# ACDSee Pro 3 tutorials: Moving photos (+ database) to another computer

When you move your photos from one computer to another, it is a good idea to move the ACDSee database so that all the data about your photo moves too. Keeping the database the same lets you search photos consistently across computers. To move the database, you export the data to a text file, move the photos and text file to the new computer, import the data into ACDSee on the new computer, and re-establish the links between the photos and data.
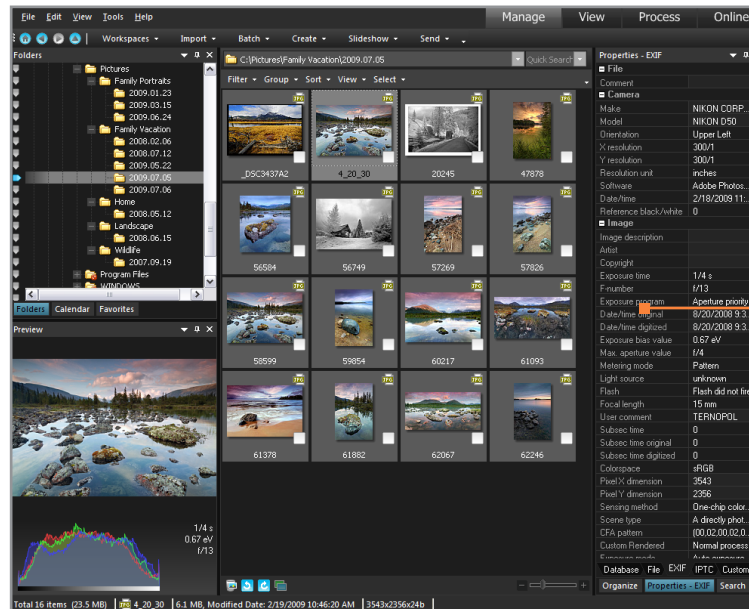


Metadata is information about a photo. Your camera settings are metadata. Keywords, captions, ratings, and categories are also metadata.

Camera settings are stored in the photo itself, and in the database. Other types of metadata (e.g. keywords, captions) are only stored in the database.

The camera settings are also copied from the photo to the ACDSee database.

The location of each photo is also stored in the database. If you use ACDSee Pro Photo Manager 3 to move your photos to another folder on your computer, it automatically updates the database with the new location. If you move your photos to another computer, however, the links will be broken unless you move the database too.

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About metadata and the database

