



AI Stripper

WINDOWS PRIVACY UTILITY

User Manual

VERSION 2.1.1

Quick Start

- 1 Open files** Drop images into the queue or use Open files. JPG, JPEG, PNG, and WebP are supported.
- 2 Choose output** Keep the original format for pixel-lossless stripping, or select JPG, PNG, or WebP to convert.
- 3 Choose a workflow** Strip metadata removes embedded data. Strip + write fields removes it first, then writes only the fields you entered.
- 4 Find the result** Each output is saved beside its original with -stripped added. Existing names are numbered automatically.

Two operations, two different guarantees

Same-format stripping rewrites only the image container and leaves encoded image data untouched. Format conversion decodes and re-encodes the image. AI Stripper labels that difference before conversion begins.

Workspace and Files

The full workflow fits inside the 1280 by 720 window. No input or output folders are required.

The screenshot displays the AI Stripper v2.1.1 application window. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Header:** Includes the AI Stripper logo, the tagline "Private metadata control for creators Version 2.1.1", and links for "Check for updates", "Settings", and "User manual".
- Files Section:** Located on the left, it features a "Drop files here" area with the instruction "or click to open JPG, PNG, and WebP files". Below this is a "PROCESSING QUEUE" table showing three selected files.
- Output format:** A dropdown menu set to "Keep original format" with an "Options" link.
- Rewrite fields:** A section for customizing metadata with input fields for Title, Subject, Tags, Authors, Copyright, and Comments.
- Action Buttons:** Two large buttons at the bottom right: "Strip metadata" (orange) and "Strip + write fields" (blue).
- Activity Log:** A section at the bottom right showing the application's activity, including version information, copyright, and a confirmation message about the files added to the queue.

File	Type	Folder
creator-portrait.jpg	JPG	E:\EXIF Stripper\build\ui-samples
social-post.png	PNG	E:\EXIF Stripper\build\ui-samples
cover-art.webp	WEBP	E:\EXIF Stripper\build\ui-samples

Activity Log:

```
AI Stripper v2.1.1 :: Copyright 2026 Sputnik Digital LLC :: www.SputnikFX.com
Open or drop JPG, PNG, and WebP files. Originals are never modified.
Added 3 files to the queue.
```

Stripping and Conversion

The output selector determines whether AI Stripper edits only the container or creates a newly encoded image.

Keep original format

- JPG scan data, PNG image chunks, and WebP image payloads are copied without decoding or recompression.
- Existing EXIF, XMP, comments, generator data, and unsupported ancillary metadata are removed.
- Animated WebP stays animated when the output format is unchanged.
- The result uses the source extension and receives the -stripped suffix.

Convert to JPG, PNG, or WebP

- The image is decoded and re-encoded using the options you approve.
- JPG uses lossy compression. PNG is lossless. WebP can be either.
- Transparent pixels converted to JPG are flattened onto the chosen color, white by default.
- Animated images are rejected during conversion so frames are never discarded silently.

Output behavior

LOCATION	Outputs are written to the same folder as each source file.
NAME	photo.png becomes photo-stripped.png. A collision becomes photo-stripped-2.png, then -3, and so on.
ORIGINALS	Source files are never moved, renamed, overwritten, or deleted.
BATCHES	One output format applies to the entire queue. A mixed queue can contain JPG, PNG, and WebP sources.
ERRORS	A failed file is reported in Activity. The rest of the queue continues.
VERIFICATION	Every output is reopened and checked for unexpected metadata before it is reported as complete.

Rewrite Fields

No field is required. Empty fields are omitted, and the source metadata is never copied forward.

Available fields

TITLE	The public title or display name for the image.
SUBJECT	A short description or headline.
TAGS	Comma- or semicolon-separated keywords.
AUTHORS	One creator or a comma-separated list.
COPYRIGHT	The rights statement you want embedded.
COMMENTS	A longer note or description.

Workflow rule

Strip metadata ignores the rewrite fields, even when they contain text.

Strip + write fields removes existing metadata first and writes only the non-empty values shown in the form.

