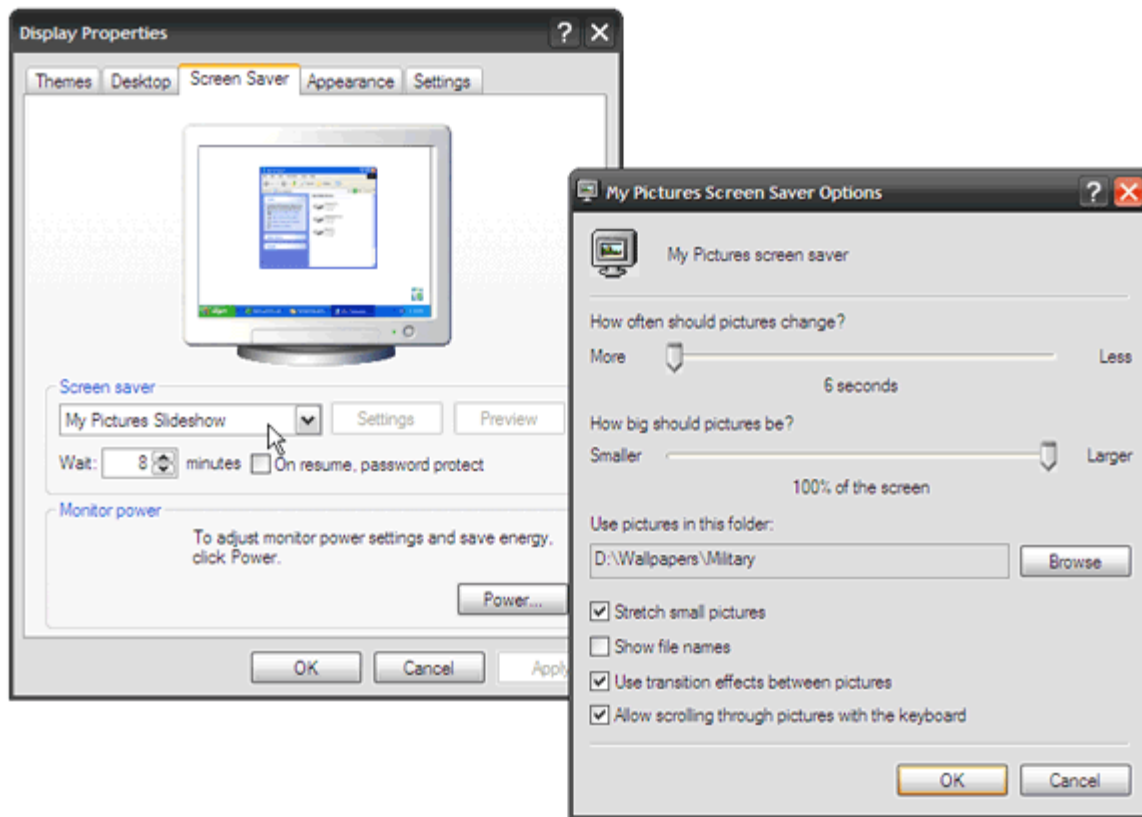


To have the best of both worlds, why not make some of our own? Here are some ways to make your own screensaver without all the coding mumbo jumbo.

### The Easiest Way To Make A Screensaver

It's right there in Win XP and Vista!

#### Win XP



1. Arrange your desired screensaver photos in a folder of your choice (or use the default *My Pictures* folder).
2. Right click anywhere on the desktop to access the *Display Properties* applet. Select the *Screen Saver* tab and then drill down to *Screen saver* "" *My Pictures Slideshow* "" *Settings*.
3. Configure the settings according to the options given and your first self made screen saver is ready to roll.

#### Vista

Vista makes it even easier to organize your photos through the *Windows Photo Gallery* feature. Within it are the tools to turn your pictures into a screensaver.

