



Sharing Disney's Memory Maker

A step-by-step guide to sharing with family and friends



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Although I have taken every precaution to verify the accuracy of the information contained herein, Memory Maker is a relatively new product and Disney has been making frequent changes to many of its digital products. Therefore, the information in this book is accurate to the best of my knowledge at the time of its creation but could be rendered obsolete, in part or in whole, at any time. No responsibility is assumed for any errors or omissions and no liability is assumed for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

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Introduction

How would you like to spend \$169 for digital access to a nearly unlimited number of Walt Disney World vacation photographs, taken by professional PhotoPass photographers throughout the Walt Disney World Resort? Then Disney's Memory Maker is for you! *But...*

What if I told you there were a way to get access to all of the same pictures for a fraction of that price, *and* it was completely legal and within the Terms & Conditions of use? This book will show you how to join together with family and friends to share a single Memory Maker entitlement. This is sometimes referred to as Memory Maker Share.

I have participated in many Memory Maker Shares (and before that product existed, PhotoPass Shares). The general idea of both is exactly the same:

- Six (or more) families share a single \$169 Memory Maker account.
- The cost is divided evenly among the families, costing each family about \$25-\$30.
- While in the parks, each family separately has photos taken by Disney's PhotoPass photographers, at select attractions and at select restaurants and dinner shows.
- Upon returning home, each family can edit their photos to add borders and other graphical elements, through the Disney PhotoPass website, <http://mydisneyphotopass.disney.go.com>.
- Upon returning home, each family downloads their pictures directly from the Disney PhotoPass website.

By following the steps in this book, you'll have everything you need to successfully create or participate in a Memory Maker Share.

Let's get started!

Important Notes

Sharing Costs vs. Consideration/Remuneration

The Memory Maker Terms & Conditions state:

Memory Maker is intended for the personal use of the Memory Maker Guest. Solicitation and/or acceptance by the Memory Maker Guest of any consideration or remuneration from other guests for Memory Maker downloads is a violation of these Terms and the limited license and may

result in removal of all images associated with the Memory Maker Guest's account.

Disney doesn't want you to profit by setting up Memory Maker Shares and charging more than each family's equal portion of the cost. It is my opinion that sharing costs evenly does not equate to solicitation or acceptance of consideration or remuneration, and would therefore not be considered a violation of Terms & Conditions. However, I am not an attorney, and I cannot and do not offer legal advice. Any actions you take are your own and you are responsible for the consequences.

Creating and Using a Secondary ("Dummy") Account

I can find nothing in the My Disney Experience Terms and Conditions which expressly forbids the creation of a secondary account, separate from the Leader's primary My Disney Experience (MDE) account. Assigning the Memory Maker entitlement to such a secondary account (a.k.a., a "Dummy" account) could offer some distinct advantages, but can also pose some potential problems. These are addressed in the chapter entitled *Secondary "Dummy" Accounts*.

This book uses the term "Leader's Account" to refer to the account which has been assigned the Memory Maker entitlement, whether it be the leader's personal My Disney Experience account, or a secondary ("Dummy") account.

The Basics

The Role of the Leader

Being a leader entails quite a big responsibility. Many families are counting on you to execute your duties effectively; you're in charge of their vacation memories. Please be reasonable about whether you feel comfortable taking on this responsibility.

The role of the leader of the share is to:

- Organize participants (between six and eight is a great target) with vacation dates that are all around the same time. If you're traveling with a group of family members and friends, this will be easy!
- Divide the \$169 costs evenly among all participants and collect each family's share.
- Purchase the \$169 Memory Maker entitlement and assign it to the Leader's account.
- Link participants' My Disney Experience (MDE) accounts as "Family and Friends" to the Leader's account.
- Distribute the Leader's account login and password information to participants.
- Answer participants' questions and help with problems.

