2. Pages created automatically, making use of the batchpages plugin. This option is mainly used for titles created automatically out of a PDF file, where the resulting flash pages (.swf files) are defined as batchpages.

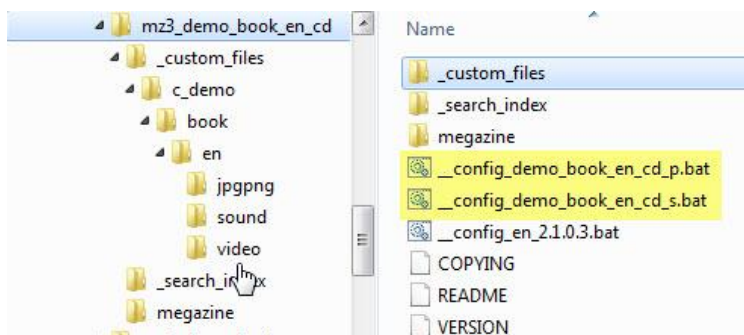
The MZ3 tool configuration of the demo package for photo books creates pages with one image per page or double page. Both, single and spreadpages, can be utilized. Alternatively to this approach also batchpages can be used. A simple change of one parameter in the MZ3 tool configuration file `__config` is sufficient:

`SET make_what=b` (b like batchpages instead of p as pages)

Download und Installation MZ3 Tool Fotobuch (Online)

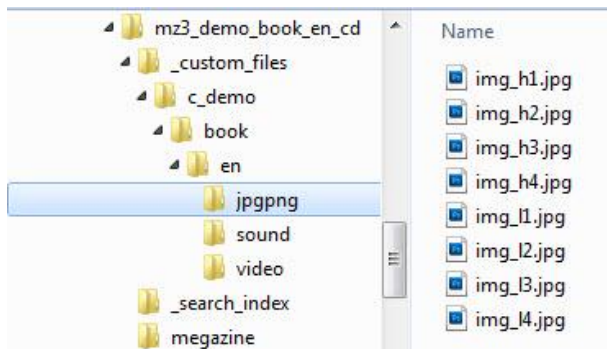
After downloading the [Demo Package](#) (photo book Offline), this has to be unpacked in a new folder. Name and location can be freely chosen. Then all folders and files needed for the demo photo book are available, including the template for the MZ3 Tool configuration file `__config_en_2.1.x.x.bat` and two pre-configured MZ3 Tool configuration files to generate photo books:

`__config_demo_book_en_cd_p.bat` for a title with single pages
`__config_demo_book_en_cd_s.bat` for a title with spreadpages



Folder Structure (schematic)

The base folder, i.e. the folder you created for the demo package, contains the folders *megazine/* (MegaZine3 Software) and *_custom_files* (content for the MZ3 title). Book and version folders with the respective language (like *en/* for English) and content folders (like *jpgpng/* for images) will store all data that will go into the MZ3 titles. The same structure as for Online titles is used, to support both Offline and Online titles.



Sample Data

Four sample files in low in high quality are provided in the folder:
_custom_files/c_demo/book/en/jpgpng/ img_.jpg*

The name of the book is *demo* and the version is called *book*. It is an English title (*en/*) with images in jpg or png format in folder *jpgpng/*.



MegaZine3 Software

The folder *megazine/* contains the actual version of the MegaZine3 Software; in this case the Offline/CD/Flash Player version *megazine-fat.exe*.