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Exporting the database

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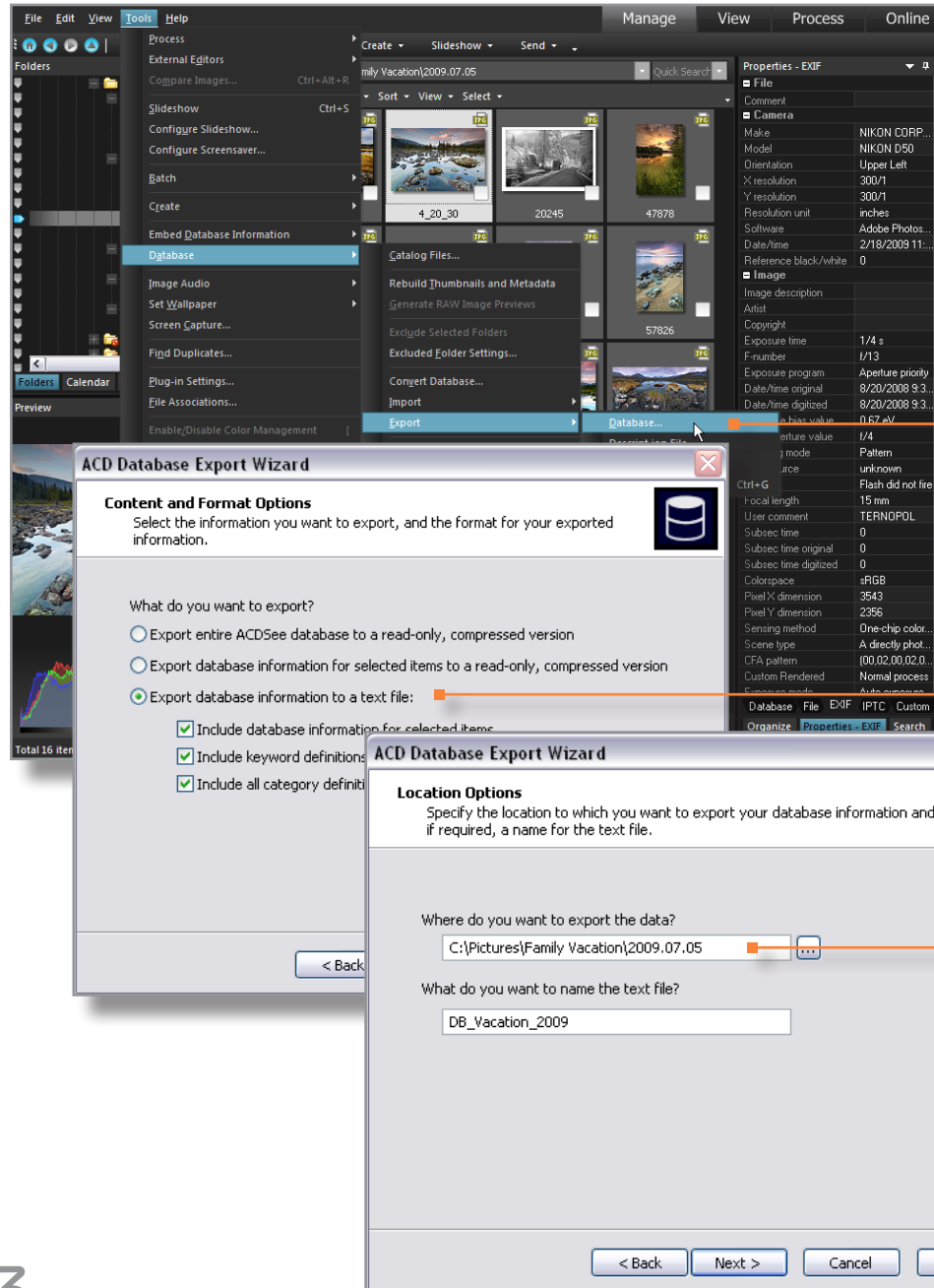
Click **Tools** | **Database** | **Export** | **Database** and use the Database Export Wizard to export the data to a text file.

Select **Export database information to a text file**.

Save the text file in the parent folder of the photos you plan to move to the new computer.

**ACD Database Export Wizard**

**Content and Format Options**
Select the information you want to export, and the format for your exported information.

What do you want to export?

○ Export entire ACDSee database to a read-only, compressed version

○ Export database information for selected items to a read-only, compressed version

◉ Export database information to a text file:

☑ Include database information for selected items

☑ Include keyword definitions

☑ Include all category definiti...

**ACD Database Export Wizard**

**Location Options**
Specify the location to which you want to export your database information and, if required, a name for the text file.

Where do you want to export the data?

C:\Pictures\Family Vacation\2009.07.05

What do you want to name the text file?

DB_Vacation_2009

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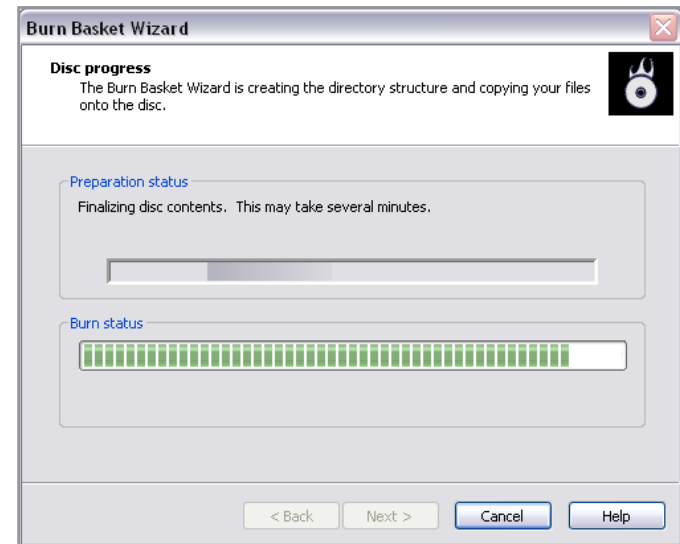**4** Importing the database

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How you move the files depends on whether the computers are networked or not. If the computers are networked, simply use **Edit** | **Copy To Folder** to move the files to the other computer. If the computers are not networked, you can either use a flash drive to transfer the files, or burn them to a disc.

To burn the files to disc using the Burn Basket Wizard:

1. Click **View** | **Burn Basket**.

2. Drag the parent folder of the photos to the Burn Basket and click **Burn**.

   The Burn Basket Wizard launches.

