

Saving XPression Projects - Best Practices (v6.x or Higher)

Creating large projects in XPression can use a lot of memory. This document describes the best practices for monitoring memory use and saving your XPression projects when working in XPression v6.x or higher. It includes the following information:

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[Monitoring Available Memory](#)

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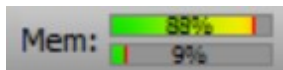
[Maintaining Backup Versions of Projects](#) 

Software Version

- For customers using the XPression version 6.5 release of software, please contact Ross Technical Support to upgrade to XPression version 6.5 build 3644.
- For customers using the XPression version 6.7 beta stream of software, please upgrade to XPression version 6.7 build 3780 or higher.

Monitoring Available Memory

It is recommended that at least 200 MB are free for saving a project. Memory meters located next to the menus along the top of the XPression interface display available memory and current usage. The top meter displays the largest block of available memory. The bottom meter displays the current memory usage.



To view the current memory availability and usage:

- Hover over the top meter for a tool tip displaying the **Largest block of memory available**, and the **minimum amount of memory required**.
- Hover over the bottom meter for a tool tip displaying the **Current memory usage**.

★ It is especially important to monitor the top meter. When available memory reaches 50% or less, it is highly recommended that you use **Increment and save** to ensure that a current version of your project is safe and available. Then, clear all framebuffer outputs, especially if any video clips are online, as this can free up 50 MB per video clip.

Limiting Memory Allocated to Cache

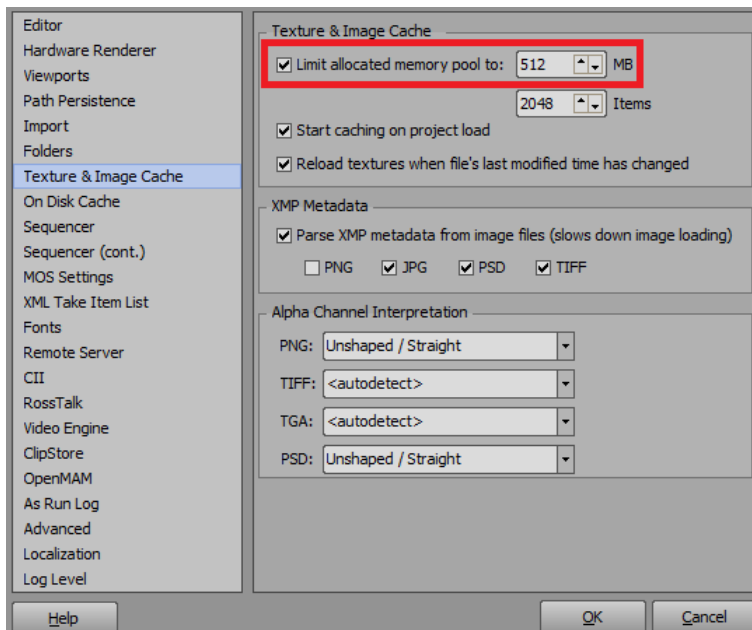
Limiting the memory allocated in the **Cache Settings** leaves more memory available for saving projects.

To limit the amount of memory allocated to the Cache:

1. In XPression, go to **Edit**, and select **Preferences**.

The **Preferences** window opens.

2. From the list, select **Texture & Image Cache**.



3. In the **Texture & Image Cache** section, select the **Limit allocated memory pool** checkbox and adjust the amount to **128 MB**.

4. Select **OK**.

The **Preferences** window closes and the allocated memory pool is set at **128 MB**.



Maintaining Backup Versions of Projects

It is a good idea to save your progress throughout the development of an XPression project. Each subsequent **Increment And Save** command saves the current version of your project with incrementing version numbers so that you can try different settings and compare them without losing progress. You can also export your sequence as an XML file to keep a backup copy.

To save XPression project versions during development:

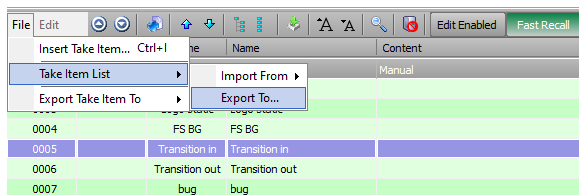
- Go to **File**, and select **Increment And Save** (or use the keyboard shortcut **Shift + Ctrl + Alt + S**).

The project will save as an .xml file with incrementing version numbers.

To export the sequence as an XML file:

- In the **Sequence** tab, select **File > Take Item List > Export To**.

Alternatively, right-click inside the **Sequence Take Item List**, and select **Take Item List > Export To**.



The **Save As** file browser opens.

- Enter a name for the sequence, and **Save** the project as an **XML** file.

To import a saved XML file back to the project:

- In the **Sequence** tab, select **File > Take Item List > Import From > XML**.

Alternatively, right-click inside the **Sequence Take Item List**, and select **Take Item List > Import From > XML**.

The **Open** file browser opens.

- Navigate to the saved **XML**, and select **Open**.

The **Import Take Items** window opens.

- Select the checkboxes for specific individual items, or select **Check All** to import all items, select **Import**.

The sequence for the project is loaded in the sequence take item list.