

## User guide - Albupad - Album Page Designer version 1600

Albupad (Album Page Designer) is a computer program to make album pages for e.g. postage stamps in a quick and easy way. With this program you draw the desired shapes in a grid on your screen using the mouse. Then you can fill the boxes with text or pictures. You can simply modify, move or duplicate the boxes and change the colors and the fonts.

Around the page a frame or double frame can be made. The album page can be printed directly or stored for later use or modification. This user guide describes briefly how to work with Albupad. Please check for additional information the Albupad website ([www.albupad.nl](http://www.albupad.nl)).

### Start

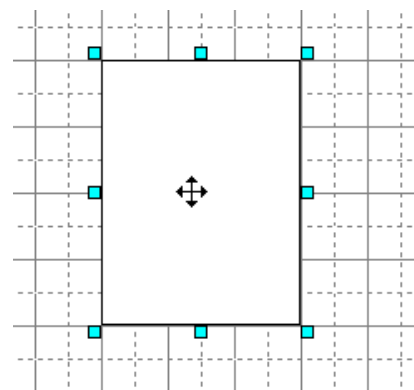
Initially a blank page will be shown with a frame and a raster. To make boxes on the page you simply click on the Box button down left. (other shapes can be found under Items in the top menu).



The new box will be displayed at the spot on the page where you last clicked with the mouse.

### Moving and sizing the box

If you click a box, that box becomes the active box and will have green handles. With the handles you can size the box. You can move the box by clicking on the center of the box and then move your mouse. Release the mouse button when the box is on the correct place.



If you want to move multiple boxes at once then hold the shift button and click all the boxes to be moved. Keep the shift key down and then move the selected boxes.

With the other buttons to the right side of the Box button you change the box's border color, no color at all (for text), the fill color, the font, the text color and clear the text. Furthermore you can change the position of the text in the box horizontally and vertically.

### Other box properties

More to the right on the bottom panel there are controls to change other properties of the selected box(es).



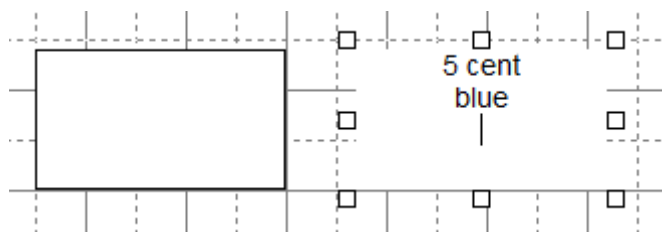
Line defines the thickness of the border of the box in tenth of a millimeter. Rounding defines the rounding of the corner of the box. X, Y, W, H are the left, top, width and height of a box. If no box is selected, X and Y show the position of the mouse on the page. Page and frame define whether these values are relative to the paper edges or to the paper margins.

The drop box shows the name of the box (item). You can change that name by typing an other name and then press enter.

### Adding text

Text is always placed in a box. You cannot write text directly on the page. Adding text to a box can be done in the following ways:

1. double-click the box;
2. click on the box with the right mouse button and then click 'open'.



After one of above methods the text module is shown which is indicated by white handles. You can then type the text directly in the box. Please note that tabs in the text are not supported.

After you have typed the text you can close the text module by double-clicking again or by clicking somewhere else on the page.

### Adding pictures

A box can contain a picture from a separate picture file. Picture files can be the most types of jpg, png, bmp, gif, or derived types like dib, jfif and jif. In the description below we made use of pictures on a CD-ROM from the stamps user group of the HCC (postzegel.hcc.nl).

In order to select a picture there are three different possible methods:

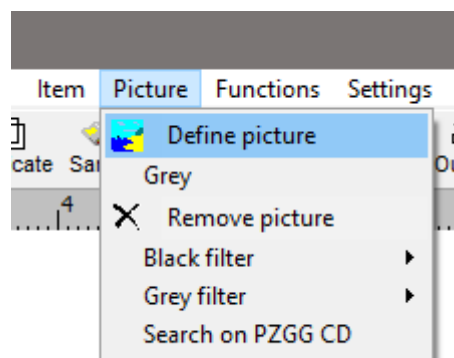
method 1. drag and drop from the Windows explorer. In that case you can also drag and drop multiple files at the same time. Albupad will make standard boxes for them.

method 2. select a filename.

Click in the menu on picture and click on define picture. A standard Windows dialog box will appear where you can select the picture file.

method 3. search on an HCC CD-ROM.