General Advice

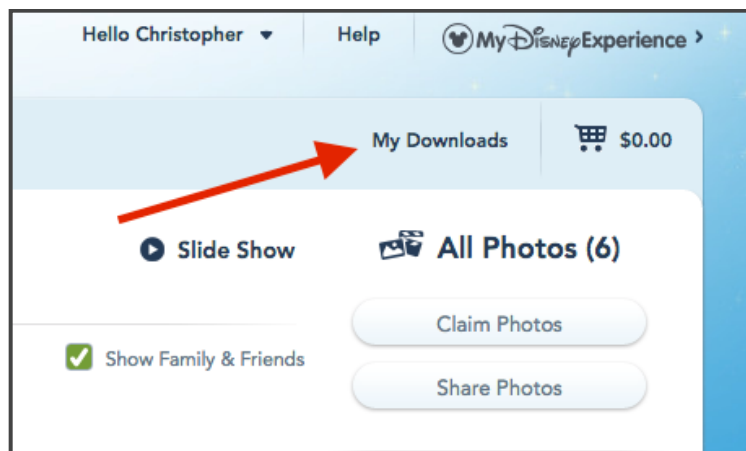
- As a participant, it's a good idea to find a leader you trust. Someone who has no posting history on a message board, no references and hasn't ever led a share before might do a great job... or might not. Be smart.
- As a participant or leader, there is always a risk you could get ripped off. This is the internet and you probably know this by now. Because all participants will be logging into the same dummy account, it's unlikely, but possible, that one could take control of the account and lock everyone else out. Sticking with groups of family and friends you trust is the smartest move.

Key Concept






All Memory Maker and PhotoPass activity (editing, manually adding PhotoPass cards, uploading, downloading, etc.) **must** be done on the Leader's account. Anything done on any other account will **not** carry over to the Leader's account and will **not** be included in the Memory Maker package. You will have to pay extra.

The Thing About Downloads

The way MemoryMaker handles downloads is a bit strange. You don't simply download a single picture, or even a selection of pictures. It's a two-step process: first you create a download file, then you download the download file from the My Downloads section of the website.



There are technically two options for creating download files. You can create a download for a single picture, or you can create a download for every picture in the Leader's account. When you choose to Download All, the website will create a series of zip files, each about 150-200 MB in size, containing 10-30 pictures and videos. As you can imagine with 1,000 or more pictures in the Leader's account, there will be dozens of these download files to retrieve from the My Downloads section.

	Photo Items - May 27, 2014 (Part 1)	123.02 MB	Download
	Photo Items - May 27, 2014 (Part 2)	123.96 MB	Download
	Photo Items - May 27, 2014 (Part 3)	149.2 MB	Download
	Photo Items - May 27, 2014 (Part 4)	119.37 MB	Download
	Photo Items - May 27, 2014 (Part 5)	116.21 MB	Download

The website slows down and ultimately becomes completely unusable as more and more of these download files are created. It is for this reason that I **STRONGLY** recommend that leaders adopt the following download procedure:

1. After all participants have returned home, the Leader clicks the “Download All” button to create an initial set of download files, which will be, for the most part, unedited.
2. Participants may access the “My Downloads” section of the website to download the many zip files the Leader created.
3. The Leader encourages participants to perform their edits over the next several weeks.
4. After that editing window is over (keeping in mind important deadlines, detailed in the next section), the Leader clicks the “Download All” button a second time to create a second set of download files. This second set of download files will capture everyone’s edits.
5. Participants may access the “My Downloads” section of the website to download any or all of the zip files created by the Leader.

Groups of six families following this procedure have reported the best results in terms of website speed and usability.

Important Deadlines and Timeframes

There are three key deadlines/timeframes to be aware of:

- Pre-purchase Memory Maker at least **three days before the first participant's trip**. If you pre-purchase Memory Maker at the \$169 price, any photos taken within three days of that purchase will NOT be included.
- **Once the first picture is downloaded from the website, additional pictures can be added for only 30 more days.** Be sure that the early participants understand when it is safe to begin downloading, so that the later participants can continue to add more pictures.
- **Pictures expire 45 days after they were taken.** Note: there is no limit to the number of times pictures can be downloaded, until they expire.

For example:

March 1: The Memory Maker entitlement is purchased.

March 4: PhotoPass pictures taken from this date forward will be attached to the Memory Maker entitlement

April 1: The first picture is taken (it will expire in 45-days, on May 15th)

May 1: The first picture is downloaded (starting the 30-day countdown)

May 15: The first picture expires (45-days from April 1st)

May 30: The last day to add more pictures (30 days from first download).

