

LightroomToolbox Mosaic Plugin (V 1.4) for Lightroom Classic (Windows only) User Manual

Installation

Please refer to the LightroomToolbox plugin installation manual included with the downloaded files.

In *Demo* mode, an X mark is randomly added to exported images. Some exports will not include this mark, but most will.

Overview

This plugin lets you export a photo as a mosaic, splitting it into as many rows and columns as you want. This is especially useful for posting panoramic photos in an *Instagram* carousel, splitting the photo into multiple images that appear continuous. It is also useful for splitting a photo across multiple grid posts.

An example will help explain this. Suppose we have a photo in 4:5 format (width:height), which is the aspect ratio of the *Instagram* grid, and we want to split it into 4 grid cells (two rows and two columns):



Original image

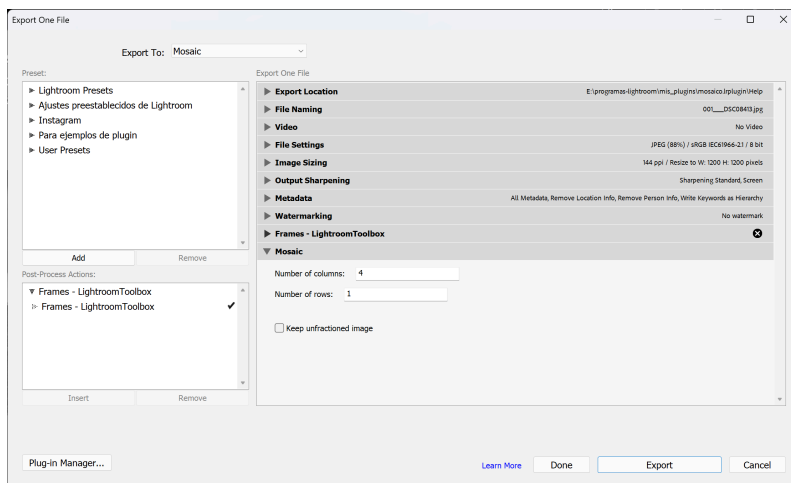


Four generated crops

This plugin allows you to choose the number of rows and columns used to split the original photo. Splitting happens during export and does not affect development settings or any parameter saved in the catalog. Export is done the usual *Lightroom* way, so you can export a single photo or a batch of photos at the same time.

Usage

Select the photo or batch of photos you want to export, then click **Export...** as usual. At the top of the export screen, find the **Export To:** option and select **Mosaic** (normally *Hard Drive* is selected). The export screen will then look like this:



Within the export options, the **Mosaic** plugin options will appear. The options are:

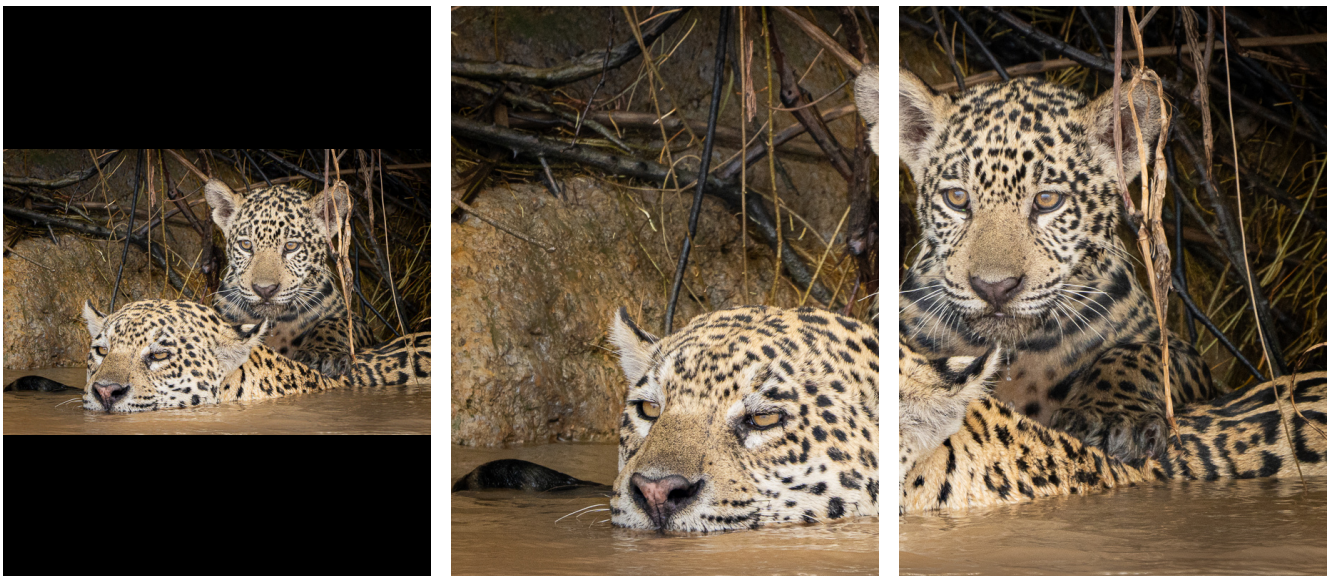
- **Number of columns:** number of columns the exported photo will be split into.