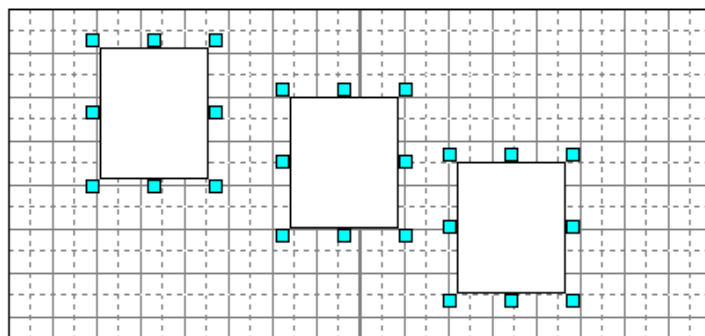
In this case you have a CD-ROM from the PZGG HCC user group. Click on Search on PZGG CD. A small box will show where you type the number of the picture. If you look for the picture of the stamp with number F0001 then you type F0001.



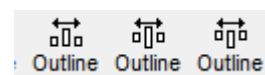
Please note: Only the name of a picture file is stored in the Albuspad file. If you move the Albuspad file to another computer you must also move the individual pictures to that other computer separately.

## Outline

These functions enable you to position the boxes relative to each other. As an example there are three boxes that are not properly outlined. If you want these three boxes to be outlined you first select them all by clicking them all with the pressed shift button. (or by clicking them all with the right mouse button). The reference box is the last box that you clicked.

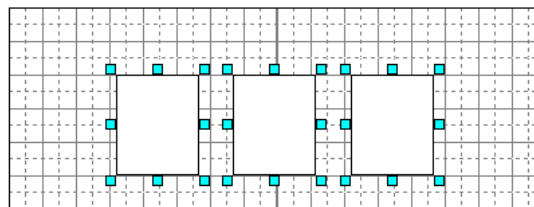
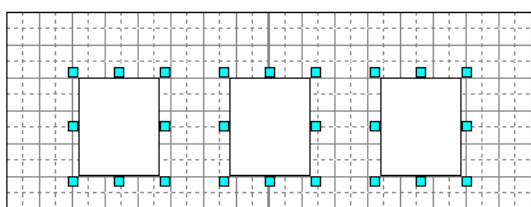
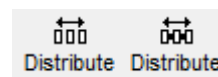


Now there are three possibilities for outlining: same bottom, same midpoint and same top.



## Distribution

With distribution you can distribute the items horizontally with the same distance to each other. There are two possibilities: fixed distance and calculated distance respective to the margins. You can define the fixed distance with the settings. The pictures below show calculated distance on the left and fixed distance on the right.

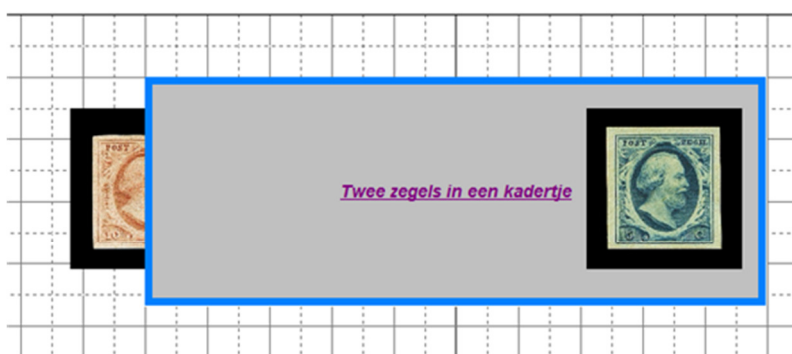


In order to do the distribution first select all involved boxes (by shift clicking them). Then click one of the two distribution buttons.

## Position foreground or background

When items overlap each other they may not be in the right order. E.g. when you want to put two boxes in an other box.

In the example the box with the red stamp is disguised by the box with the blue border. In



order to bring the red stamp to the top select it and bring it to the front with the item menu. After that the red stamp is on top and can be moved to the proper location.



### Example of building a page.

In this example we make a page with the first three stamps of The Netherlands depicting King Willem III, issued in 1852, using the pictures from the HCC PZGG CD-ROM<sup>1</sup>. First we make three boxes and define the pictures, or drag and drop them to the page. We add three other boxes for the text and click 'no border' for them, so only the text will be shown, not the border.