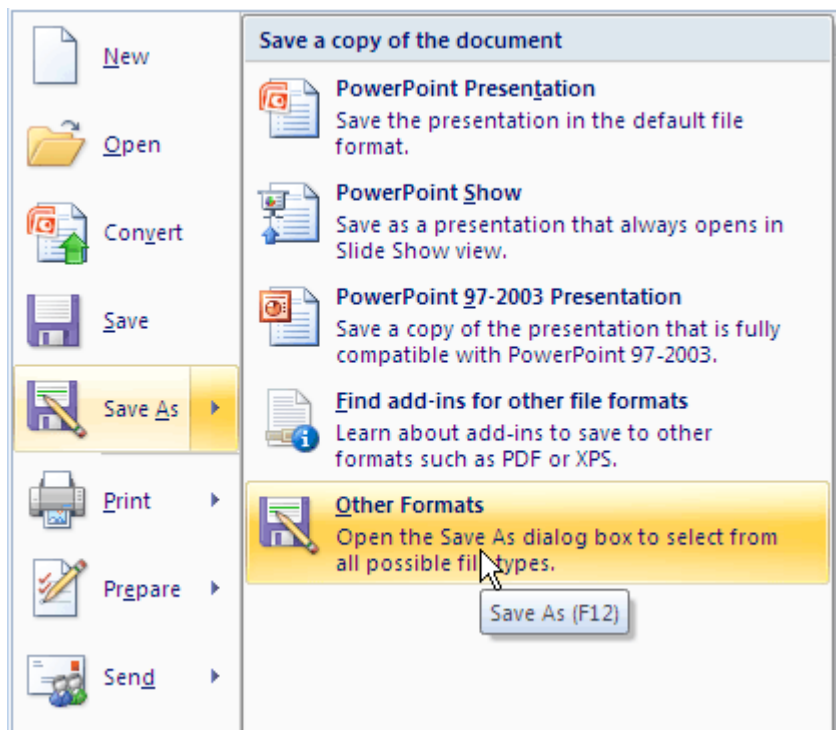
1. Click on *File* "" *Screensaver* "" *Settings*.
2. Choose *Screen Saver* list, and then select *Photos*.
3. The *Settings* for the screensaver allows you to further customize the screensaver -
  - You can show only pictures with a particular tag : Type the tag in the *With this tag* box that is associated with the pictures.

- Display only pictures with a particular rating : Click a star rating on the *With this rating or higher* list.
- Apply a slide show theme to your screen saver : Select one from the *Use this theme* list.
- Play your pictures and videos in random order : Check the *Shuffle contents* box.

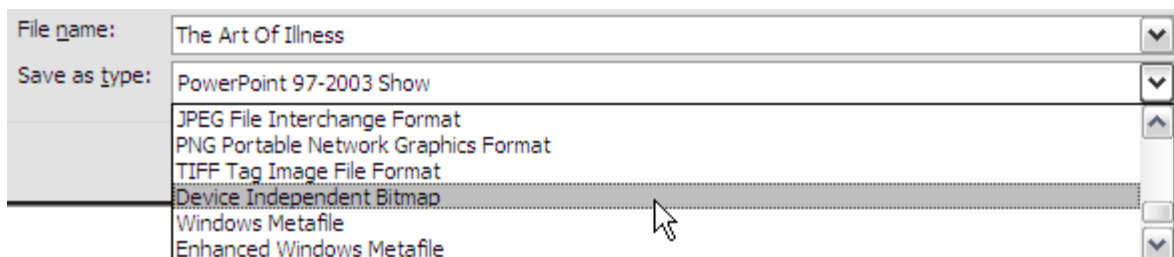
### The PowerPoint Way

We all get those high impact motivational PowerPoint attachments in our inbox sometime or the other. We can turn these into engaging screensavers quite easily with the help of PowerPoint 2007. I have one which shuffles around motivational quotes whenever my computer goes inactive.

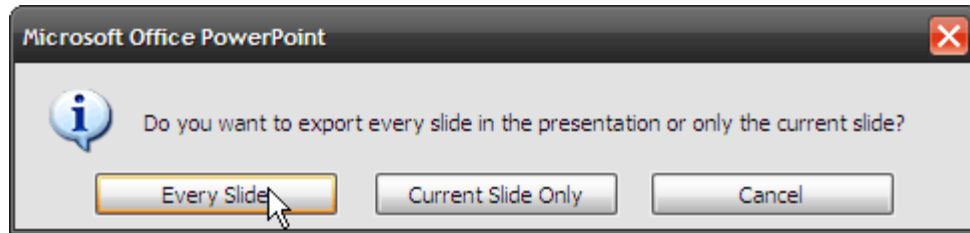
1. Open the presentation that will become your screensaver in PowerPoint 2007.
2. Click on *Office Button* "" *Save As* "" *Other Formats* to open the *Save As* window.



3. Through the *Save As* window, select an empty folder or create a new one to hold the PowerPoint images.
4. Enter any file name you want. In the *Save As Type* dropdown scroll down to select any of the image formats (GIF, JPG, TIFF, PNG, BMP). Click *Save*.



5. PowerPoint gives an option to save every slide or the current slide only as an image. Select one to click *OK* in the next dialog box to finish this part of the process.



6. The screensaver can then be activated using the *Display Properties* "" *Screensaver* tab as mentioned earlier.

*Note:* This method though fails to retain any animations, transitions and embedded rich media present in the original PowerPoint slide.