



ImageBlend 1.0

Installation Guide

CodeBlend

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

ImageBlend is a small and lightweight server software that can be used in order to publish images/photos in the Internet or to share images with a closed user group.

Everything that you need is integrated into the same package. For example, **ImageBlend** contains a build-in web server and a build-in database, which means that you do not need to use or install any external web servers or databases into your computer. This also means that the installation and usage of **ImageBlend** is extremely easy – installation takes about two minutes and the starting of the server takes about few seconds.

Because of the easy installation **ImageBlend** is suitable also for home users – you do not need to be an IT professional in order to maintain you own Internet image/photo service.

ImageBlend is not a free software in spite of that you can test it freely as long as you want. However, without a license you can have only ten users and maximum 300 images in your service. That's why you should purchase a license according to your needs.

See the **CodeBlend** homepage (<http://www.codeblend.fi>) in order to find more information about the licensing.

2 Package

2.1 Introduction

You can download the **ImageBlend** software from the CodeBlend homepage (<http://www.codeblend.fi>). In order to test this software you do not need any license. However, in this case you can define only 10 user accounts and the service can contain maximum 300 images. If you want to raise these limits you have to buy a license.

2.2 Package extraction

When you download the **ImageBlend** software you got a package named as "**ImageBlend_1_0.zip**" or "**ImageBlend_1_0.tar.gz**". The first one is for Windows and the second is for Linux.

First you have to extract the package into your hard disk. This means in practice that in Windows environment you have to use tools like "**WinZip**" or "**WinRAR**" in order to extract the package.

In the Linux environment you can use the command "**gzip -d ImageBlend_1_0.tar.gz**" in order to decompress the package and then you can use the command "**tar xvf ImageBlend_1_0.tar**" in order to extract the package.

2.3 Directory hierachy

After the package extraction you should have the following directory hierarchy on your hard disk.

ImageBlend/

bin/

imageBlend.exe

=> Executable program

config/

config.cfg

=> The main configuration file

languages.cfg

=> List of supported languages

mime.cfg

=> Supported mime types

translations.eng

=> English translations

translations.fin

=> Finnish translations

database/

folder.db

=> Folder information

folderImage.db

=> Image publishing information

image.db

=> Image information

user.db

=> User information

images/

original/

=> Original image files

preview1/

=> Small image previews

preview2/

=> Bigger image previews

web/

eng/

=> Web pages in English

fin/

=> Web pages in Finnish

images/

=> Common Web images

ImageBlend does not store anything outside of this directory hierarchy. This means in practice that you can uninstall **ImageBlend** just by removing the whole "ImageBlend/" directory from your hard disk.

3 Configuration

3.1 Introduction

ImageBlend configuration files are stored into the "**ImageBlend/config**" directory. All configuration files are text files, which means that you can edit them with an ordinary text editor like "notepad" or "emacs".

Configuration files are read only once when the **ImageBlend** is started. This means in practice that after the modification of the configuration files you have to restart the program.

3.2 Main configuration file

The main configuration file is called "**config.cfg**". In this file you can define the following things:

- License number and key
- TCP port of the web server (default is 80)
- Default language
- Session timeout
- Maximum size of the uploaded image
- Quality of the preview images

Usually you do not need to touch this file at all. However, when you have bought a license you need to update the license number and the key into this file.

3.3 Languages

ImageBlend is designed to support several languages. If you want to add a new language you should do the following things:

1. Add the language name into the "**languages.cfg**" file. For example, you might add Swedish language by adding the following line:

[swe] [Svenska]
2. Make a copy of the "**translations.eng**" file and rename it according to the new language. In the case of the Swedish language the new name would be "**translations.swe**".
3. Translate all entries in the current file into the new language.
4. Create a new folder into the "**ImageBlend/web**" directory for the new language. In the Swedish case the name of the folder is "swe".
5. Copy all files from the "**ImageBlend/web/eng**" directory into the new folder and translate these files into the new language.

After that you should see the new language selection on the bottom of the main page.

4 Startup

4.1 Introduction

Usually **ImageBlend** is started from the command-line. This is quite natural in Linux environment, but a little bit old-fashion in Windows environment. However, in Windows environment **ImageBlend** can be installed as a Windows service, which means that it can be started automatically every time when you start your computer.

4.2 Command-line

In order to start **ImageBlend** from the command-line you need to first open a terminal window ("Command Prompt" in Windows). The executable program is called "**ImageBlend**" (or "ImageBlend.exe") and it can be found in the '**ImageBlend/bin**' directory. If you want to start this program without going to the current directory you had to add the current directory into your PATH variable or you have to write the whole path in the front of the program name.