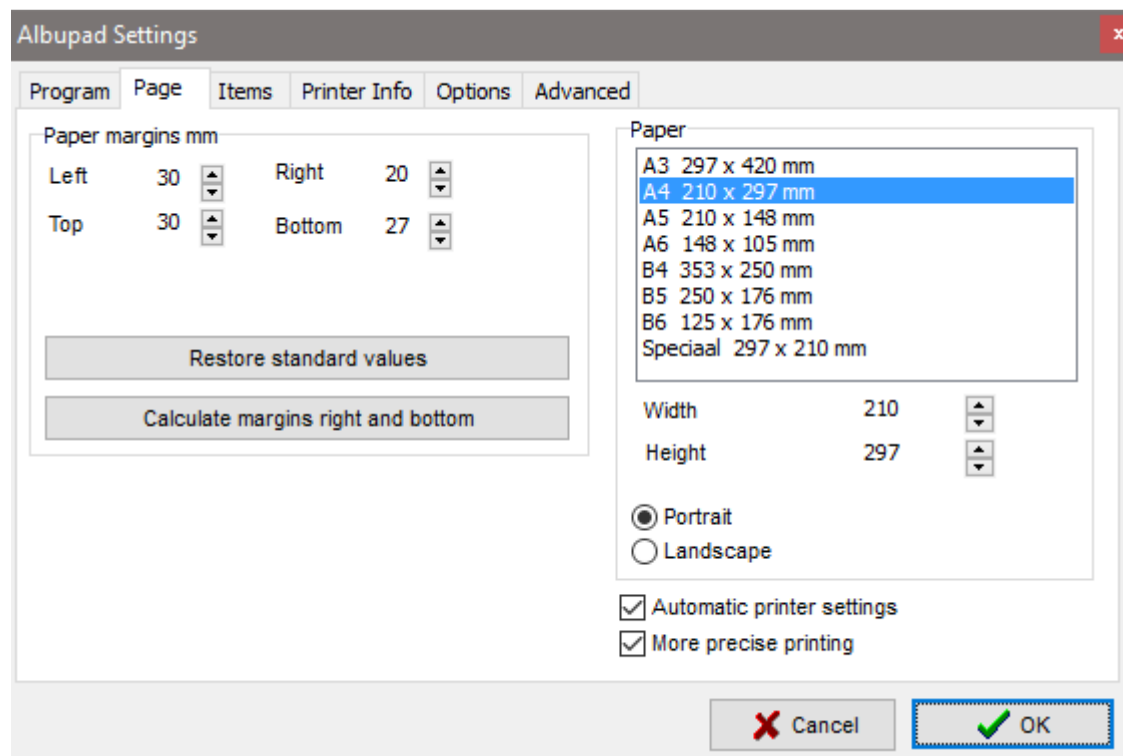
If you want to add a box above these stamps with the year or the name of the King you simply make new boxes for that purpose, and add the text.

When typing text and after the box is closed again you can apply an other font or font style. Then you can move it above the existing boxes. Then you can select them all with the 'select all' button and move them all down (holding the shift button).

<sup>1</sup> see: [postzegel.hcc.nl](http://postzegel.hcc.nl)

## Page format

The program works default with portrait A4 paper. You can change the paper size and properties, such as the margins of the frame, with Settings - Page in the menu.



## Options

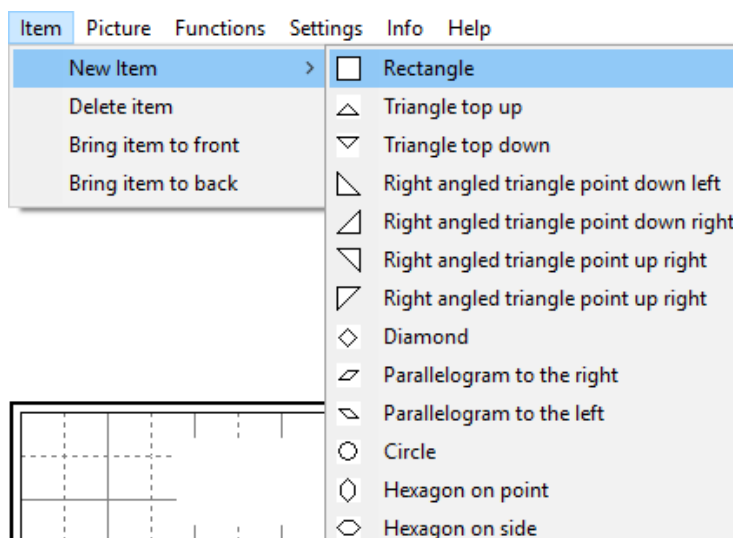
There are two additional options. 'Multiple pages' which enables to have multiple pages in the file. The other option is import of BLZ files from the program Albumtek. This import is not always exactly correct but probably good enough for most situations.

## Other Shapes

For other shapes click on Item - new item and select one of the shapes. As mentioned before, the quickest way for a simple rectangular box is to click on the Box button below left.

### Reset item button

On the right side panel there is a reset button that resets the shape to its standard settings.



## **Printing the page**

When you have finished designing your page you can save it for later use or print it. It is important that the printer is set to the same page settings as the program. That is done automatically with the 'automatic printer settings' on the page settings tab. With some printers that may not work correctly. In that case you will have to manually set the printer to the same page settings as the program, e.g. the paper size. In that case you have to uncheck the automatic printer settings checkbox.

As an alternative you can print to a virtual printer that makes a pdf file of your page, and print it then with a pdf program.

## **More info**

For more info please see the [albupad.nl](http://albupad.nl) website. You can check the forum there or send in a question through the contact form. You can also send a direct e-mail to [info@albupad.nl](mailto:info@albupad.nl).