3. Click **Next**.

4. Select the drive you will use to burn the disc, and the type of disc you are burning.

5. Click **Next**.

6. Click **Finish**.

7. Insert the disc in the other computer.

8. Use ACDSee to copy the folder from the disc to the computer.

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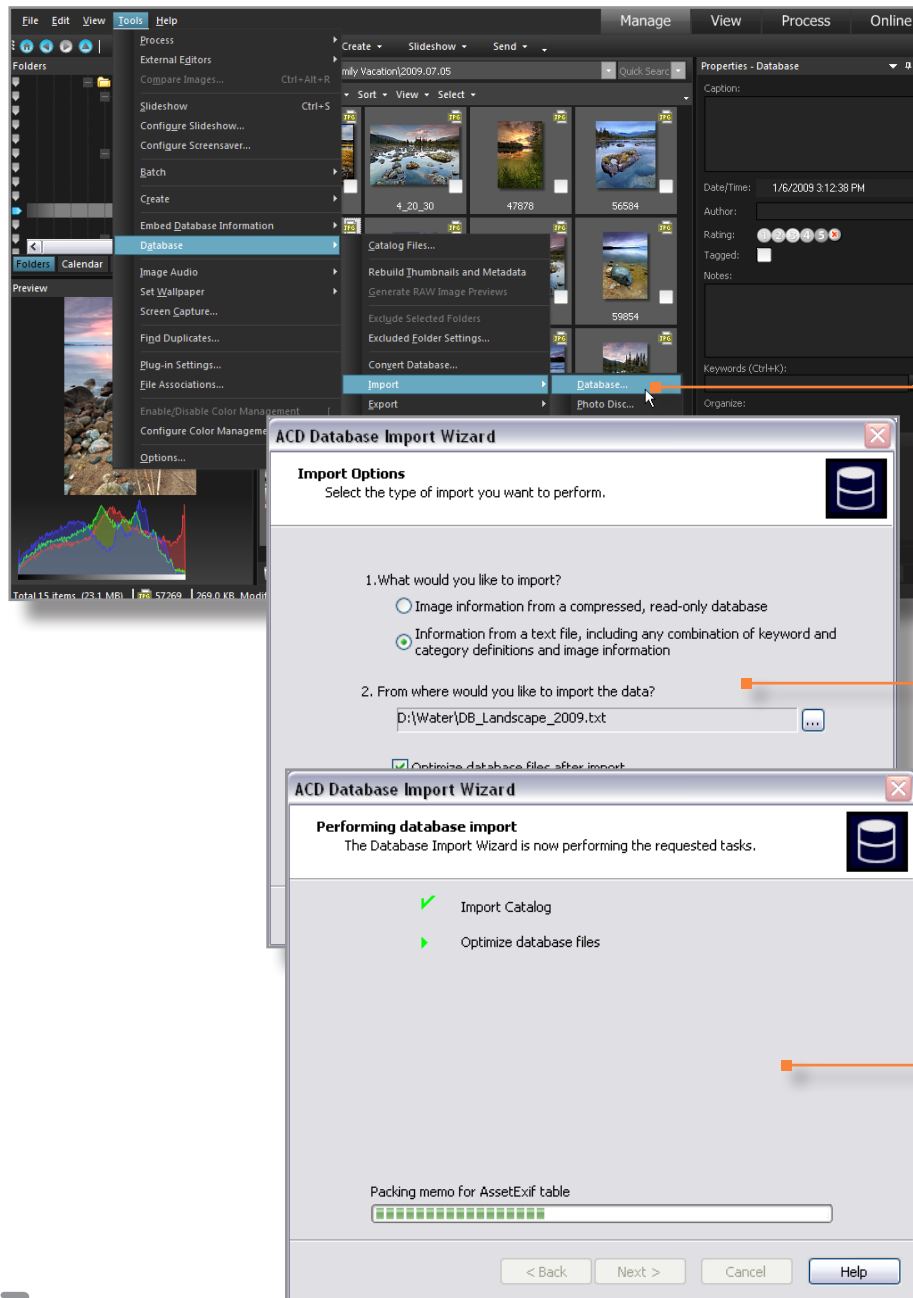**1** About metadata and the database

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Once the files are on the new computer, you need to import the data from the text file into ACDSee.

