

# TENSE INDEX 3.1

Tense Index creates custom index pages and galleries instantly. All you have to do is upload your images or other files like you normally would. That's it. When you load the page in your browser, a gallery or file listing is created automatically.

**MIKEPIONTEK.com**

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## ABOUT TENSE INDEX

Tense Index is absolutely free for personal or non-profit use, but I do appreciate a small donation if you find it useful. Just go to [tensecode.com/install](http://tensecode.com/install) and click the donation link. **The “Created with Tense Index” credit line and link must be included for free use.**

Professional installation is available for \$29. A commercial license is \$49 per site. Custom templates and plug-in design services are also available. Please contact Mike Piontek for more information at [mikepiontek.com/contact](http://mikepiontek.com/contact)

## REQUIREMENTS

To use Tense Index you'll need:

- An Apache web server
- PHP 4.3.2 or later
- .htaccess support
- GD1, GD2, or ImageMagick

No database is required. Most PHP installations include a version of GD, though ImageMagick is recommended as it supports many more image types. A Unix, Linux, or Mac OS X server is recommended.

## INSTALLATION

These instructions assume you're already familiar with basic tasks like uploading files via FTP. You do not need to know PHP or even HTML to use Tense Index. To make custom templates you will need to know basic HTML and CSS.

To get started, head over to [tensecode.com/install](http://tensecode.com/install) and download the Tense Index files if you haven't already. Decompress the files using WinZip or Stuffit Expander if necessary. Everything you need is in “the Files” folder.

Open your FTP application and connect to your server. Go to your root HTML folder (it may be called **public\_html** or just **html**). Upload all of the files directly inside that folder. The library folder must be accessible in your browser at <http://yourdomain.com/library> or it won't work.

After the **htaccess** file is uploaded, you should rename it to **.htaccess**, adding a period in front. (Some operating

systems will hide files that start with a period, so it was omitted to make sure you can see it.)

On some servers, you may need to allow write access in any folders you want to have automatic thumbnails. To do that, select the folder in your FTP program and look for a “permissions” or “chmod” option. Consult the help section for the program if you can't find it. Depending on the program, you may need to enter 777 if you are asked to enter a number, `rwrxrwx` if you see a string of similar letters, or just give write permissions to everyone if you see a series of checkboxes.

To test that Tense Index is working correctly, just open <http://yourdomain.com/library> in your browser.

## CUSTOMIZING TENSE INDEX

You can change some settings just by opening file at **library/common/settings.tools.php** in a text editor. You can edit it in any plain text editor... NotePad or TextEdit will work fine. There are instructions in the file itself that explain what each setting does.

Thumbnail images are stored in folders named **.tensecode**. If you want to use a different template for a folder, create a file named **template.txt** inside of the **.tensecode** folder. This should be a plain text file that contains the name of the template you'd like to use for that folder, and nothing else. For example if you want to use the Gallery template, just enter **Gallery.index** in the file. The different templates you can use are in the **library/index/templates** folder.

You can add descriptions to your files by creating **.description** files. For example if you want to add a description to **example.jpg**, create a plain text file named **example.jpg.description**. If you like you can include HTML in the description. If you'd like a faster way to add descriptions to your files, you may want to install Tense Log.

You can further customize Tense Index by creating your own templates. Visit the Tense Code site for more information: [tensecode.com/index](http://tensecode.com/index)

## UPGRADING TENSE INDEX

If you are upgrading from a previous version of Tense Index, simply remove the old files and install the new

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ones. If you prefer you can install the new version on top of the old one. You may also want to copy your old settings from **library/index.php** or **library/index/index.php** into **library/common/settings.tools.php**. Some of the old settings are gone; just create a custom template to get the same results.

## A NOTE ON TENSE LOG

This version of Tense Index is included with Tense Log 2.1. If you'd like to use both of them, just download and install Tense Log! Tense Log includes a number of great features that make using Tense Index even easier. For example you can easily enter descriptions for files, and select templates for folders just by selecting them from a pop-up menu.

## UPDATES

Interested in what has changed? Please visit [tensecode.com/index/updates](http://tensecode.com/index/updates).

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