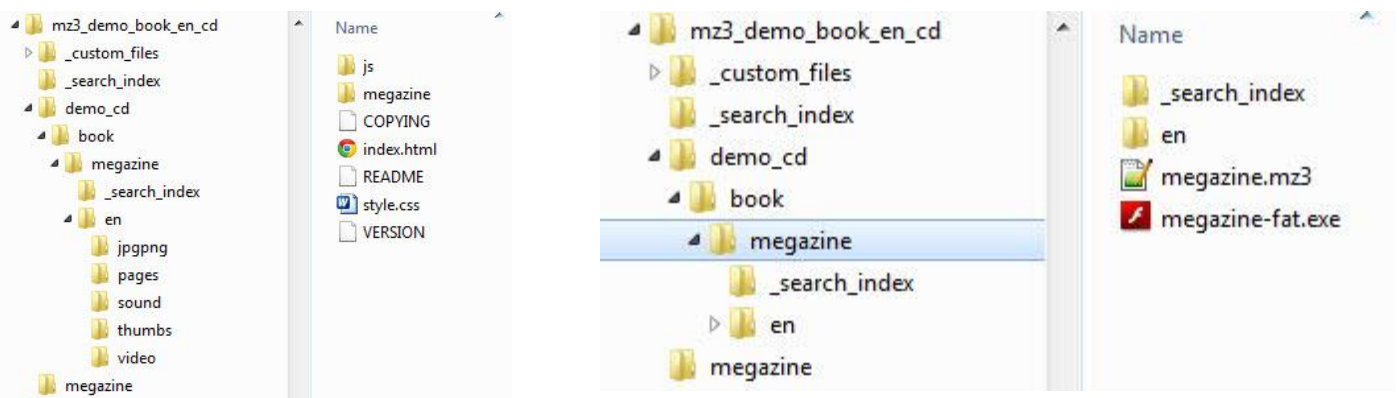
Creation of a MegaZine3 Photo Book

A photo book is created in starting one of the *__config_demo_book_de_cd_x.bat* files (click/double click). A new message window opens with a lot of messages giving details about the building process.

What is happening behind the scenes...

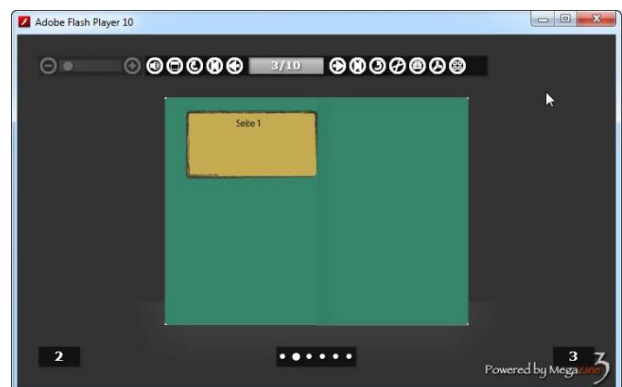
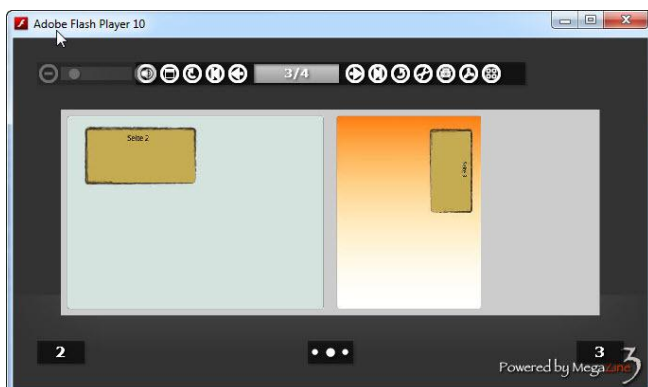
Assumption: book name = *demo*, version name = *book*, language = *de*

- A folder named as the book with a trailing „_cd“ is created: *demo_cd/*
Remark: This is different for the offline version compared to the online version, where the pure book name is used as the folder name.
- This folder *demo_cd/* then holds a folder named as the version (in this case: *book*): *demo_cd/book/*
- Into this version folder *demo/book/* the folder *megazine/* with the MegaZine3-Software is copied.
- Into the folder *megazine/* the complete language folder *en/* from *_custom_files/c_demo/book/* is copied:
_custom_files/c_demo/book/en/jpgpng/img_.jpg* → *demo_cd/book/megazine/en/jpgpng/img_*.jpg**
- The MZ3 configuration file *megazine.mz3* is created and put into the *demo/book/megazine/* folder.



After this the MZ3 title is ready and can be viewed with a click/double click of any key. The file *demo_cd/book/megazine/megazine-fat.exe* is started and the photo book is presented in the Flash player.