July 14: Any pictures taken on the last day (May 30th) expire.


There is a deadline worksheet in the *Resources* section of this book which will help you calculate these dates for your family and friends.

Setting Up the Share and Linking Accounts

1. The leader lines up participants with similar travel dates, keeping in mind the deadline information listed above. Six participants is an ideal number. As the number of pictures associated with a single Memory Maker entitlement grows, the PhotoPass website performance suffers.
2. The leader creates a My Disney Experience account to serve as the Leader's account (if needed).
3. The leader divides the \$169 cost of the Memory Maker entitlement evenly among all participants and collects each participant's share. In addition, the leader will need the name and e-mail address of each participant.
4. The leader purchases the Memory Maker entitlement and assigns it to the Leader's account.
5. From the Leader's My Disney Experience account, the leader uses the Add a Friend feature to add the personal accounts of every participant. This will generate invitations sent to the e-mail addresses provided by each participant.


[What's to Do](#) [Help](#) [Cart](#) [My Disney Experience](#)

FastPass+



Reserve select attractions and entertainment experiences in advance.

[Learn More](#)



Plan and Manage


[My Itinerary](#)[My Reservations and Tickets](#)[FastPass+](#)

My Account

[My Profile](#)[My Family & Friends](#)[My Wish List](#)[MagicBands and Cards](#)[Annual Passholders](#)

Photography

[Disney PhotoPass](#)[Memory Maker](#)[Sign Out](#)



My Family & Friends List

Add people you are traveling with to your Family & Friends list so you can secure FastPass+ selections together, and to simplify sharing dining reservations and other plans. Pick which Guests to add to each new plan you make—the choice is yours.

There are 2 ways to make and share plans with your Guests:

- Simply add a name—you'll manage the account and all the plans for that Guest (such as for a child).
- Send an email invitation to connect through a Disney account—this allows your Guest to also make plans for you. You can continue to make plans while invitations are pending.

[Learn More About Family & Friends](#)

[+ Add a Guest](#)

How would you like to add your friend?

☐ From a list of people I may know. ⓘ
☐ Through his or her Disney Resort reservation.
☒ By entering his or her name.

Add this friend to your Family & Friends list and either continue to manage this friend's plans (as for a child) or send an invitation so this friend can also make plans for you.

*required field

Title: Mr. ▼ First Name*: John M.I.: Last Name*: Doe Suffix: Age*: 18+ ▼

☐ I will manage all the plans for this friend (such as for my child).
☒ I will invite this friend to make plans with me through his or her Disney account.


Send invitation to*
 JohnDoe@JohnDoe.com


What information can my Family & Friends see? ⓘ

[Help & Guest Services](#) [Site Map](#) [Terms of Use](#) [Legal Notices](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Children's Online Privacy Policy](#) [Your California Privacy Rights](#) [Interest-Based Ads](#)

Cancel Done

6. After the invitation is sent, the leader will see this Invitation Pending notification in the Leader's account under Family and Friends. Note that it says, "You manage this account" even though I did NOT select that option. This is a normal message, but the leader will NOT in fact have the ability to manage a participant's account, provided the participant sets the permissions correctly (shown below).