Click **Tools** | **Database** | **Import** | **Database** and use the Database Import Wizard to import the data in the text file.

Indicate that you want to import the data from a text file, and select the file.

It can take a few seconds to a few minutes to complete the import, depending on the amount of metadata in the text file.

Restart ACDSee Pro 3 when the import is complete.

![acdsee pro 3]

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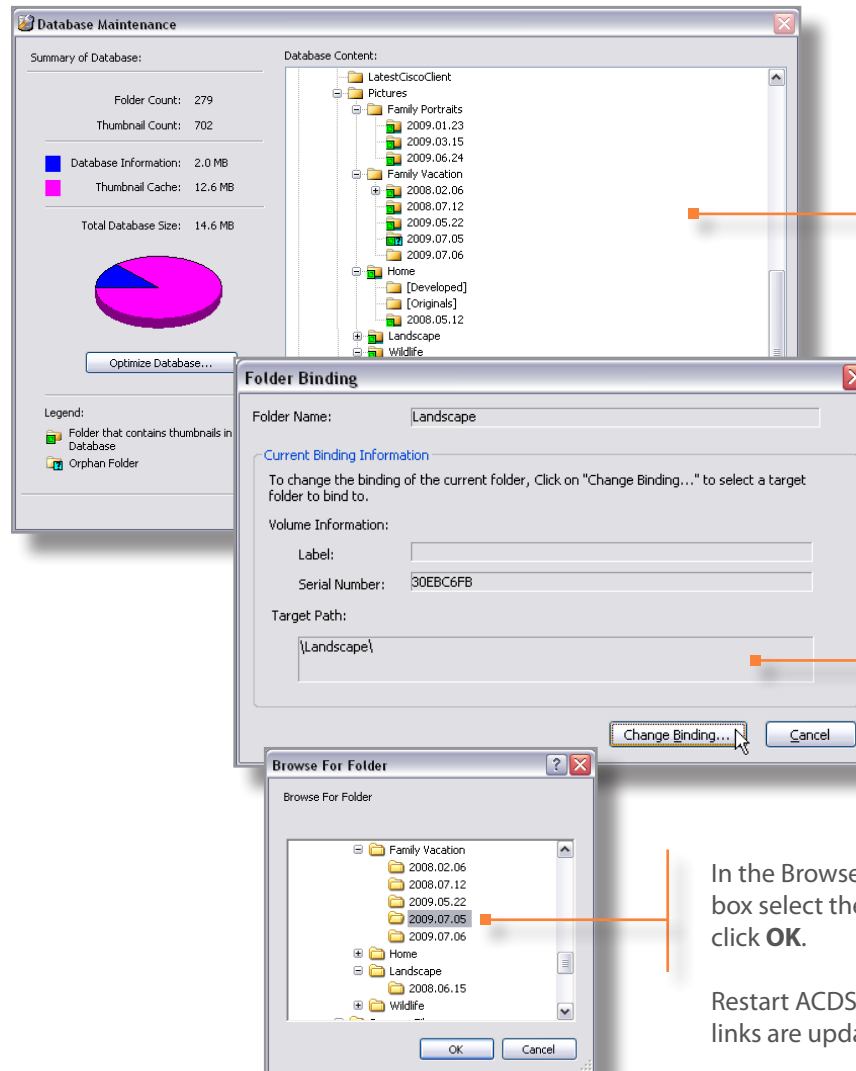
1 About metadata and the database

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Now you need to re-establish the links between the photos and data from the text file:

Click **Tools** | **Database** | **Database Maintenance**, then expand the file tree.

The folder icons in the old file path have a blue square with a question mark in them. This indicates that the links are broken.

Select the parent folder in the old file path, then click **Change Binding**.

In the Folder Binding dialog box you will see the old file path to the photos.

Click **Change Binding** to change the links from the old file path to the new file path.

In the Browse for Folder dialog box select the new file path and click **OK**.

Restart ACDSee Pro 3 when the links are updated.

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**Check to see if you learned these key concepts:**

» Metadata is information about a photo such as the date it was taken, the camera settings used, keywords, or captions. Ratings and categories are also metadata. All of these are stored in the ACDSee database.

» It is not possible to add metadata to most image files, so additional metadata must be stored in the ACDSee Pro 3 database.

» If you move your photos to another computer, you should also move the metadata. You can do this by exporting the metadata to a text file, moving the photos and text file to the other computer, importing the text file into ACDSee, and re-establishing the links between the photos and the metadata.