Four pages with the 4 images are shown, either in a single page version (see screenshot below on the left) with one image per single page, or as spread page version (screenshot on the right) with a single image spread across two adjacent pages; depending on the config file you executed last.



Use your own Images

Instead of the sample images provided with the demo package you can use your own photos. For that you need to copy your images into the folder `_custom_files`.

Best is you create a new set of folders, with `c_bookname` being first; located in the `_custom_files` folder. Here `bookname` is the name you choose for your book, like e.g. `photobook`. In this folder another folder named as your version needs to be created, e.g. `bali1`.

Example: `_custom_files/c_photobook/bali1/`

Now the language folder `en/` and the folder `jpgpng/` for the images have to be created. Your photos then will go into that folder:

Example: `_custom_files/photobook/bali1/en/jpgpng/`

The photos should be named like `img_l1.jpg`, numbered from 1,2,3, ... 10,11,12,13,.. to ...100, 101 etc.

An example of how to achieve that is shown in the tutorials [xnview](#) (xnview is an image management tool, free for personal use), as well as in chapter [photo adjustments](#) (part of the [photo book \(XML Editor\)](#) tutorial).

Example of a correct image path and name: `_custom_files/fotobuch/bali1/de/jpgpng/img_l1.jpg`

If you want to support high quality images also, another set of images , now with higher quality, must be copied and named `img_h*.jpg`

Please copy/duplicate the sample `__config_demo_book_de_srv.bat` file and rename it to e.g.: `__config_photobook_bali_en_srv.bat`

In this new MZ3 tool configuration file you have to make all changes that are specific to your personal book. Like adjusting the name of your book (`book_name=photobook`), the name of the version (`version_name=bali1`), the page size (`pg_width`, `pg_height`) and the number of images/pages you want to create (`pg_count`).

For additional parameterization the comments available in the `__config` file will be of help..

After you saved your changes you can run the file `__config_fotobuch_bali_en_srv.bat` with e.g. a click or double click and your photo book will be ready for use.