 John Doe
 You manage this account

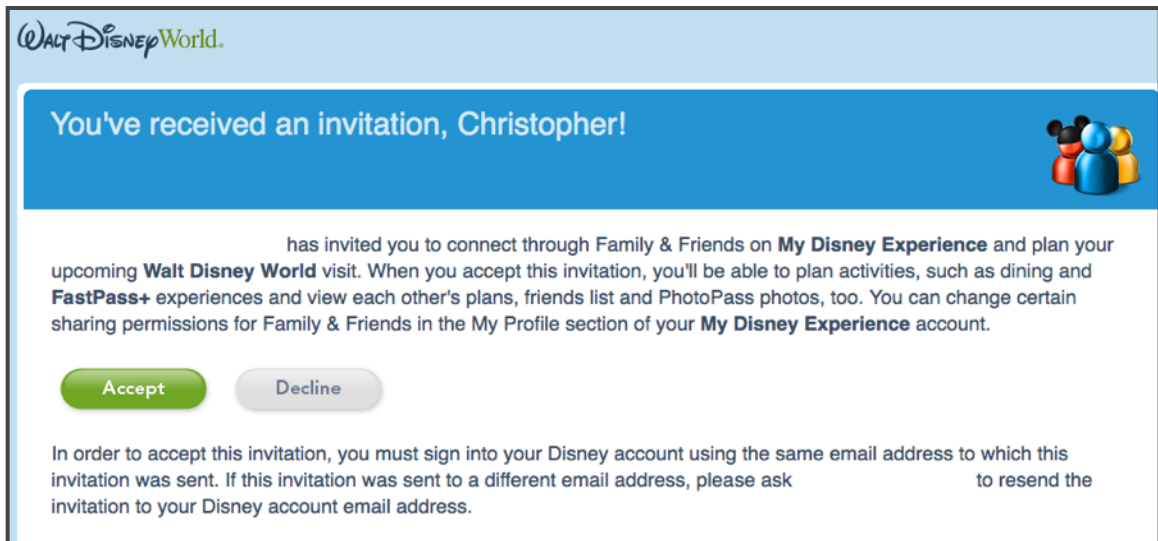

 Connect Through a Disney Account
 Invitation Pending ⓘ

Edit

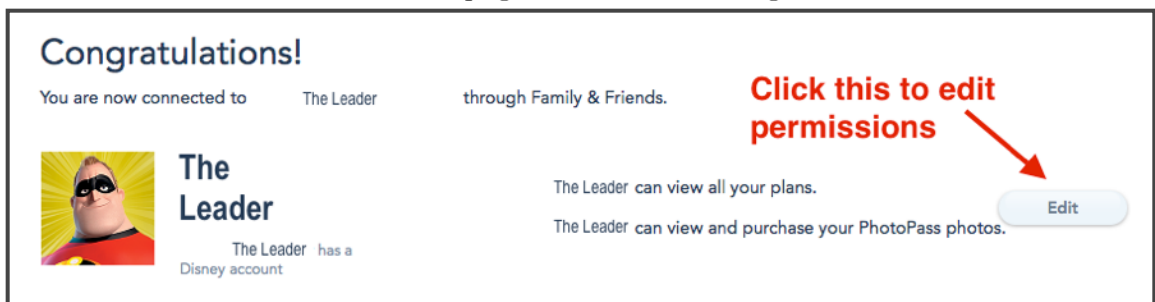
I suggest inviting all members of a Memory Maker Share participant's family. That way, all family members, rather than just the primary participant, can use their Magic Bands. Inviting other members of the participant's family is easy, once the participant accepts the invitation in the next step.

Each participant will receive an e-mail invitation. This is the invitation I received for my

actual account, which came from the Leader's account:




The participant will accept the invitation by clicking the Accept button in the email, and then will be taken to the WDW webpage and see this message:



The participant should then click the Edit button to edit permissions for the Leader's account as follows:

Edit
The Leader's
Settings



The Leader

The Leader has a Disney account

Add to Family List

☒ Add to Family List: This friend often travels with me. [i](#)

Invite to Plan and Share

This friend can add activities to My Plans and can also:

☒ View only our shared activities.

☐ View all my activities.


Share PhotoPass Photos

☒ This friend can view and purchase my PhotoPass photos.

- Add to Family List: Checked
- Invite to Plan and Share: select "View only our shared activities."
- Share PhotoPass Photos: check "This friend can view and purchase my PhotoPass photos."

These settings will protect the personal information in each participants account, and (by checking the Family List option) allow each participant to verify that the Memory Maker entitlement is assigned to the Leader's account under "My Reservations and Tickets."

Memory Maker


Memory Maker
View and Download Your Disney PhotoPass Photos

The Leader's account name will be here

Confirmation Number: **53U**

Assigned To:

7. Once a participant has accepted the invitation, the Leader should go in and invite the other members of the family. That way, every family member can use their own Magic Band to get pictures. Alternatively, those other family members could just use physical PhotoPass cards, as would families staying off site without Magic Bands.



The leader, using the Leader's account, should use the "Add a friend" feature (as shown before), but choose the first option "From a list of people I may know." In this example, the Leader has already invited me. Because I have already accepted the Leader's invitation to connect, he can see my wife and daughter (whose accounts I manage) listed under "From a list of people I may know."

