

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

NXPOWERLITE 2.5

ABOUT NXPOWERLITE

Questions about NXPowerLite, how it works and what it does to your PowerPoint presentations:

Q: How does NXPowerLite work?

A: NXPowerLite works by intelligently reducing the size of graphics (logos, pictures, images, clipart, etc) and, optionally, other embedded documents (such as Excel spreadsheets) within a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation (PPT) file.

Q: Which versions of Microsoft PowerPoint will it work with?

A: NXPowerLite works with presentations created using any version of Microsoft PowerPoint from PowerPoint 97 onwards. However, the Integrated Edition of NXPowerLite only integrates with versions of PowerPoint from PowerPoint 2000 onwards. Please note that, although NXPowerLite works perfectly with Office 2007, it does not yet optimize PowerPoint files saved in Office 2007's new PPTX file format. This problem is resolved in NXPowerLite 3.1.

Q: Do I need to have Microsoft PowerPoint installed?

A: No. You do not need to have PowerPoint installed in order to optimize your presentations.

Q: How much will NXPowerLite compress my PowerPoint presentations?

A: This will depend on how many graphics and embedded objects your PowerPoint presentation contains, and how large they are. Users have experienced compression rates as high as 99% with no discernible loss of quality to their presentation.

Q: Will compression software such as WinZip do the same job?

A: No - however, once you have optimized a PowerPoint file with NXPowerLite, zipping it will often reduce the size of your presentation further.

Q: Will PowerPoint's 'Compress Pictures' feature do the same thing as NXPowerLite?

A: NXPowerLite will achieve significantly better results than PowerPoint's 'Compress Pictures' feature. This is because NXPowerLite intelligently selects the most appropriate format and compression level for each image in your presentation, while PowerPoint's 'Compress Pictures' feature merely reduces the image resolution and discards any hidden information. Additionally NXPowerLite allows you to flatten any embedded objects in your presentation. Our tests have shown that, on average, NXPowerLite achieves 28% better file size reduction than 'Compress Pictures'.

Q: If I send an optimized presentation to someone, do they need a copy of NXPowerLite to open it at their end?

A: No. The optimized presentation remains in the PowerPoint format.

Q: Is the free trial version limited in any way?

A: The free trial version of NXPowerLite is fully functional and identical to the full version in every way. The only limitation is that it will be disabled after 10 uses. A use will be counted every time NXPowerLite succeeds in reducing the size of your PowerPoint file by more than 10%. Once your free trial uses have expired, you can unlock NXPowerLite by purchasing a registration key.



Q: Why were my PowerPoint files so large to start with?

A: Generally, a lot of the file bloat experienced in PowerPoint presentations is due to a combination of:

- (1) Graphics stored in uncompressed formats, such as TIFF or BMP.
- (2) Large images being scaled down or cropped within PowerPoint, as PowerPoint still stores the full-size image within the presentation file.
- (3) Embedded objects from other software packages, such as Excel charts, Photoshop images or Visio drawings.

Q: What is the difference between the Stand-Alone and Integrated Editions of NXPowerLite?

A: The Stand-Alone version of NXPowerLite does not require installation and makes no changes your copy of PowerPoint, whereas the Integrated Edition enables you to access NXPowerLite right from PowerPoint's menu bar. You can also automatically optimize a presentation from within Outlook before emailing it, or by right-clicking a PowerPoint file in Windows Explorer. The only other difference between the two versions is that the Integrated Edition contains support for Windows 98 and ME, whereas the Stand-Alone version only works with versions of Windows from Windows 2000 onwards. Please note that, unlike the Stand-Alone version of NXPowerLite, the Integrated Edition requires installation.

Q: What file formats does NXPowerLite use when optimizing graphics?

A: When optimizing the graphics contained in PowerPoint presentations, NXPowerLite intelligently chooses one of three file formats, depending on the type of graphics:

- (1) The JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) format is great for photographic images containing lots of colours or smooth gradients.
- (2) The PNG (Portable Network Graphics) format provides an excellent replacement for the popular GIF file format, offering better compression (between 5% and 25%) and more features for us to take advantage of.
- (3) The EMF (Enhanced Meta File) format enables very clear vector graphics to be stored at a tiny file size, making it perfect for flattened embedded objects such as Corel Draw drawings or Excel charts.

Q: What does 'Flatten embedded objects' mean?

A: Embedded objects (such as Excel charts, Visio drawings or Photoshop images) tend to store far more information than PowerPoint actually requires in order to display them (a Photoshop image will, for example, store all of the layer information that built up during its creation). Flattening an embedded object removes this 'behind the scenes' data, leaving only the information that PowerPoint needs in order to display the object correctly. This drastically reduces the file size, but means that the object will no longer be editable from within PowerPoint. This is why NXPowerLite always asks before flattening an embedded object in a PowerPoint file.

Q: I'm running PowerPoint on my Apple Macintosh, will I be able to use NXPowerLite?

A: NXPowerLite only works on PCs (Microsoft Windows 98 or later). However, presentations optimized using NXPowerLite should work fine with Mac versions of PowerPoint.

Q: Can I optimize several PowerPoint presentations at once (batch processing)?