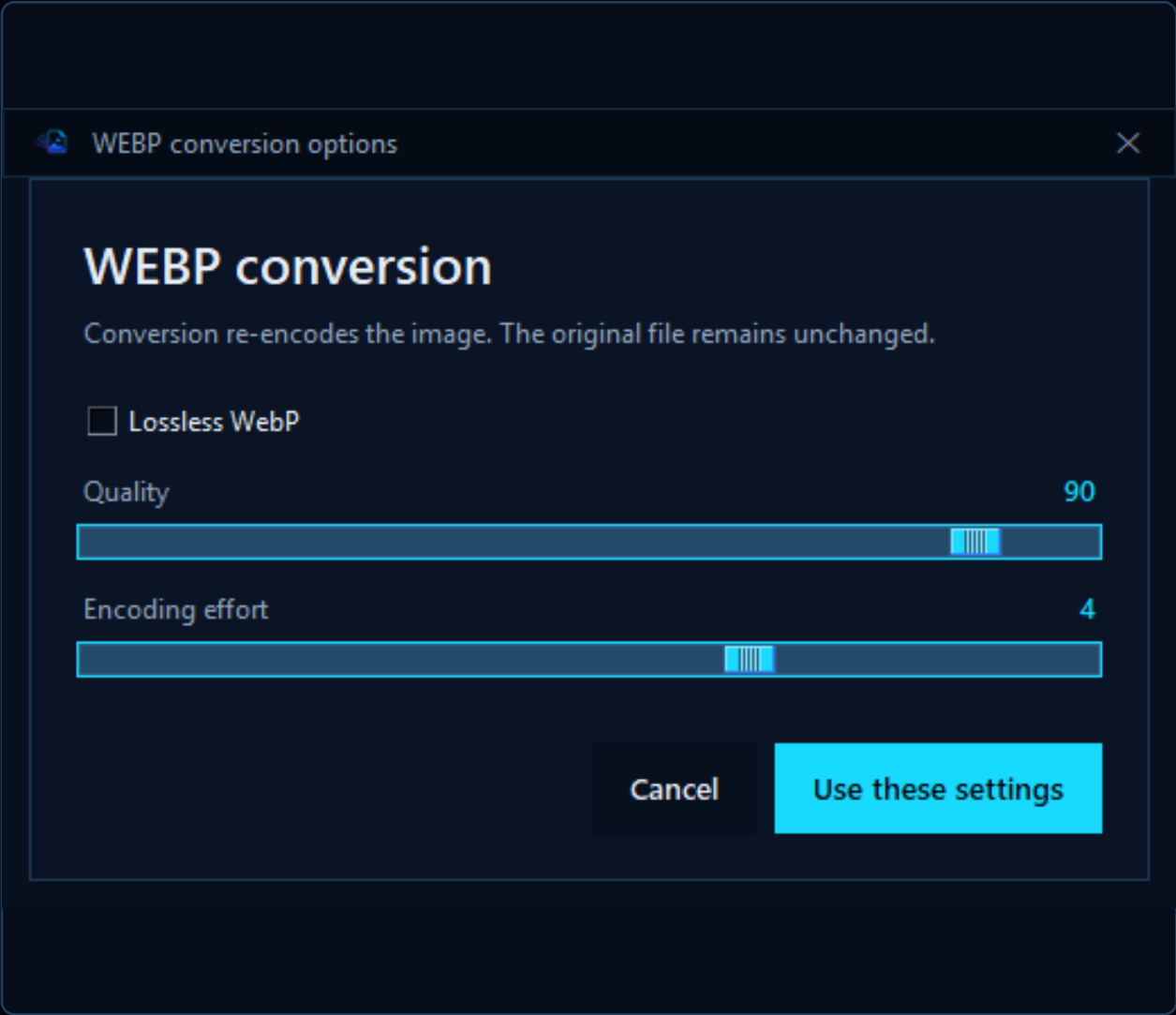
Windows File Explorer does not reliably display PNG or WebP metadata. A blank Details panel is not proof that the fields are missing.

