

Slideshow Manager Tutorial

REW's Slideshow Manager is very simple but requires you to prepare the photos in advance. This tutorial should answer the most common questions.

Finding the Slideshow Manager on your Site

The slideshow manager is in your Real Estate Webmasters website's "backend" or "CMS". Find your "Welcome to Real Estate Webmasters!" email from our [Support team](#) if you're not sure how to get there.

Once you're in the backend, make sure the "CMS" tab is activated, and then click on "Tools", and then "Slideshow Manager".

Managing the Slideshow

You will see several images pre-installed. There are options to the right of each image, as well as an option to add new images. Each of these is described below.

Add New Image:

When you click on this button, you'll arrive at the "Add Slideshow Image" page and will see two options:

1. A "Browse" button, which lets you select an image file from your computer. (The quality of your slideshow will depend on the size and quality of the photo. See "Preparing the Photos" below.)
2. An "Image Link" button, which lets you choose a webpage to link the photo to. So, when a user clicks on that image in your slideshow, they will be brought to a page on your website (or on another site, if you wish). This is especially useful if you have the resources to create a slideshow image that is a "call to action", inviting users to check out your foreclosure listings, for example (would link to your foreclosures page).
 - o Note that the link will open in a new tab.
 - o Advanced users: You can use *relative* links as well as absolute links ("/" will link to the homepage, "/about.php" will link to the about page, etc)

Be sure to click on the "Upload Image" button before leaving this page, or your selected image will not be added to the slideshow.

Edit:

This option allows you to add/change the link that a slideshow image links to, or to replace an image file with another one.

"X" (delete):

This will remove an image from the slideshow. Once it is removed, there is no way to recover it unless you have the image saved on your computer.

Drag & Drop:

The arrow-shaped icon can be "dragged" (hold down the mouse button and drag) to re-order the slideshow images' sequence that your users will see. So if you have an image that you think really ties in well with the design for a great first impression, you can make sure it always appears first. Or, if your slideshow includes some golf shots and some architecture images, you can mix them up.

Note that anytime a user navigates to a new page on the site, the slideshow begins all over again. So it makes sense to have your best images at the beginning of the slideshow.

Preparing the Photos

If you take a photo with your digital camera and upload it right away to your slideshow manager, your slideshow will only show one small piece of the photo. That's because your photo is large and nearly square, while the slideshow space only shows a small, rectangular strip. You have to crop/resize the photo (dimensions are listed below), but don't worry, it's probably easier than you think.

Below, we've outlined two kinds of options. An online photo editor is a good short-term solution if you think you will only be editing photos a few times. But if you are going to be making a habit of this, it's worth downloading a free editor to your computer, or finding one of the ones that is probably already in your operating system.

Online Editors

There are tons of free online photo editors. All you have to do is go to the site, click on "upload photo" or "choose your image to edit" (this will vary by website), select the photo from your computer, and then use the tools on the site to crop the image to the right size (the size you need is listed below). Once you've finished editing the photo, be sure to find the "Save" option in the photo editing site's options.

Here are a couple of recommended online photo editors. Note that we are not affiliated with any of them, and any issues with your experience should not be sent to our support team:

- fotoflexer.com
- pixenate.com

Once the photos are cropped to the right dimensions (see below), make sure they're saved to an accessible location on your computer, and you're ready to add them to your slideshow manager using the steps outlined under "Managing the Slideshow" above.

Editing the Photos in a Program on Your Computer

There is probably a photo editor on your computer already, as the common operating systems all come with one included (*Windows Picture and Fax Viewer* in XP; *Windows Photo Gallery* in Vista, *Paint* in Windows 7; *iPhoto* on a Mac).

However, there are other ones that you can download for free. [Irfanview](#) is a good one - you just open the photo and then use the mouse to select the area to crop. The dimensions are shown as you drag the cursor, so you can easily crop the image to the exact number of pixels prescribed for your template.

Once the photos are cropped to the right dimensions (see below), make sure they're saved to an accessible location on your computer, and you're ready to add them to your slideshow manager using the steps outlined under "Managing the Slideshow" above.

The Right Dimensions

The "right" size for your slideshow images will depend on which kind of Real Estate Webmasters site you have. We've included a list below, with the appropriate dimensions for cropping your photos.

If you have an LEC ("Limited Edition Custom"), then you probably know which version it is. Templates, however, can be more difficult to identify. You can figure it out by visiting this page:

<http://www.rewtemplates.com/>

If that fails, you should just email our Support team at support@realestatewebmasters.com and ask them which template version you have.

Template #1: 585 pixels wide by 200 pixels high
Template #1 wide: 765 pixels wide by 200 pixels high

Template #2: 750 pixels wide by 180 pixels high
Template #2 wide: 930 pixels wide by 180 pixels high

Template #3: 585 pixels wide by 200 pixels high
Template #3 wide: 765 pixels wide by 200 pixels high

Template #4: 774 pixels wide by 200 pixels high
Template #4 wide: 954 pixels wide by 200 pixels high

Template #5: 585 pixels wide by 200 pixels high
Template #5 wide: 765 pixels wide by 200 pixels high

Template #6: 681 pixels wide by 240 pixels high

Template #7: 681 pixels wide by 180 pixels high

Template #8 (not released yet): 670 pixels wide by 205 pixels high

LEC2: 603 pixels wide by 185 pixels high
LEC3: Images should be at least 800 x 532px