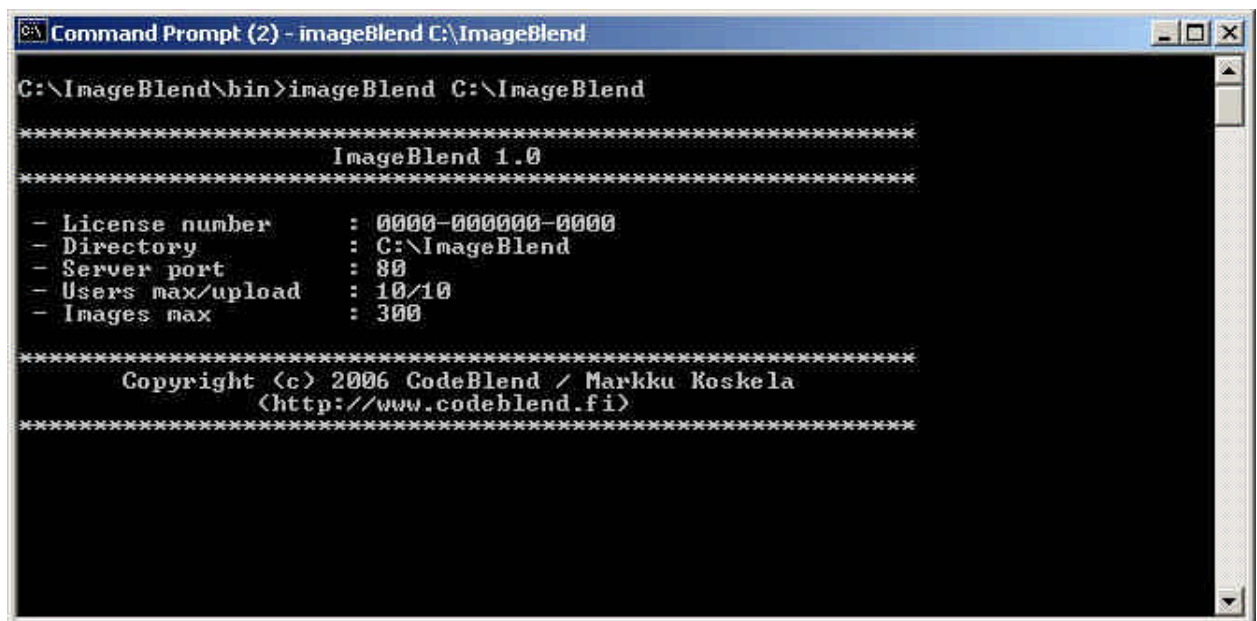
ImageBlend is started with the following command:

```
ImageBlend <directory>
```

where the "<directory>" parameter points to the "ImageBlend/" directory. As was mentioned earlier, **ImageBlend** does not write anything outside of this directory and everything that it needs is in this directory. That's why it is given as a parameter. Lets assume that ImageBlend is installed into "C:" drive and into "C:\ImageBlend" directory. In this case **ImageBlend** is started with the following command:

```
ImageBlend C:\ImageBlend
```

