

## How to Use Picture Tubes

You can use the Picture Tube tool to paint with a collection of objects. For example, you can add butterflies and beetles to a picnic setting or frame a picture with flowers.

To learn more about picture tubes, check out these resources on the Discovery Center:

[How to Use the Picture Tube Tool](#) (7-minute video tutorial)

[Working with Picture Tubes](#) (1-hour webinar recording)

Picture Tubes are PspTube files. Each picture tube file is made up of a series of images arranged in rows and columns, called cells. Picture tubes may have any number of cells. As you paint with the Picture Tube tool, PaintShop Pro paints one image from the picture tube after another. Many picture tubes create discrete images (such as zoo animals), and others create the effect of a continuous image (such as a fence).

Use the following location to save the picture tube(s) you have downloaded:

C:\Users\YOURNAME\Documents\Coreel PaintShop Pro\2022\Picture Tubes

*If you are using an earlier version of PaintShop Pro, replace 2022 in the filepath above with your version.*

### To paint with a picture tube:

1. On the **Tools** toolbar, choose the **Picture Tube** tool.
2. On the **Tool Options** palette, select a picture tube from the drop-down list.

**Note:** most picture tube previews show the first image rather than all images in the picture tube. To view all images, select the desired picture tube and then paint with it, or open the .PspTube file in PaintShop Pro.

3. If necessary, adjust the following:

- **Scale** – determines the percentage (10% to 250%) for reducing or enlarging each image in the picture tube and scaling the step.
- **Step** – determines the distance in pixels (1 to 500) between the centers of each picture tube cell that you paint.
- **Placement mode** – determines how the images are placed. Choose Continuous to space the images evenly by step size or choose Random to randomly space the images, with intervals ranging from 1 pixel to the step size.
- **Selection mode** – determines how PaintShop Pro selects images from the cells within the picture tube file. **Angular** selects images based on the direction you drag. **Incremental** selects images one by one from top left to bottom right. **Pressure** selects images based on the pressure you apply on a pressure-sensitive tablet. **Random** selects images randomly. **Velocity** selects images based on the speed with which you drag.

4. In the image window, click to paint with one picture tube image, or drag to paint with multiple picture tube images.

You can make further changes to the behaviour of the current picture tube by clicking the **Settings** button on the **Tool Options** palette and adjusting settings in the **Picture Tube Settings** dialog box.

When you click the **Settings** button on the **Tool Options** palette, the **Picture Tube Settings** dialog box appears. You can use this dialog box to update the current **Tool Options** palette settings and to modify the look of the current picture tube. However, you can also make the settings permanent by marking the **Save as default for this Picture Tube** option.

- **Current Picture Tube name and path** – the name and path of the picture tube appear at the top of this dialog box.
- **Cell arrangement** – the **Cells across** and **Cells down** fields display the current cell layout of the picture tube. The ranges for these values depend on how the picture tube was created. The **Total cells** field shows the product of multiplying the **Cells across** value by the **Cells down** value.
- **Placement options** – modifying any of these settings updates the corresponding setting on the **Tool Options** palette. Note that the **Scale** setting is only available for some picture tubes.
- **Save as default for this Picture Tube** – mark this check box if you want to save any modifications made in the **Picture Tube Settings** dialog box. If you do not mark this check box, the changes affect only the current use of the picture tube.

To make picture tube elements easier to edit, it is helpful to paint them on a separate layer. This allows you to independently move, resize, and reposition the picture tube images. If they're on a separate layer, you can also erase some parts, adjust the layer opacity or blend mode, or add effects such as a drop shadow.