



# MetaZero

## User Guide

*Strip the data. Keep the moment.*

Korerium LLC

[www.korerium.com](http://www.korerium.com)

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This guide covers everything MetaZero does and how to get the most out of it. Use the sections below to find what you need.

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# What is MetaZero

MetaZero is a free native macOS privacy tool that strips embedded metadata from photos before you share them. Every photo you take carries hidden data -- GPS coordinates, device model, timestamp, and more. MetaZero removes it permanently and saves a clean copy, leaving your original untouched.

MetaZero is the free companion to MetaClear, Korerium's full-featured metadata removal tool. MetaZero handles up to ten photos per session. For unlimited batch processing and additional features, see MetaClear at [korerium.com](http://korerium.com).

## How MetaZero Works

MetaZero reads each photo, strips all embedded metadata, and writes a clean copy alongside your original using the filename\_clean.ext naming convention. Your original is never modified or deleted. All processing happens entirely on your Mac. No files are uploaded anywhere.

### What MetaZero Removes

- GPS location coordinates
- Device make, model, and serial number
- Date and time the photo was taken
- Software and app used to capture or edit the image
- Ownership and copyright fields
- All other embedded EXIF, IPTC, and XMP metadata

# System Requirements

| Requirement  | Minimum                         |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| macOS        | macOS 26 or later               |
| Architecture | Apple Silicon (M1 or later)     |
| Storage      | 15 MB for the application       |
| Memory       | 50 MB or less during normal use |
| Internet     | Not required for use            |

## Getting Started

MetaZero opens as a standard Mac window. Drop up to ten photos into the left panel to get started, or use the file picker. MetaZero previews each photo with its current metadata so you can see exactly what will be removed before you strip it.

### First Run Checklist

- Open MetaZero from your Applications folder.
- Drop up to ten photos into the left thumbnail panel.
- Review the metadata shown for each photo on the right.
- Click Strip Metadata to process all photos in the queue.
- Find your clean files alongside the originals with `_clean` in the filename.

# The MetaZero Interface

MetaZero uses a two-panel layout. The left panel shows your photo queue. The right panel shows metadata details for the selected photo.

## Left Panel -- Photo Queue

Drag and drop photos here or click to open a file picker. Each thumbnail shows the filename and a status indicator. You can reorder photos using the right-click context menu or by dragging. Up to ten photos per session.

- Right-click any photo for Move to Top, Move Up, Move Down, Move to Bottom, and Remove options.
- Move to Top only appears when the photo is not already first.
- Move to Bottom only appears when the photo is not already last.

## Right Panel -- Metadata Detail

Select any photo in the queue to see its embedded metadata on the right. GPS coordinates include a map preview when location data is present. All metadata shown here will be removed when you strip the photo.

## Strip Metadata

Click Strip Metadata to process all photos in the queue at once. MetaZero saves a clean copy of each file alongside the original. A completion summary shows how many files were processed and confirms the output location.

*MetaZero never modifies your originals. The `_clean` copy is always a separate file.*

## Settings

Click the gear icon in the top right to open Settings. MetaZero includes a User Guide link and license information confirming it is free for personal use. Commercial use requires MetaClear.

# Supported File Formats

| Format | Extension    |
|--------|--------------|
| JPEG   | .jpg / .jpeg |
| PNG    | .png         |
| HEIC   | .heic        |
| HEIF   | .heif        |
| TIFF   | .tiff / .tif |
| WebP   | .webp        |
| AVIF   | .avif        |

## Privacy Statement

MetaZero is a local-first application. It does not collect, transmit, or store any data about you, your photos, or your usage.

### What MetaZero Does Not Do

- Does not connect to the internet for any purpose during normal operation.
- Does not upload photos or metadata to any server.
- Does not send usage analytics or telemetry.
- Does not require an account, email address, or login.

### Contact

Questions about MetaZero's privacy practices can be directed to [support@korerium.com](mailto:support@korerium.com)