If the startup was successful you should be able to see something like this:



```
Command Prompt (2) - imageBlend C:\ImageBlend

C:\ImageBlend\bin>imageBlend C:\ImageBlend

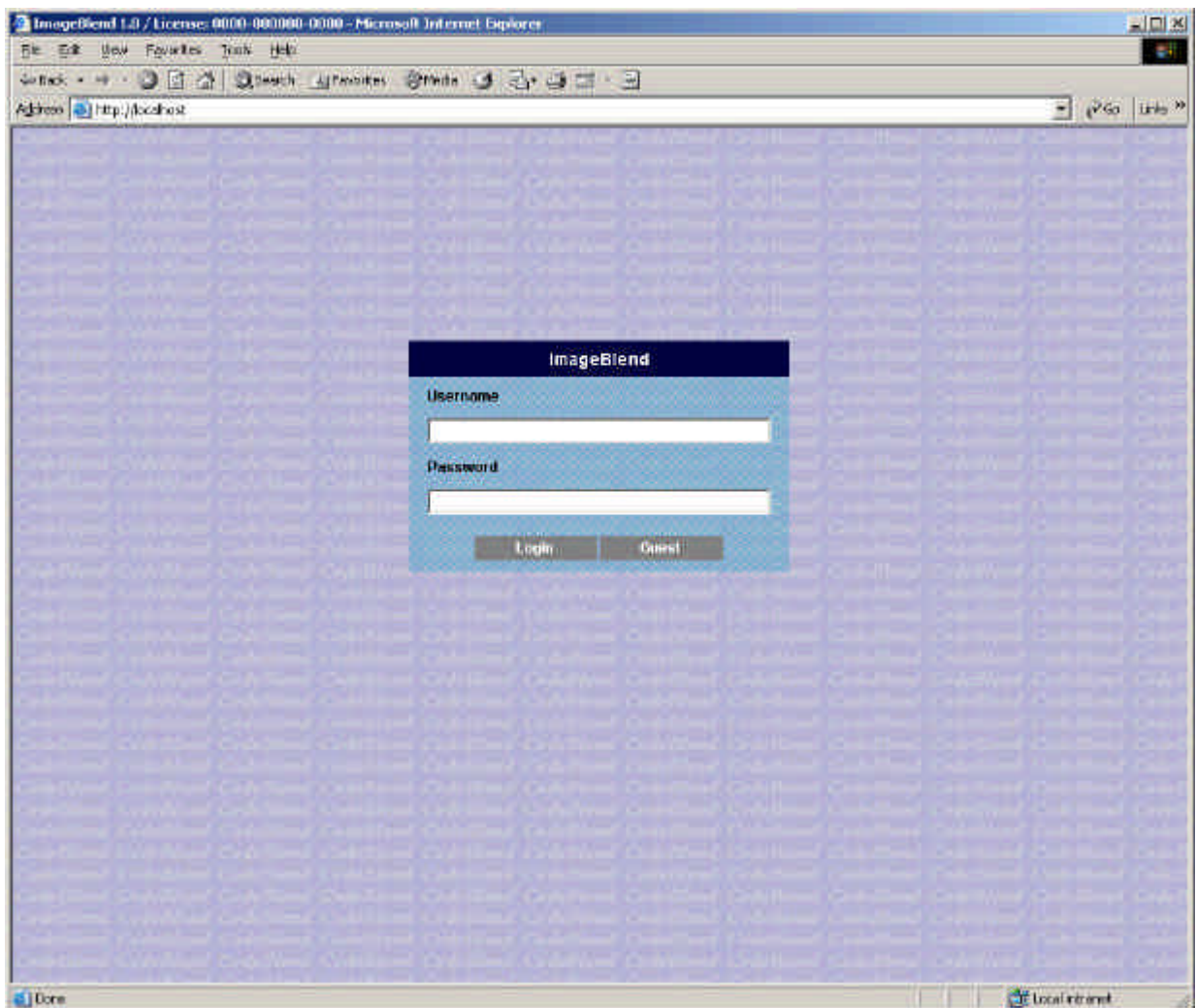
*****
                        ImageBlend 1.0
*****

- License number      : 0000-000000-0000
- Directory           : C:\ImageBlend
- Server port         : 80
- Users max/upload    : 10/10
- Images max          : 300

*****
      Copyright (c) 2006 CodeBlend / Markku Koskela
      (http://www.codeblend.fi)
*****
```

As can be seen the **ImageBlend** uses TCP port 80 as the server port. This is the port that Web Servers usually use. If you want to change it you have to edit the main configuration file ("config.cfg").

You can now start to use the **ImageBlend** service. First you need to start a Web browser (MS Internet Explorer, Netscape, Mozilla, Firefox, etc). Connect to the URLs "**http://localhost**" or "**http://127.0.0.1**". The result should be the same in both cases i.e. you should see the following login screen.



You can login into the service by using the "Guest" button. If you want to login as the system administrator you should type "**admin**" into the username fields and also into the password field. Make sure that you change this administrator's passwords as soon as possible.

Notice that when you want that your service is visible to the Internet you need a fixed IP address or domain name. That's how other users can find your service. If you do not have a fixed IP address see "**http://www.no-ip.com**" in order to get more information about domain names and dynamic IP addresses.

4.3 Windows service

As was mentioned earlier, **ImageBlend** can be installed as a Windows service. In this case **ImageBlend** can be automatically started every time when you start your PC.