How would you like to add your friend?

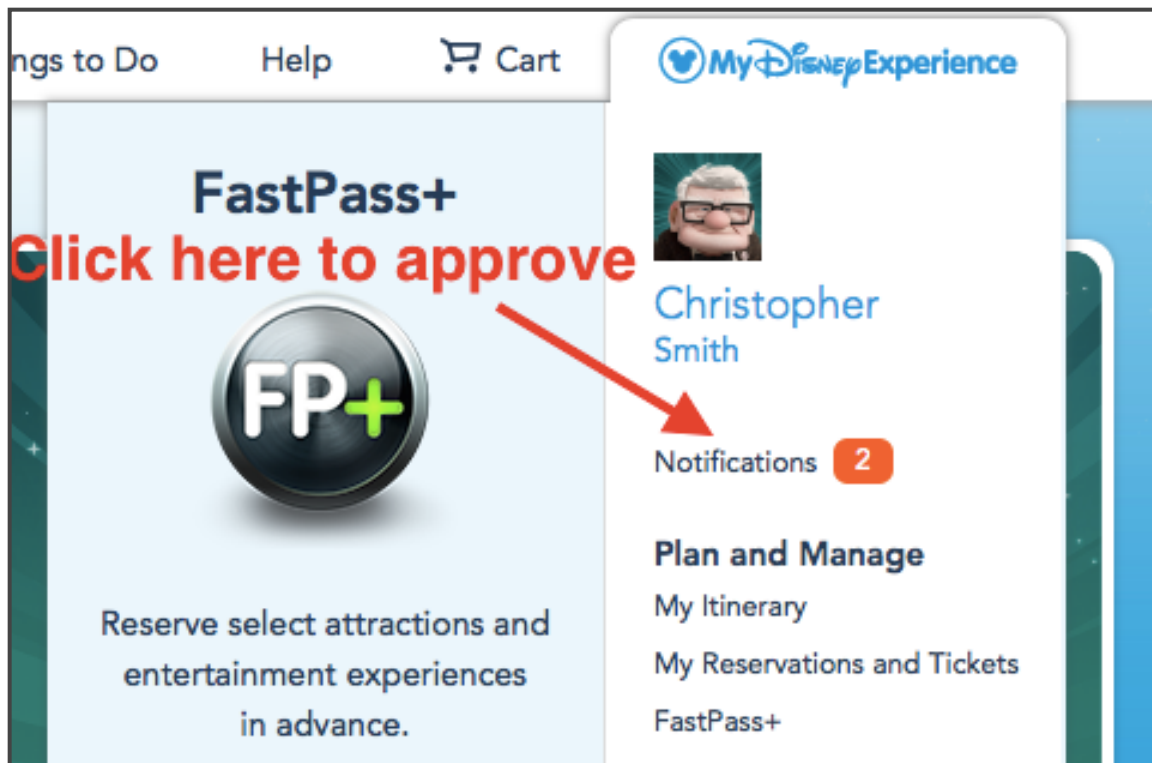
- ☒ From a list of people I may know. ⓘ
- ☐ Through his or her Disney Resort reservation.
- ☐ By entering his or her name.

Check all the boxes

2 Results

<input type="checkbox"/>		Heather Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Kid Smith
Christopher manages this account			Christopher manages this account		


Because neither my wife or daughter have their own MDE accounts and passwords, and because I manage both of their accounts, the invitation to connect is sent to my account, and will appear under "Notifications" in my MDE control panel. It will look like this:



When a participant clicks on "Notifications," a window will pop up. Click Accept for each family member.




When a participant goes into his Family & Friends List on his personal account, he will see the Leader's account (whose invitation to connect was accepted earlier) and, in this case, his two family members. Click edit to view permissions for the other family members and ensure the invitation to connect with the Leader's account was accepted correctly.

 **My Family & Friends List** + Add a Guest

Add people to your Family & Friends list so you can start planning for them. Send invites so you and your Family & Friends can plan and share together. [Learn More](#)

Family




The Leader
The Leader has a Disney account

The Leader can view your shared plans.
The Leader can view and purchase your PhotoPass photos.