- **Number of rows:** number of rows the exported photo will be split into.
- **Keep unfractioned image:** keeps the full image in addition to the split version in rows and columns.

When exporting, each split part file uses the filename selected in the usual *Lightroom File Naming* dropdown, with an added indication of row y and column x.

Usage example

Suppose we have a landscape photo in 3:2 format. On *Instagram*, these photos are displayed very small. We can first export using the **Borders** plugin from **LightroomToolbox**, with the **Frame** option, to complete a 3:4 vertical format by adding black bands above and below. These bands will not be noticeable in an *Instagram* post because the app background is black, so the image appears centered and uses the full width of the phone screen. Then, using the **Mosaic** plugin, we do a second export of the same photo, now split into two columns. Since the original photo is 3:2, each image will be half the width, i.e., a 1.5:2 aspect ratio, equivalent to 3:4. We can now publish the 3 final images in one carousel: the first shows the full photo using the maximum screen width, and the other two show the same photo in two continuous parts, maximizing both screen width and height.

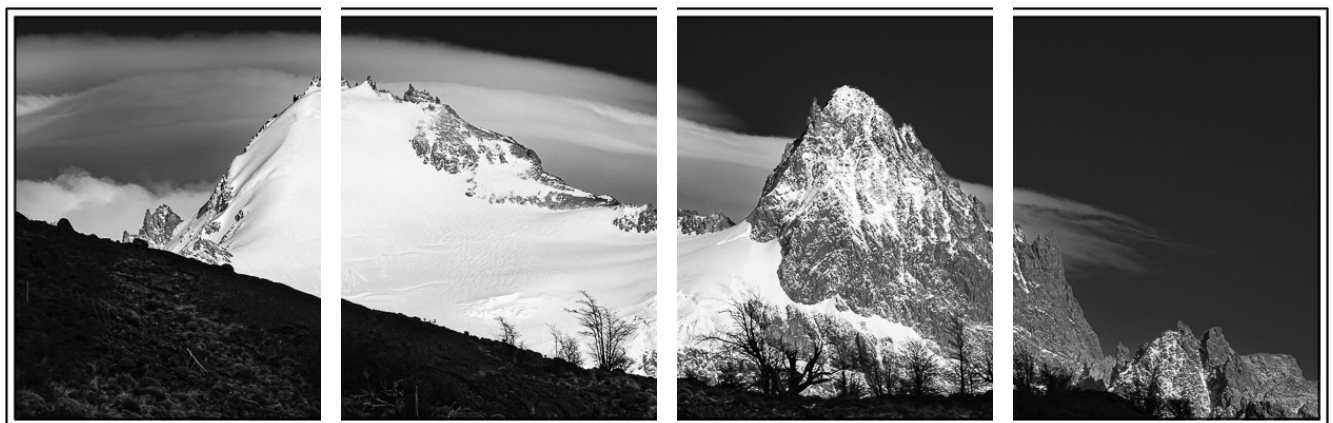


The **Mosaic** plugin can be used together with the **Borders** plugin. This example does something similar, but in a more elegant way that gives better continuity across the photo split into two images. First, I export with a frame that completes a 3:4 format (the one that best uses the phone screen in *Instagram*) and a soft outer border around the photos (these options belong to the **Borders** plugin). Then I perform another equivalent export, but with the

frame completing a 6:4 format (double width) and splitting into two columns using the **Mosaic** plugin. Since the black area around the image blends with the *Instagram* background, viewers first see a centered photo and then, continuously, the same photo split into two images that stand out from the background and maintain better continuity thanks to the white border. Thanks to the **Borders** plugin, I did not need to worry about the exact photo proportion:



In the last example, we show how to publish one of *Instagram*'s enemies: panoramic photography. The optional white frame was added with the **Borders** plugin, and splitting into 4 images was done with the **Mosaic** plugin. As you swipe through the photos in the carousel, they appear as one continuous sequence, with no breaks:



External software

The plugin uses ImageMagick (ImageMagick Studio LLC). You do not need to install it, as it is included in the distribution. The ImageMagick program has not been modified. The license description is included in the plugin's Doc folder.