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Rename Multiple Files

by Alan German

My main task in renaming multiple files is to change those incomprehensible 20240913_143401.jpg filenames that come out of digital cameras and smartphones into text and numbers that I can understand. Renaming one such file is easy; renaming 352 files not so much. What is needed is a simple file-renaming utility program and a good choice for the job is Inviska Rename.

This open-source software was developed by Mirosław Żylewicz, a Polish programmer, who released the program under the GPL-2.0 license. He clearly believes that the program has been completely debugged as there have been no changes made since June, 2022. Furthermore, the Github repository was archived on September 30, 2023 and is now read-only.

The software is available for Windows, Linux and MacOS. The Windows version is downloaded as a 7Zip archive, InviskaRename12_x86.7z, from which a single executable file, InviskaRename.exe, can be extracted. No installation is necessary. Just double click on the exe file to run the program.

The program initially displays the disk drives that are available on the system. Navigating to a specific folder then lists the files present in that folder. By default all the files are selected for processing but this may be changed by using a radio button to select any combination of files and folders in the current directory.

A simple, two-step process can now be used to rename a group of files with names in the form of 20240913_143401.jpg to something more useful like PizzaQ-012.jpg, etc.

At the bottom of the window are three tabs labelled *Name*, *Extension* and *Numbering*. Since we are not going to change the file extensions, we only need to modify the filenames and add a number sequence.

Under the *Name* tab, while there are multiple options for assigning a new base filename, the simplest approach is to check the radio button labelled *Replace Name with* and type *PizzaQ-* (or any base filename) into the text box (Figure 1).

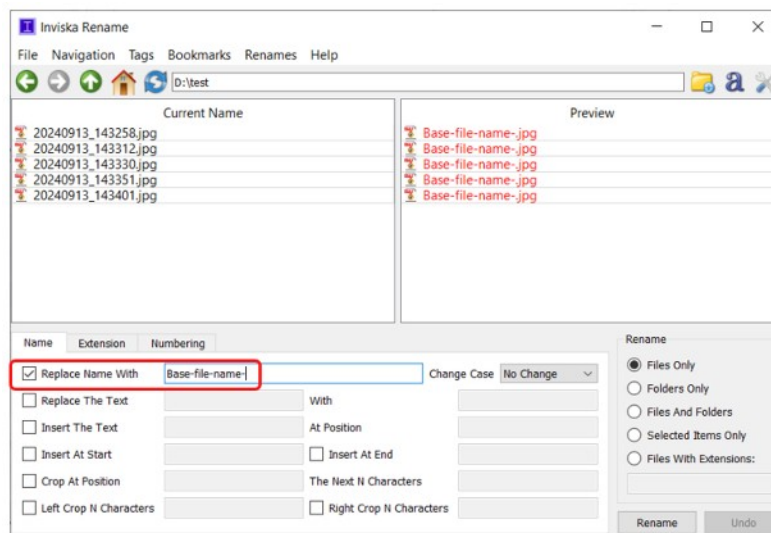


Figure 1. Options for changing the filename

Note that, in the right window, not surprisingly, the preview shows all the files as having the same name. However, the process is only partially complete. So, next, we move to the *Numbering* tab (Figure 2). Here we can check the radio button to add a number *After the filename*, select the *Start number* as 1, the *Increment* as 1, and set the *Zero Fill* to be *Specified* as 2.

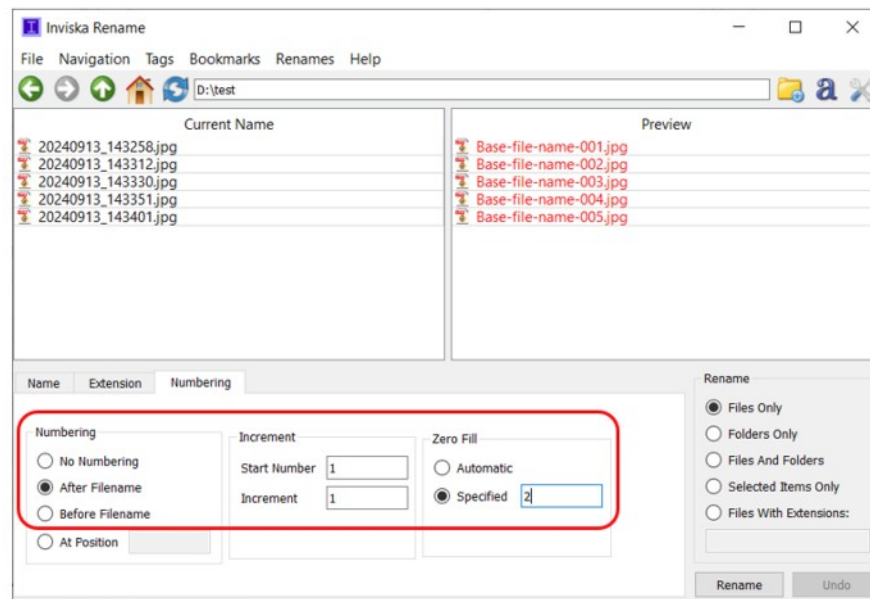


Figure 2. Options for adding a number sequence

The latter setting means that, rather than the number sequence appended to the filename being 1, 2, 3..., they will actually be written out as 001, 002, 003... So, our PizzaQ pictures will be renamed as PizzaQ-001.jpg through PizzaQ-352.jpg.

With the new filename format having been determined and checked in the preview window, we can go ahead and click on the *Rename* button. A warning pops up asking if we wish to proceed with the operation and selecting the *Yes* button results in all of our files being renamed as desired.

Inviska Rename is simple to use but very flexible when it comes to batch renaming both files and folders. It works extremely well and is both free and open source. So, what's not to like?

Bottom Line:

Inviska Rename (Open-source)
Mirosław Żylewicz
Version 12.0
<https://github.com/miroslaw-zylewicz/InviskaRename>