Edit


Click Edit to view permissions




The Kid Smith
You manage this account

The Kid cannot be invited to plan and share. ⓘ

Edit




Heather Smith
You manage this account

 Invite to Plan and Share ⓘ

Edit

Here you can see that under my daughter's account, the Leader's account is listed under Family & Friends. To verify that the Leader's account is able to view any photos linked to my daughter's Magic Band, click "Manage Family & Friends."

The Kid 's Character




Merida

Click here to verify that PhotoPass photos can be viewed by Leader's account

Change Character

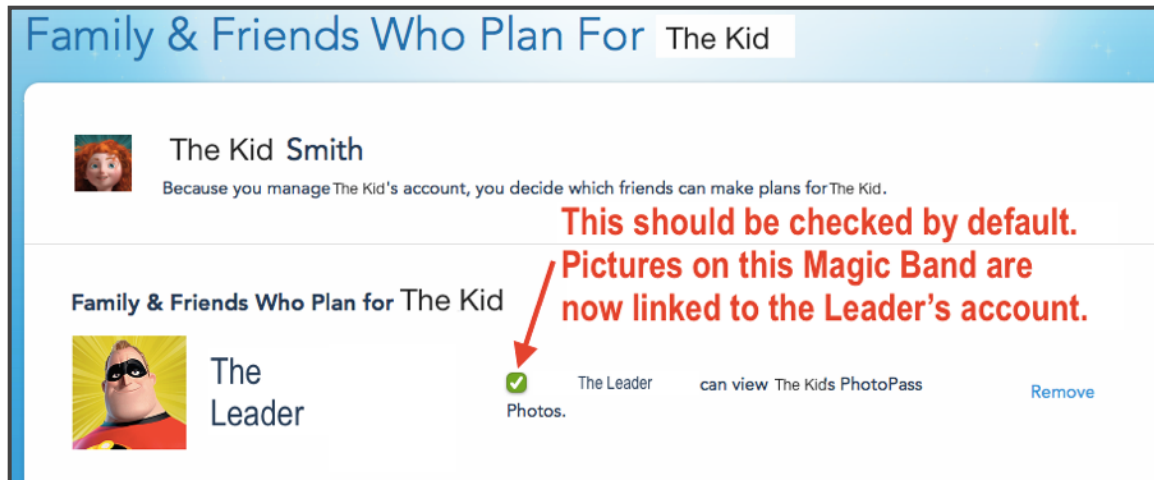
The Kid's Family & Friends
These people can make plans for The Kid.



The Leader

Manage Family & Friends

The box for "[Name of Leader's Account] can view PhotoPass Photos" should be checked by default. If it's not, just check it and save the settings.



Repeat for all of the family members you manage and all of the pictures on their MagicBands should appear in the Memory Maker Share Dummy Account!

8. Based upon trip dates, the leader has to assign a date when downloading can begin, keeping in mind the 30-day window as described above in the Important Deadlines topic.

