
Graffi's Add-O-Matic! 8

Auto-installer for Photoshop Elements 6, 7 & 8

Initial Release: September 2009

Add-O-Matic 8 FAQ

"Add-O-Matic won't run", "Add-O-Matic won't start?", "I click the Add-O-Matic icon and nothing happens?"

Sometimes other utilities or applications interfere with Add-O-Matic (as well as other utilities, but only appear when Add-O-Matic tries to start). A simple, fast remedy that often fixes this is to **restart your system**.

Windows Firewall in XP SP2 will also sometimes block Add-O-Matic from running, and may or may not display a dialog that tells you it is being blocked, offering options to unblock. To manually add an exception to Windows Firewall:

Log in as an Administrator on your PC Click **Start>Run** In the **Open** box, type **wscui.cpl**, and then click **OK**. In Windows Security Center, click **Windows Firewall**. On the **Exceptions** tab, click **Add Program**. In the list of programs, click Browse to navigate to the folder where you have stored **Add-O-Matic 8.exe**, choose it and then click **OK**.

"I pinned Add-O-Matic to my start menu, but now it won't start?", "I pinned Add-O-Matic to my Start menu, but now it prompts me to search for the missing shortcut?"

This one is pretty common, too. The recommended practice is to put the **Add-O-Matic 8.exe** in your **My Documents** folder, and pin it to the menu from there. This creates a shortcut link from the Start menu to the utility in **My Documents**. If the .exe file is moved or deleted from where the link was created, the link is broken.

To fix the link, simply place the **Add-O-Matic 8.exe** utility back into the folder where the link was created, restoring the shortcut.

"An error message from my virus protection appears when I try to start Add-O-Matic?"

Some virus protection applications are over-zealous in blocking utilities from opening, and will return "false-positive" scans on utilities they don't recognize. Read through the Help files of your virus protection application and see how to create an exception for the **Add-O-Matic**. Creating an exception will allow the utility to open as programmed. (The Add-O-Matic, like everything from the Graffishop, is virus-scanned before being uploaded to the Graficalicus server.)

“I get an error message about a non-supported file type when running Add-O-Matic?”

Add-O-Matic will accept only Photoshop Add-on file types. These file types are Custom Shapes (*.csh), Layer Styles (*.asl), Actions (*.atn), Plug-Ins (*.8bf type only), Brushes (*.abr), Gradients (*.grd) and Patterns (*.pat). Future upgrades may expand this listing of accepted file types, but the current version (**Add-O-Matic 7**, October 2008) supports these file types. New to AOM-8 is support for .cha (Channel Mixer presets), .acv (Curves presets) and .blw (Black and White presets in Elements 7 only)

A common reason for this message to appear is when a user drags a **zipped (*.zip)** add-on file – the add-on(s) you want to add should be extracted from the zip archive first.

A second common reason for this message appearing is when a user attempts to drag everything from a zip archive into the Add-O-Matic, rather than just the add-on file itself. Many downloaded add-ons will also include a sample image, or a README.txt file, or links to websites in *.html format. **Add-O-Matic simply ignores these files if they're added to the queue, and alerts you that they aren't of a file type that Add-O-Matic recognizes.**

“Add-O-Matic gives an error message when I drag a .psd /.jpg /.jpeg /.gif /.png /.tif /.tga file?”

Currently, **Add-O-Matic** does not support any graphics formats. There are simply too many places for graphics to go in a program as robust as Photoshop Elements. They could be slideshow backgrounds, thumbnails for actions, graphics, errors, samples from downloads, etc.

See the answer directly above this one for more details about file formats and file types Add-O-Matic will store for you.

“I ran all my add-ons through Add-O-Matic, but they're not showing up in Photoshop Elements?”

This is another common thing. Sometimes Elements will not rebuild its database upon restarting, so the new items you've added – even if you see the files in the correct place within the program – will not appear in palettes or menus.

Occasionally, the palette itself doesn't update while the database is rebuilding. You can see the changes by clicking away from the Effects palette (open Layer Styles instead, for example) and then return to the photo effects section. Usually, the new action category "Add-O-Matic" will appear upon returning.

Often a second restart of PS Elements is necessary to get all the pieces to show up in their respective palettes. Sometimes (especially concerning actions - *.atn files) you may need to add the action again via Add-O-Matic and restart Elements.

In any case, always allow the database some extra time to rebuild upon restarting, and occasionally try a second restart to “finalize” the new additions.