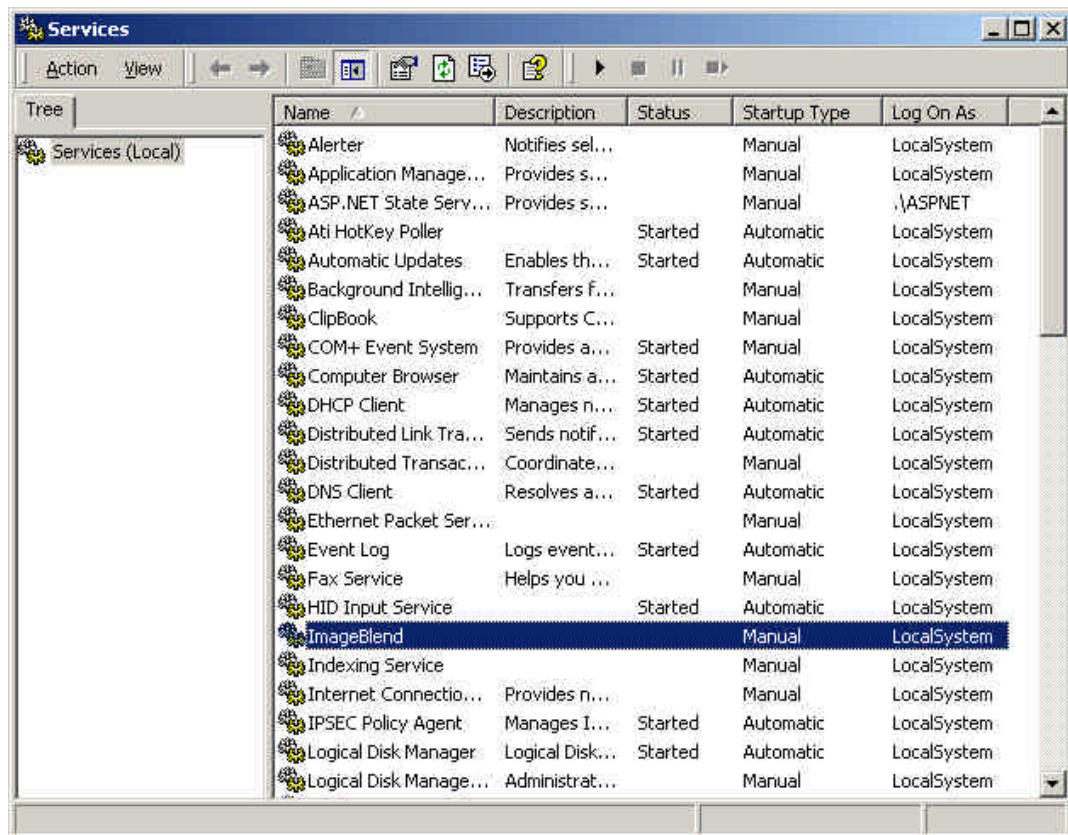
You need to type the following command in order to install **ImageBlend** as a Windows service:

```
ImageBlend <directory> -install
```

where the "<directory>" parameter points to the "ImageBlend/" directory. Lets assume that **ImageBlend** is installed into "C:" drive and into "C:\ImageBlend" directory. In this case **ImageBlend** is installed as a Windows service with the following command:

```
ImageBlend C:\ImageBlend -install
```

After that you should be able to see it in the Windows service list as is shown below. This is also the place where you can start and stop the service. You can also configure the service so that it is automatically started when you start your PC.



If you want to remove the **ImageBlend** Windows service you should first stop the service. After that you can type the following command:

```
ImageBlend <directory> -uninstall
```

where the "<directory>" parameter points to the "ImageBlend/" directory. Lets assume that **ImageBlend** is installed into "C:" drive and into "C:\ImageBlend" directory. In this case **ImageBlend** is uninstalled as a Windows service with the following command:

```
ImageBlend C:\ImageBlend -uninstall
```

After that the **ImageBlend** service should disappear from the service list.

5 Database

5.1 Introduction

ImageBlend uses the ordinary file system as its database. That's why its management is quite simple. You can easily backup and clean all information used by **ImageBlend**

5.2 Backup

If you want to take backup of the **ImageBlend** database and images you need to stop the service or at least make sure that nobody can access it during the backup.

You probably need to backup only the following directories in order to make sure that you do not loose any information even if your hard drive crashes:

**ImageBlend/database/
ImageBlend/images/**

Just copy these directories time to time into some safe media (CD, tape, etc).

5.3 Clean database

If you want to clean the whole database, just remove all files from the following directories:

**ImageBlend/database/
ImageBlend/images/original/
ImageBlend/images/preview1/
ImageBlend/images/preview2/**

Notice that this operation also removes all existing user information. However, you should be able to login as the system administrator by using "**admin**" as the username and the password.