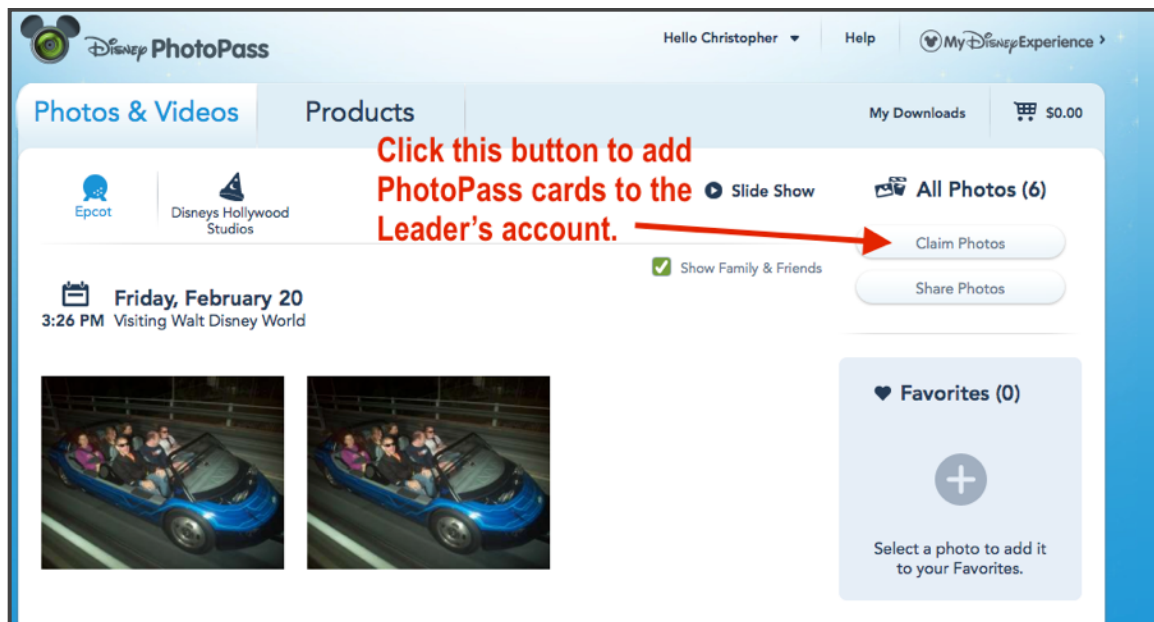
In The Parks

1. Get as many photos as you want from PhotoPass photographers, attractions and dinners.
2. After a PhotoPass picture is taken, have the photographer scan the MagicBand of a family member whose My Disney Experience account was linked to the Leader's account. Guests without a Magic Band can use an RFID-enabled ticket or can get a physical PhotoPass card from the photographer and manually add those pictures to the Memory Maker later.
3. Pictures associated with a Magic Band may take 24 hours to appear online at <https://mydisneyphotopass.disney.go.com>. You will be able to see them under your own account as well as the Leader's account, but as noted previously, all editing, downloading, etc. **must** be done through the Leader's account. Pictures associated with a physical PhotoPass card will be visible immediately.
4. Most attraction photos will automatically be linked to your Magic Band during the ride using wireless technology. Others will require you to scan your Magic Band in the exit queue where you can view your ride photo on a monitor. Note: This technology does not work with RFID-enabled tickets. Those must be scanned manually.

When You Return Home

Manually Adding PhotoPass Cards and Editing Pictures

1. To manually add pictures associated with physical PhotoPass cards to the Leader's account, log into the Leader's My Disney Photopass account (<https://mydisneyphotopass.disney.go.com>) and click **Claim Photos**.




Then enter the number from the back of the physical PhotoPass card into the window that pops up.

Do you Have Disney PhotoPass Photos?


Disney PhotoPass photographers are in the parks, to capture the highlights of your vacation. To add your photos to this page, select how you identified yourself at the photo location and enter the requested information. To share photos with Guests in your group, be sure to add them to your [Family and Friends list](#).

Ticket or Pass




Link Ticket or Pass

MagicBand*




Link MagicBand

Memory Maker



Link Memory Maker

Enter your PhotoPass card numbers here.



Enter a Disney PhotoPass ID (on back of card)

+ Add Another

Need help finding your photos?
Contact us by visiting [Help & Support](#)

Cancel Claim Photos

Note: If you enter them on your personal account rather than the Leader's account, they will **NOT** be included in the Memory Maker downloads and there is no way to undo this.

- Go to <https://mydisneyphotopass.disney.go.com> to edit photos as much as you'd like, keeping in mind the 45-day expiration window listed above. Sign into the Leader's account using the login information the leader provided. As detailed above, **DO NOT EDIT YOUR PHOTOS ON YOUR PERSONAL ACCOUNT**. Any edits you make on your personal account **WILL NOT** be reflected in the Leader's account and therefore will not be included in the Memory Maker download.

The editing process can get pretty slow if there are a lot of pictures on the site or if more than one participant is logged in, or if the Disney servers are just going slow. It's a frustration we have no choice but to live with. If you can edit or download earlier in the morning or later at night your experience might improve. Limiting your group to six families should help with this.

- I recommend that the Leader handle the creation of download files for the reasons detailed in the section above entitled *The Thing About Downloads*. Groups of six families following this procedure have reported the best results in terms of website speed and usability.