A: Yes. This feature was added in NXPowerLite 2.3 (a free upgrade for all registered NXPowerLite 2 users).

Q: Does NXPowerLite work with any other presentation software?

A: NXPowerLite will also optimize presentations created using OpenOffice.org or StarOffice, providing they are saved in the PowerPoint file format.

Q: Do you know of, or produce a similar program which can compress Microsoft Word documents or Excel spreadsheets?

A: Yes. NXPowerLite 3 can optimize Word and Excel files, as well as PowerPoint.



USING NXPOWERLITE

Questions about using NXPowerLite - the first place to look if you are experiencing any difficulties:

Q: Do I have to install NXPowerLite?

A: It's up to you. The normal version of NXPowerLite is a single, stand-alone file. Just place it wherever you like on your computer (we find the Windows Desktop is a convenient location) and either double-click its icon, or drag a PowerPoint presentation file from an Explorer window onto the icon.

If you'd rather optimize your presentations from within PowerPoint or Windows Explorer, install the Integrated Edition of NXPowerLite to add NXPowerLite functionality to the PowerPoint, Outlook and Windows Explorer.

Q: Can I still edit my PowerPoint presentation after I have optimized it?

A: Yes - NXPowerLite will not affect the structure or layout of your PowerPoint presentation. The only point to bear in mind is that once the presentation has been optimized, increasing the size of images may increase the size of your PowerPoint file. Of course, you can always re-optimize the presentation to reduce the file size again.

Q: I've tried dragging a PowerPoint file onto the NXPowerLite icon, but nothing happens. Am I doing something wrong?

A: You have probably already opened NXPowerLite. If NXPowerLite is already open, you should drag a presentation onto the NXPowerLite window, rather than its icon.

Q: My presentation isn't optimizing as well as I would expect. What are the possible reasons?

A: NXPowerLite works by optimizing graphics and embedded objects. If a presentation doesn't contain this type of content, it is unlikely that NXPowerLite will be able to further reduce the size of the presentation.

Q: I've downloaded the latest version of NXPowerLite and it no longer works on my computer. What should I do?

A: This is probably because you are using an old version of Windows. Because of improvements made to NXPowerLite 2.2, it no longer works with some versions of Windows.

Windows 95: Please use NXPowerLite 2.1 Stand-Alone or Integrated Edition. These are the most recent versions of NXPowerLite that work with Windows 95.

Windows 98: Please use the NXPowerLite 2.1 Stand-Alone, or NXPowerLite 2.5 Integrated Edition. The Stand-Alone Edition of NXPowerLite 2.5 will not work with Windows 98.

Windows ME: Please use the NXPowerLite 2.1 Stand-Alone, or NXPowerLite 2.5 Integrated Edition. The Stand-Alone Edition of 2.5 will not work with Windows ME.

Q: I've downloaded the latest version of NXPowerLite and my registration key no longer works. What should I do?

A: This is probably because you have a registration key for NXPowerLite 1 and have downloaded NXPowerLite 2. You can upgrade to the latest version of NXPowerLite by visiting our website.

Q: When I try to email a presentation using PowerPoint's 'Send To Mail Recipient (as Attachment)' feature, the NXPowerLite Integrated Edition does not automatically offer to optimize the presentation. Why is this?

A: Unfortunately, this is a problem with the way in which PowerPoint and Outlook interact. When you create a new email using this method, third party add-ins (such as NXPowerLite) are not enabled. To get around this problem, PowerPoint 2003 users can select 'Send To Mail Recipient (for Review)' instead. Alternatively, simply open Outlook and attach the presentation in the usual manner.



Q: Are there any ways to simplify deployment for system administrators?

A (Integrated Edition): The Integrated Edition of NXPowerLite (2.5 and later) can be installed and registered for all users of a particular machine by executing a single command:

```
nxplite25.exe /S "/NAME=Some User" /CODE=XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX
```

The "/S" option specifies that a silent install should be performed. A silent install can only be initiated by an Administrator, and it always installs all components (PowerPoint, Outlook and Explorer integration and Desktop icon) for all users. Please note the slightly odd quoting pattern; if the username contains spaces, it is necessary to quote the entire /NAME option (i.e. "/NAME=Some User" is correct, /NAME="Some User" will not work).

A (Stand-Alone Edition): It is possible to to automate the deployment of the Stand-Alone Edition of NXPowerLite (2.5 and later). When you start NXPowerLite 2.5, it checks to see if it has been registered. This is done by checking the following Registry values are present and valid:

```
Key name: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Neuxpower\  
          NXPowerLite\2.0  
Value names: "Registered name" (REG_SZ) and  
             "Registered code" (REG_SZ)
```

If the registration details are missing or invalid, it checks under the following Registry key as well:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Neuxpower\  
NXPowerLite\2.0
```

This makes it possible to deploy NXPowerLite to a machine by copying NXPowerLite.exe and executing a Registry script (as an Administrator) something like this:

```
///// begin registry script /////  
REGEDIT  
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Neuxpower\  
  NXPowerLite\2.0]  
"Registered name"="Some User"  
"Registered code"="XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX"  
///// end registry script /////
```

