

User Manual
RAWCaptureBooth
Version 1.4

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Target audience: Operators, event organizers, rental providers, and end users

This manual explains installation, setup, operation, and troubleshooting.

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Introduction and target audience

The photo booth software is a locally operated application for photo sessions at events. It provides a touch-optimized interface for guests as well as a comprehensive admin portal for operators.

This manual is intended for people who configure, operate, or rent out the photo booth. Menu labels may vary slightly depending on the version.

Product overview

Typical features at a glance:

- Guided flow: start screen, optional info screen, layout selection, live preview, countdown, results screen.
- Camera integration: webcam (browser) or DSLR/mirrorless (DSLR/DSLM) – either native or via digiCamControl (optional).
- Layouts and overlays for collages and single photos.
- Print workflow: single printer or printer pooling.
- Email sending and cloud upload (automatic or after selection).
- Gallery and session history with local storage.
- Admin portal with PIN protection, branding, device and system options.

Roles and access

The software typically distinguishes three roles:

- Guests: use the photo booth in event mode (start, capture, output).
- Organizers/Renters: access selected functions via Quick Settings (PIN-protected).
- Administrators: full access to configuration, maintenance, and license management (Admin Portal, PIN-protected).

System requirements

Recommended minimum requirements:

- Windows 10/11 (required for printer pooling).
- Up-to-date graphics driver.
- Ideally a dedicated NVIDIA or AMD GPU. Integrated graphics may require a compatibility mode (display/scaling settings).
- Touchscreen or mouse/keyboard.
- Optional: DSLR/mirrorless camera (native or via digiCamControl).
- Microsoft WebView2 Runtime (usually included with Windows 10/11).
- Internet connection for initial license activation.

Installation and start

The software is provided as an installable Windows application. For regular operation, use the release versions. For troubleshooting and test runs, you can use debug builds.

Follow the installer wizard. After installation, start the application via the shortcut.

If you want to update an already installed version to a newer one, you can run the installer as well—there is no need to uninstall the previously installed version. When updating, always keep in mind that updates may also introduce bugs. Therefore, it is recommended to update only when you have enough time to test all relevant functions and, if necessary, report issues so they can be fixed quickly.

Operation is performed by default in the built-in kiosk mode. Optionally, the interface can also be opened in a browser (e.g., for tests or external access on the same device).

Optional browser addresses:

- Photo booth UI: <http://localhost:8000>
- Admin portal: <http://localhost:8000/admin>

Initial setup (recommended steps)

Recommended steps after the first installation:

- Change the admin PIN (default: 0000).
- Test access to the admin area (hot corner at the bottom left and /admin).
- Set up the camera: Use the setup wizard in the Camera section. For Canon cameras it is often necessary to load additional drivers. The software can do this automatically when the corresponding function is enabled. The wizard will prompt you accordingly.
- Configure and test layouts/overlays.
- Set up the printer and perform a test print.
- Enable and test email and cloud upload if needed.
- Adjust branding (logo, colors, text).
- Set the Quick Settings PIN for organizers/renters.

Tip: After setup, run a test session to check the flow from the guests' perspective.

Guest operation

Guest operation is fully touch-optimized and guides users step by step:

- Start screen: tap “Start”.
- Optional info screen: read notes (e.g., behavior or procedure).
- Layout selection: choose the desired layout.
- Live preview: position yourself; the countdown starts automatically.
- Results screen: the photo/collage is displayed.
- Optional actions: print, email, cloud upload, gallery (depending on permissions).

Quick settings (for organizers/renters)

Quick Settings allow organizers or renters to control functions on site quickly without opening the admin area. Access is protected by a separate PIN (4–12 digits).

Access:

- On the start screen, use the Quick Settings button (icon at the bottom).
- Enter the PIN and confirm.

Typical functions in Quick Settings:

- Enable/disable email sending.
- Enable/disable printing.
- Enable/disable cloud upload (automatic or after selection).
- View counters for sessions and prints.
- Restart or exit the software.

