

OPEN DIRECTLY - TEMPORARY DOCUMENTATION

WHAT IS IT?

Some Lightroom users want to edit raw files in another raw converter, but Lightroom's Edit With command generates a TIF file, so you need to go to the raw file(s) in Explorer/Finder, then launch the other program. Open Directly is a Lightroom plug-in that opens raw files directly in another raw converter.

BUT IT DOES MORE

You aren't limited to raw converters - you can send photos to any other program. While programs like Excel or Final Cut might be flummoxed to receive a batch of raw files, other applications might react a lot more favourably. For example, you can email files without going through Export, can send them to send a disc burning program.

INSTALLATION

The Iplugin can be saved anywhere on your computer. You then install it via File > Plug-in Manager.

My own preference is to put it in a Plug Ins folder which I set up in the Lightroom user folder.

- PC C:\Documents and Settings\John\Application Data\Adobe\Lightroom\Plug Ins
- Mac User/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Lightroom/Plug Ins

MENU COMMANDS

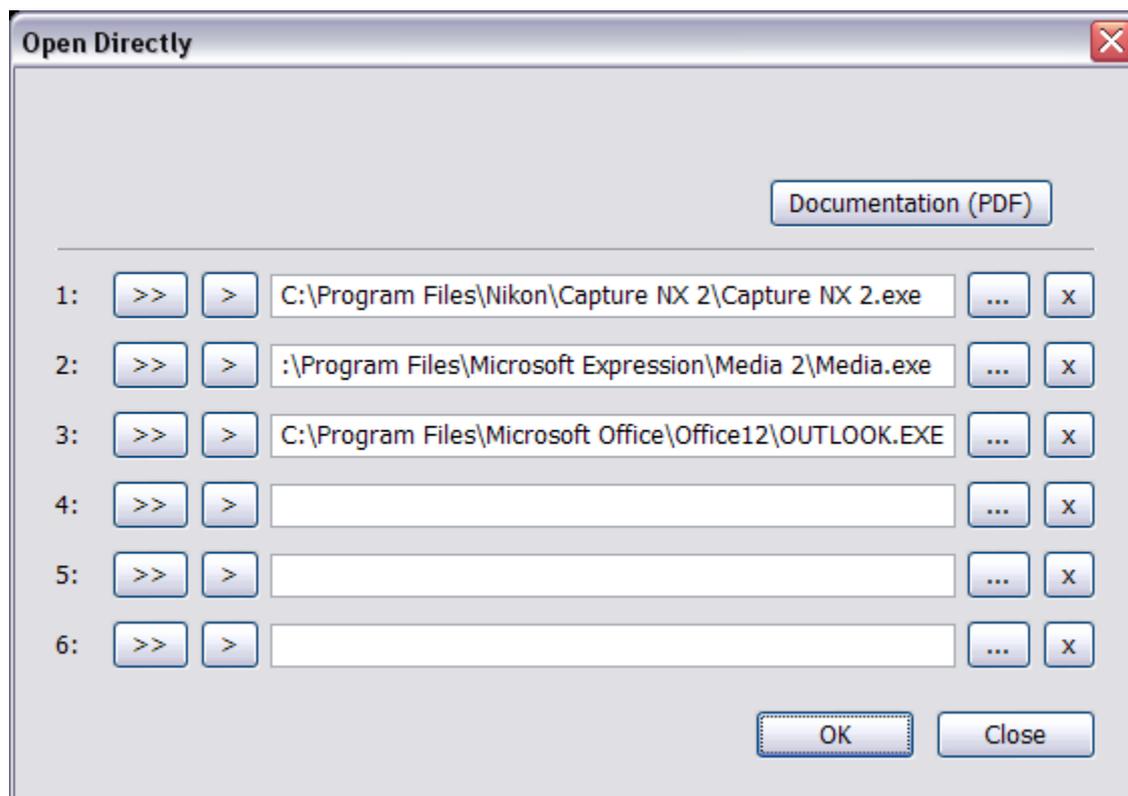
In Library :

- File > Plug In Extras > Open directly
- Library > Plug In Extras > Open directly

Just like Lightroom – if you haven't selected any items, it works on them all.

USING IT

Select some items, and then run the menu command **Open directly**. This dialog box appears:



Use the “...” button to set up the third party program. A maximum of 6 editors can be set up.

Use the “x” button to clear the third party program.

Use either the “>>” or the “>” button to launch the other program.

But why both buttons and which should you use? Well, it depends. First understand that “>>” sends a list of files to the other program and runs the program just once, while “>” sends each file individually to the other program. Depending what the other program is, and what you want to achieve, you might use either button. And with some programs it makes no difference. You will need to experiment:

- “>” makes Outlook produce one email per photo
- “>>” makes Expression Media or iView import all the target photos
- “>” or “>>” makes Nikon Capture NX2 open all the target photos