- After all participants have returned home, the Leader clicks the “Download All” button to create an initial set of download files, which will be, for the most part, unedited.
- Participants may access the “My Downloads” section of the website to download the many zip files the Leader created.
- The Leader encourages participants to perform their edits over the next several weeks.
- After that editing window is over (keeping in mind the 45-day expiration window), the Leader clicks the “Download All” button a second time to create a second set of download files. This second set of download files will capture everyone’s edits.
- Participants may access the “My Downloads” section of the website to download any or all of the zip files created by the Leader.

Be sure to allow for problems with the system, and don’t wait until the last day to edit and download. The downloads come as separate .zip files. These .zip files are compressed files that, after being uncompressed, contain a number of photos in a folder. Here is some guidance on how to open .zip files:

Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8 (or download free 7-Zip utility for any version of Windows)

Mac OS X

Secondary “Dummy” Accounts

While creating a secondary (or “dummy”) account, separate from the Leader’s primary My Disney Experience (MDE) account, is strongly discouraged by Disney, I can find nothing in the [My Disney Experience Terms and Conditions](#) which expressly forbids the practice. As I mentioned earlier, assigning the Memory Maker entitlement to such a secondary account could offer some distinct advantages, but can also pose some potential problems.

Because all of the editing and downloading of pictures must be done from the Leader’s account, all participants must have the login information for the Leader’s account. If the Leader is using his or her personal account, then all participants would, theoretically, have the ability to cancel or modify the leader’s Advance Dining Reservations and FastPass+ reservations. It’s highly unlikely that an unscrupulous friend or family member with access to the leader’s personal account in one browser, and their own account in another browser, cancel the leader’s coveted Be Our Guest dinner reservation and snag it for themselves. It’s highly unlikely they would re-assign the Memory Maker entitlement to their personal account and then disappear leaving everyone in the lurch. But these scenarios (and probably others I haven’t thought of) are theoretically possible, and it’s why some people prefer to create a secondary account.

I know of some people who created secondary accounts, which were closed by Disney IT and merged with their original account. When this happened, it was because the individual used the same name and address (but a different e-mail address) to create the secondary account. I believe Disney IT was actually trying to “help” a user they believed to have accidentally created two accounts. In any event, all of the participants who were linked to that secondary account were disconnected and it threw things into disarray for a couple of days.

If you choose to create a secondary account, my recommendation would be to use a family member who won’t be traveling with you. For instance, an uncle who lives at your address. You’d want to link your primary account to that secondary account as if you were any other participant. Purchase the Memory Maker entitlement with your primary account, and then assign it to the secondary account. That way, should anything go awry with your secondary account, the entitlement should revert back to your primary account.

Resources

Deadline Worksheet

Use this worksheet to help you figure out what kind of deadlines and timeframes to use with your family and friends to ensure everyone has a good experience with Memory Maker, and has plenty of time to capture their memories, edit their pictures and download them.

To figure out dates plus or minus a certain number of days, you can use the helpful calculator on this website: <http://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html>

- (A) First participant's first day in parks: _____
- (B) Last participant's last day in parks: _____
- (C) Last day to order Memory Maker (A - 3 days): _____
- (D) First photo expires (A + 45 days): _____
- (E) Date of first download (between B and D): _____
- (F) Last day to add more pictures (E + 30 days): _____
- (G) Date of final download (must be before D): _____

My recommendation is for the leader to do all downloading, using the process described in *The Thing About Downloads*. That would mean creating the first set of download files (E) immediately after the last participant's last day in the parks. The second (and final) download would be 2-3 weeks after that, with the absolute last day being before the first participant's first photo expires (D).

Helpful Links

The [Disney Memory Maker FAQ](https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/faq/memory-maker/) has a ton of helpful information: <https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/faq/memory-maker/>

The Walt Disney World website has a helpful map showing the [location of its PhotoPass Photographers](https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/guest-services/photo-pass-service/) at the bottom of this page: <https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/guest-services/photo-pass-service/>



WDW Prep School has a helpful chart which lists some of the difference between PhotoPass and Memory Maker, and a list of which attractions and dinner photos are included (basically all of them): <http://wdwprepschool.com/memory-maker-has-replaced-photopass-heres-a-comparison-and-faqs/>

Note:

The My Disney Experience site, where you can view and manage reservations, friends, etc. is at <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com>

The PhotoPass site, where you can view, edit & download photos, is <http://mydisneyphotopass.disney.go.com>.