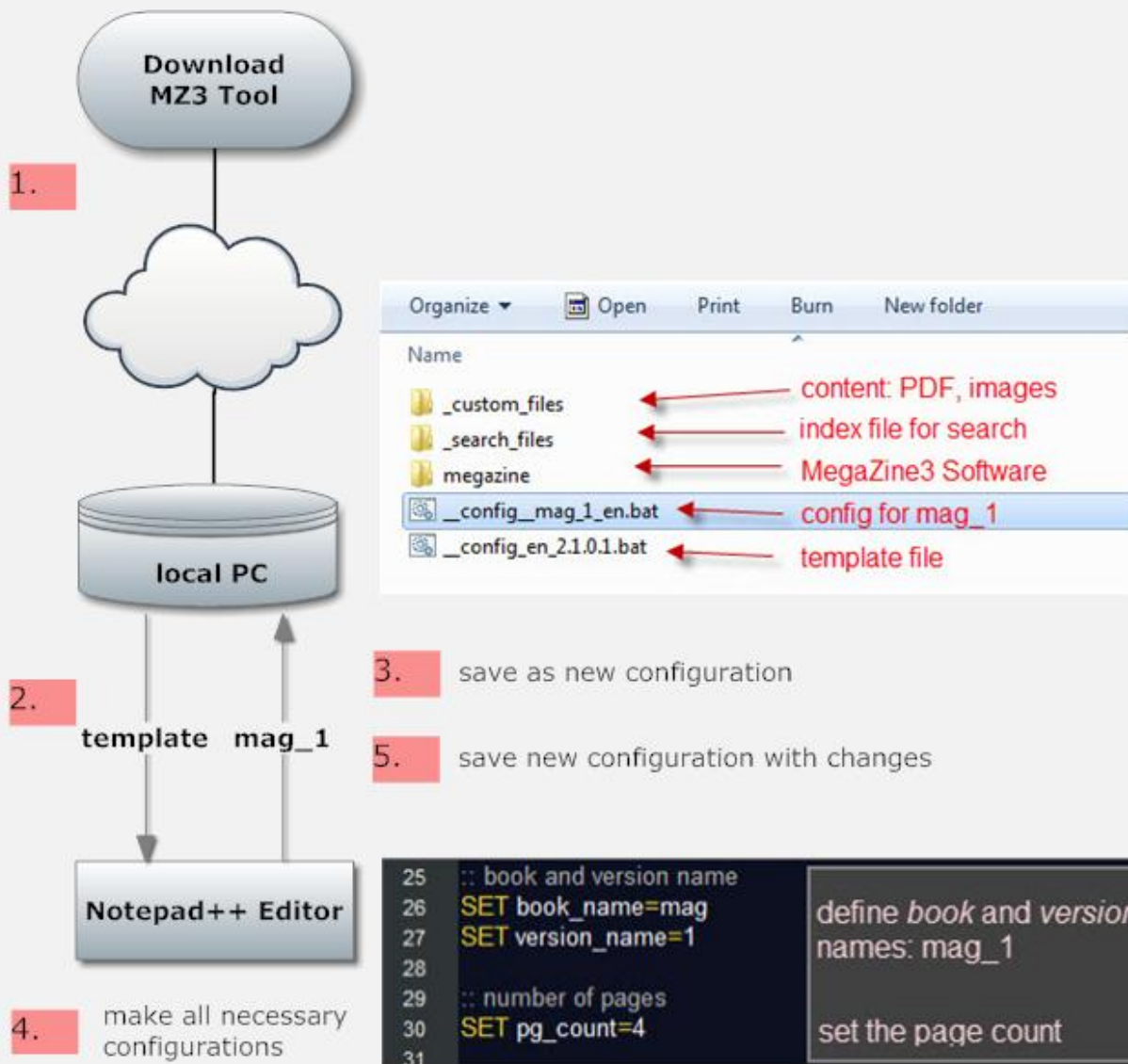
Additional help and features

Please also check the tutorial [Basic concepts of MegaZine3](#) and the tutorial about the [MZ3 Tool](#), which will help getting into the pageflip technology with MegaZine3.

We also suggest to load the other demo package examples, and then compare the different MZ3 Tool configuration files (they sometimes only differ in one single parameter) and the resulting MZ3 configuration files `megazine.mz3`.

In the [tutorial area](#) you soon will find special tutorials on how to enhance your books, like using page background color or background images, adding video and audio files, use chapters, links, bookmarks and more.

General Workflow MZ3 Tool



1. Download the MZ3 tool; a link is provided on the *MZ3-TOOL* tutorial
2. Open the `__config_en_2.x.bat` file with notepad++
3. Save immediately with a new name, like `__config_mag_1_en.bat`. Otherwise changes are not possible, because the template file `__config_en_2.1.0.x.bat` is save protected.
4. Make all necessary adjustments in the configuration file, like setting the book and version name and the number of pages.
5. Save the the changed configuration file.

Start your __config file

Execute, click or double click your config file, e.g. __config_mag_1_en.bat. Whatever starts your batch command file

confirm the security question

You might have to confirm that you want to execute that file.

Watch the messages in the new window

```

Processing offline page 2
Processing offline page 3
Processing offline page 4
Now the MegaZine3 Software, the search index are copied to CD folder
also jpg, png, swf, snd, vid are copied to the CD folder if there is no folder
megazine\negazine-fat.exe
1 File(s) copied
The system cannot find the file specified.
The system cannot find the file specified.
The system cannot find the file specified.
The system cannot find the file specified.

Now creating the nag_cd/1/negazine/negazine.nz3 file

*** warning search: No language list provided
the default search-index _search_index/nag_1.txt
is needed to make search work

warning ***** Search will not work

Your offline book named
in folder nag_cd/1/ will start with the next hit of a key.
Press any key to continue . . .

```

Any errors or problems reported?

yes

Follow the suggestions and solve the problems (e.g. name and locate your pdf file correctly) and then start again

Notepad++ Editor

no

hit enter to start your book

Enjoy MZ3