How fields are stored

JPG	Writes EXIF and XMP blocks for broad compatibility.
PNG	Writes EXIF, XMP, UTF-8 iTXt, and legacy tEXt fields. Encoded PNG image data is not recompressed during same-format stripping.
WEBP	Writes EXIF and XMP chunks and updates the WebP feature flags without touching the visual payload.
UNICODE	Titles, comments, author names, and subjects support Unicode through EXIF XP fields and XMP.

Format Options

A conversion options window appears before any file is re-encoded. Settings apply only to files that need conversion.



JPG

QUALITY

1 through 100. The default is 92.

COLOR

4:4:4, 4:2:2, or 4:2:0 chroma sampling.

PROGRESSIVE

Enabled by default.

BACKGROUND

Color used when transparency must be flattened.

PNG

Compression ranges from 0 through 9. It changes encoding effort and file size, not image quality.

WebP

Choose lossless or lossy output, quality from 0 through 100, and encoding effort from 0 through 6.

Saved Defaults

The Settings button controls what AI Stripper loads when a new session starts.

AI Stripper settings

Settings

Choose the values AI Stripper loads at startup.

Default export

Keep original format

Format settings

Same-format processing keeps encoded image pixels untouched.

Default author

Default copyright

Defaults are stored on this computer only. They can be changed for any batch.

Restore defaults

Cancel

Save settings

Export defaults

FORMAT

Choose source format, JPG, PNG, or WebP.

OPTIONS

Format settings opens the same conversion controls used by the batch workspace.

SCOPE

Changing batch controls does not overwrite the saved defaults.

Rewrite defaults

Default author and copyright values are loaded into the rewrite form and remain editable.

Local storage

Settings stay in the current Windows user's local application data. Restore defaults clears them in the modal.

Updates and Privacy

AI Stripper checks for a newer public version without sending image data, filenames, folder paths, or device identifiers.

Update notification

- The app makes one HTTPS request shortly after startup.
- The endpoint is www.sputnikfx.com/software/ai-stripper/update.
- A newer semantic version displays an in-app banner.
- Open update page launches the trusted SputnikFX download URL in the default browser.
- AI Stripper never downloads or installs an update automatically.

Local processing

- Images are read and written on the local computer.
- The application has no analytics, advertising SDK, account login, or cloud image service.
- Selected files and unsaved rewrite values are held only for the current session.
- Saved settings contain only export defaults, author text, and copyright text.
- Opening the manual copies the bundled PDF to the current Windows user profile.
- The Activity panel reports local results and is not transmitted.

Public update file

The update endpoint may return a plain version number or a small JSON object:

```
{
  "version": "2.1.1",
  "download_url": "https://www.sputnikfx.com/software/ai-stripper/",
  "notes": "Short release note shown inside the app."
}
```

Only HTTPS links on [sputnikfx.com](https://www.sputnikfx.com) are accepted. An invalid response is ignored and the app remains usable.

Installation and Support

The signed installer requests administrator permission and installs the application, manual, notices, and shortcuts for the computer.

Run and verify

DOWNLOAD	Download AI Stripper Setup 2.1.1.exe from SputnikFX.com.
PUBLISHER	Windows should identify the signed publisher as Sputnik Digital LLC.
INSTALL	Run the installer and approve the Windows administrator prompt.
LOCATION	The default location is the system Program Files directory.
MANUAL	The PDF is installed with the app and opens from the header or Start menu.
UPDATE	Use the version button in the header to check again.

Troubleshooting

- If a file is locked by another program, close that program and run the queue again.
- If an animated image must change formats, export the animation with a dedicated animation editor first.
- If a converted JPG has the wrong background, choose JPG Options and select the correct transparency color.
- If metadata fields are blank in Windows Explorer, inspect PNG and WebP files with a metadata-aware tool.
- If update checking fails, the processing features continue to work offline.

Release details

PRODUCT	AI Stripper v2.1.1
SUPPORTED	Windows 10 and Windows 11, 64-bit.
INPUTS	JPG, JPEG, PNG, and WebP.
OUTPUTS	Keep source format, JPG, PNG, or WebP.
SIGNATURE	The installer, application, and uninstaller carry Sputnik Digital LLC Authenticode signatures.
PUBLISHER	Sputnik Digital LLC
WEBSITE	www.SputnikFX.com