The Quick Settings PIN is set in the admin portal and can be changed or removed at any time.

Admin portal

The admin portal is used for full configuration of the photo booth and is PIN-protected.

Access options:

- Directly via: <http://localhost:8000/admin>
- Via the hot corner on the start screen (invisible button bottom left).

Key areas in the admin portal:

- Category: Layouts, filters & background
 - Animations & layouts
 - Layouts
 - Filter selection
 - Background Studio (greenscreen)
- Category: Camera
 - Camera (sub-items: Native DSLR/DSLM, digiCamControl)
 - Exposure metering
- Category: Print
 - Printer
 - Printer (photo strips)
- Category: Cloud & Mail
 - Web photo album QR code
 - Email / SMTP
 - Cloud Upload
- Category: Countdowns & counters
 - Counters & print warnings
 - Usage limits
 - Countdowns
- Category: Data processing
 - Data management: mirroring
 - Data management: local storage & deletion
 - Data management: cloud upload
 - Privacy by default
 - Post-processing / re-rendering

- Category: Info screens & contact
 - Contact
 - Info screen
 - Info screen before first capture
 - Info screen before additional captures
- Category: Light / accessory control
 - Relays
 - LightControl
- Category: System settings
 - Display & scaling
 - Customize start page
 - Change PIN
 - Quick Settings PIN
 - Timeouts / error handling
 - Language
 - Settings presets
 - Backup & restore

Configuring cloud upload

Provider: HTTP POST or folder export.

Mode: Automatic (auto) or after selection (prompt).

HTTP POST variant (server upload):

- Enter the server URL in the admin portal.
- Assign and save an event key (identifier).
- Optional: enter username/password for HTTP Basic Auth.

Server requirements (HTTP POST):

- Method: POST
- Content-Type: multipart/form-data
- File field: media (contains the image file including filename and MIME type)
- Additional field: message (event key/identifier)
- Response: HTTP status 200–299 recommended; JSON response possible (otherwise text).

Note: The photo booth treats HTTP status ≥ 400 as an error. The upload timeout is about 20 seconds by default.

Example request (cURL):

```
curl -X POST https://example.com/upload \  
-u USER:PASS \  
-F "message=EVENT123" \  
-F "media=@C:\Path\image.jpg;type=image/jpeg"
```

Example server (PHP, minimal):

```
<?php  
  
$event = $_POST['message'] ?? '';  
$file = $_FILES['media'] ?? null;  
  
if (!$file) { http_response_code(400); exit('missing file'); }  
  
$target = __DIR__ . '/uploads/' . basename($file['name']);  
move_uploaded_file($file['tmp_name'], $target);  
  
echo json_encode(['status' => 'ok', 'event' => $event]);  
  
?>
```

Example server (Node.js/Express, minimal):

```
const express = require('express');  
  
const multer = require('multer');  
  
const upload = multer({ dest: 'uploads/' });
```

```
const app = express();

app.post('/upload', upload.single('media'), (req, res) => {
  const event = req.body.message || "";
  if (!req.file) return res.status(400).send('missing file');
  res.json({ status: 'ok', event });
});
```

```
app.listen(3000);
```

Folder export variant (external cloud clients):

- In your preferred cloud client (e.g., Dropbox, Google Drive, Nextcloud), create a local sync folder.
- Select this folder in the admin portal as the export folder.
- The photo booth places files into this folder; the cloud client synchronizes them automatically.

Licensing and offline operation

The software requires a valid license. Activation is done in the admin portal:

- Enter the license key in the admin area.
- Synchronize the license (internet connection required).
- After successful activation, full operation is unlocked.

Trial period: If no license is available, a trial period (default: 14 days) may be created automatically depending on configuration.

Offline operation: For time-limited licenses, an offline grace period applies after expiry. As long as this grace period is not exceeded, the license remains active. For perpetual licenses (no expiry date), permanent offline operation is possible. Synchronization is recommended as soon as internet is available again.

