

Command Line Support in Adobe DNG Converter

Introduction

Adobe DNG Converter supports invocation from the command line, which allows it to be run by automation systems (i.e., scripting) without displaying a user interface. This allows DNG conversion to be included in automated raw processing workflows.

Getting Started

On macOS, use the path to the executable file, which is inside the application bundle. For example,

```
"/Applications/Adobe DNG Converter.app/Contents/MacOS/Adobe DNG Converter"
```

followed by the parameter list.

On Windows, use the path to the exe file. For example:

```
"C:\Program Files\Adobe DNG Converter.exe"
```

followed by the parameter list. Note that under Windows, you need to include at least one option in the parameter list to prevent the DNG Converter from displaying its UI. If you don't have any non-default options to specify, just use the `-c` option, which is a default option.

Parameter List

The parameter list consists of options followed by the names of raw files to convert. Options must precede the names of any raw files that they apply to, and they apply to all the remaining raw files on the command line.

The Adobe DNG Converter supports the following command line options:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| <code>-c</code> | Output lossless compressed DNG files (default). |
| <code>-u</code> | Output uncompressed DNG files. |
| <code>-l</code> | Output linear DNG files. |
| <code>-e</code> | Embed original raw file inside DNG files. |
| <code>-p0</code> | Set JPEG preview size to none. |
| <code>-p1</code> | Set JPEG preview size to medium size (default). |
| <code>-p2</code> | Set JPEG preview size to full size. |

-fl	Embed fast load data inside DNG files.
-lossy	Use lossy compression.
-side <num>	Limit size to <num> pixels/side.
-count <num>	Limit pixel count to <num> pixels/image.
-cr2.4	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 2.4 and later
-cr4.1	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 4.1 and later
-cr4.6	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 4.6 and later
-cr5.4	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 5.4 and later
-cr6.6	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 6.6 and later
-cr7.1	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 7.1 and later
-cr11.2	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 11.2 and later
-cr12.4	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 12.4 and later
-cr13.2	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 13.2 and later
-cr14.0	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 14.0 and later
-cr15.3	Set Camera Raw compatibility to 15.3 and later
-dng1.1	Set DNG backward version to 1.1
-dng1.3	Set DNG backward version to 1.3
-dng1.4	Set DNG backward version to 1.4
-dng1.5	Set DNG backward version to 1.5
-dng1.6	Set DNG backward version to 1.6
-dng1.7	Set DNG backward version to 1.7
-dng1.7.1	Set DNG backward version to 1.7.1
-jxl	Use JPEG XL compression, if supported by image type. Implies -dng1.7
-jxl_distance	Set JPEG XL distance metric (see libjxl documentation). Valid values are 0.0 to 6.0. 0.0 is lossless and 0.1 is very high-quality lossy Implies -jxl
-jxl_effort	Set JPEG XL effort level (see libjxl documentation). Valid values are 1 to 9, where 1 = fastest. Implies -jxl
-losslessJXL	Uses Lossless JPEG XL compression. Implies -jxl and -jxl_distance 0.0 and -jxl_effort 7
-lossyMosaicJXL	Uses Lossy JPEG XL compression with Bayer images.

- mp Process multiple raw files in parallel.
Default is sequential (one image at a time).
- d <directory> Output converted files to the specified directory.
Default is the same directory as the input file.
- o <filename> Specify the name of the output DNG file.
Default is the name of the input file with the extension changed to “.dng”.

Examples

In all of the following examples, EXE is a placeholder for the path to the Adobe DNG Converter executable, as described in the previous section.

Convert a mosaic raw file to a mosaic DNG with lossless JPEG compression:

```
EXE -c DSC0001.NEF  
EXE -c DSC1234.RAF
```

Convert a mosaic raw file to a linear RGB DNG (demosaiced) with lossless JPEG compression:

```
EXE -linear DSC0001.NEF
```

Convert a raw file with a specific output directory:

```
EXE -d "/Volumes/ImageBackup/DNGArchive" DSC0001.NEF
```

Convert a raw file with a specific output file name:

```
EXE -o DSC0001-converted.dng DSC0001.NEF
```

Build a full-resolution “proxy” demosaiced DNG with 8-bit lossy JPEG compression:

```
EXE -dng1.6 -lossy DSC0001.NEF
```

Build a full-resolution “proxy” demosaiced DNG with 16-bit lossy JPEG XL compression:

```
EXE -dng1.7 -lossy -jxl DSC0001.NEF
```

Build a “proxy” DNG limited to 3000 pixels (long edge) with 16-bit lossy JPEG XL compression:

```
EXE -dng1.7 -lossy -side 3000 DSC0001.NEF
```

Use high-quality lossy JPEG XL compression:

```
EXE -dng1.7 -lossy -jxl_effort 7 -jxl_distance 0.1 DSC0001.NEF
```

Convert to a mosaic DNG with lossless JPEG XL compression:

```
EXE -losslessJXL DSC0001.NEF
```

Convert to a mosaic DNG with lossy JPEG XL compression (only for Bayer images):

```
EXE -lossyMosaicJXL DSC0001.NEF
```

Process multiple files sequentially:

```
EXE -c DSC0001.NEF DSC0002.NEF DSC0003.NEF
```

Process multiple files concurrently:

```
EXE -mp DSC0001.NEF DSC0002.NEF DSC0003.NEF
```