Data, storage locations, and privacy

All configuration data and media are stored locally on the computer. Default path on Windows: %LOCALAPPDATA%\RAWCaptureBooth

Important subfolders:

- config: configuration (admin PIN, camera, print, cloud and email settings).
- layouts: layout templates and overlays.
- storage: sessions, gallery, thumbnails, branding, greenscreen assets.

Note: The storage location can be changed via the environment variable RAW_CAPTURE_BOOTH_DATA_DIR.

Privacy: As the operator, you are responsible for complying with applicable data protection requirements (e.g., consent, retention, deletion periods).

Backup, restore, and factory reset

Backups should be created before events and before major changes. The admin portal provides a backup and restore function.

Reset to factory settings:

- Admin portal → “Backup & Restore”.
- Enable the “Factory reset” option and enter the confirmation text.
- Optional: delete media or reset the license.
- Confirm with “Restore factory settings”.

Warning: This process cannot be undone. The admin PIN will be reset to 0000.

Operation and maintenance

- Regularly perform a test print and camera check before events.
- Clear the UI cache if layout or branding changes are not visible.
- Create a full backup of configuration and media before updates.
- If problems occur, first try restarting the software via Quick Settings or the admin portal.

Troubleshooting

Admin area not reachable:

- Check URL: <http://localhost:8000/admin>
- Use the hot corner bottom left on the start screen.
- Restart the software.

Quick Settings locked:

- Set or change a Quick Settings PIN in the admin portal.
- Observe the PIN format (4–12 digits).

License error / offline notice:

- Connect to the internet and synchronize the license in the admin portal.
- Check whether the offline grace period has been exceeded (for time-limited licenses).

Printing does not work:

- Select the printer in the admin portal and start a test print.
- If using pooling: check status (online/error).

Camera shows no image:

- Check camera mode (webcam/DSLR).
- For DSLR: is digiCamControl running and connected?
- For Canon: enable the option for additional drivers in the camera settings.

Email or cloud upload does not work:

- Check configuration (server, credentials, target URL).
- Perform a test send in the admin portal.

FAQ

- How do I get into the admin menu?
 - Via the /admin URL or the hot corner bottom left on the start screen.
- How do I change the Quick Settings PIN?
 - In the admin portal under Quick Settings PIN, set or change it.
- Can I operate the photo booth without internet?
 - Yes. For time-limited licenses within the offline grace period; for perpetual licenses permanently.
- Where are the photos stored?
 - Locally in %LOCALAPPDATA%\RAWCaptureBooth\storage.
- My camera is not recognized.
 - Check whether the camera is generally recognized by the PC (e.g., via Device Manager).
- My camera shows a live view image but cannot trigger.
 - Depending on the model, the camera may need to be controlled differently. In the camera settings, try enabling additional autofocus before captures; this option was added specifically for older cameras (e.g., Nikon D3500).
- My camera performs a double autofocus.
 - Check the camera settings for additional autofocus before capture and disable it if enabled. For newer camera models this command is not necessary.
- The display gets stuck in the session workflow (e.g., on a countdown screen), but the process continues in the background.
 - On older GPUs and some newer integrated GPUs there can be issues with hardware acceleration. Disable hardware acceleration in the display settings.
- Live view and triggering works, but occasionally the transfer aborts afterwards and an error message appears.
 - This can have various causes. Often it is related to USB/chipset drivers, blocked USB ports by other programs, USB cables, USB hubs, or multiple devices connected to the same controller. Use a camera-manufacturer-recommended USB cable, temporarily disconnect other USB devices, and check whether this resolves the issue.

- Live view and triggering works, but it always fails afterwards with an error saying capture failed.
 - First check the camera settings for JPEG or JPEG+RAW/NEF. If only RAW/NEF is selected, that is the cause because a JPEG image is always required. If RAW/NEF should also be transferred, this must be enabled in the software's camera settings.

Support and contact

Add your support contact details for customers here (email, phone, website).