

# Transfer photos between your mobile device & PC

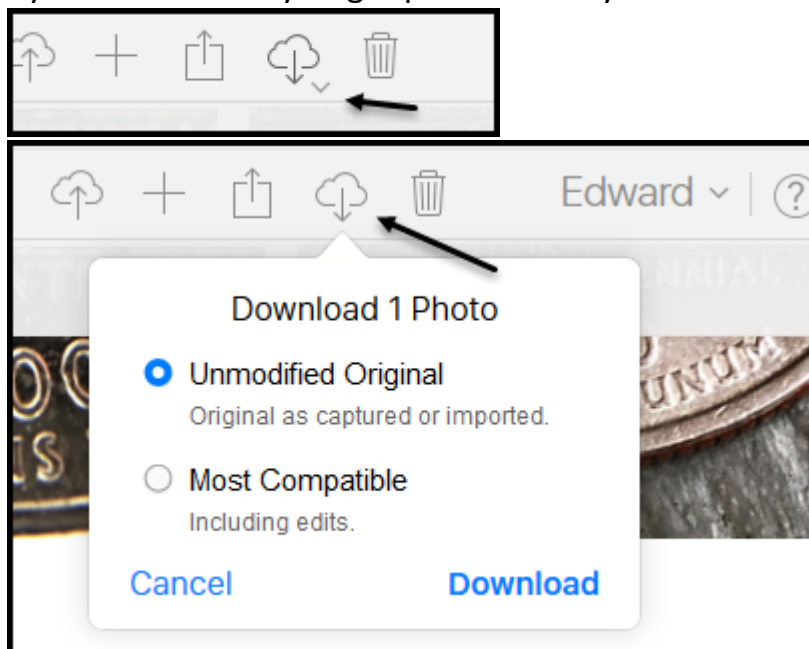
## Introduction

iOS makes it possible to revert any edited photo to its original. Obviously, to do this, your device must retain both versions. Some methods for transferring photos will allow you to transfer either version but others may not. See the table later in this document for examples.

Note – there's a lot of information here. For a quick recommendation, jump to the summary at the end.

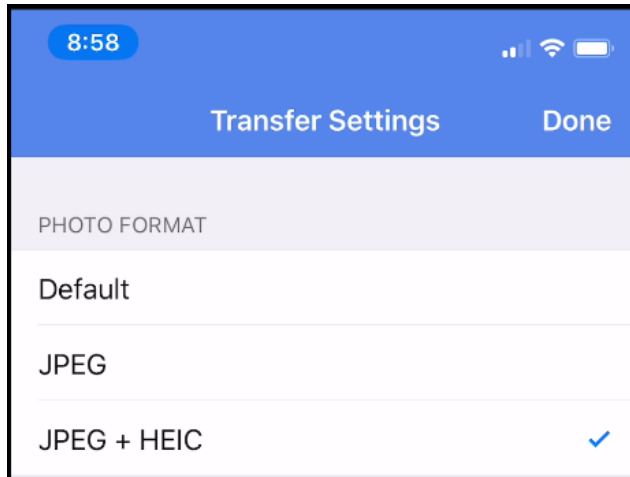
## Transfer photos from your mobile device to your PC

- Email – this is not convenient for multiple photos, but it works.
- You can also go to your iCloud account online to download photos. When you click the dropdown arrow under the cloud icon as shown in the figure below, you will get a choice of downloading the original (either an HEIC or Raw format) or Most Compatible (JPG format). You can download both if you choose. This is by far the best way to get photos from your mobile device to your PC.



- If you have the Google Photos app on your mobile device, all your photos including edits will show up there. You can then go to Google Photos on line and retrieve them.

- OneDrive works the same as Google Drive.
- Snapseed is a special case. If you tap Export and tap Export again, this will create a copy of the photo. In this case any of the methods discussed above will work. However, the edits that were made cannot be reverted since Snapseed “flattens” the photo – but you still have the original on your mobile device.
- An app called Simple Transfer will transfer photos with edits. See the app [here](#). Go to the app Settings and tap Transfer Settings and select the format of your choice.



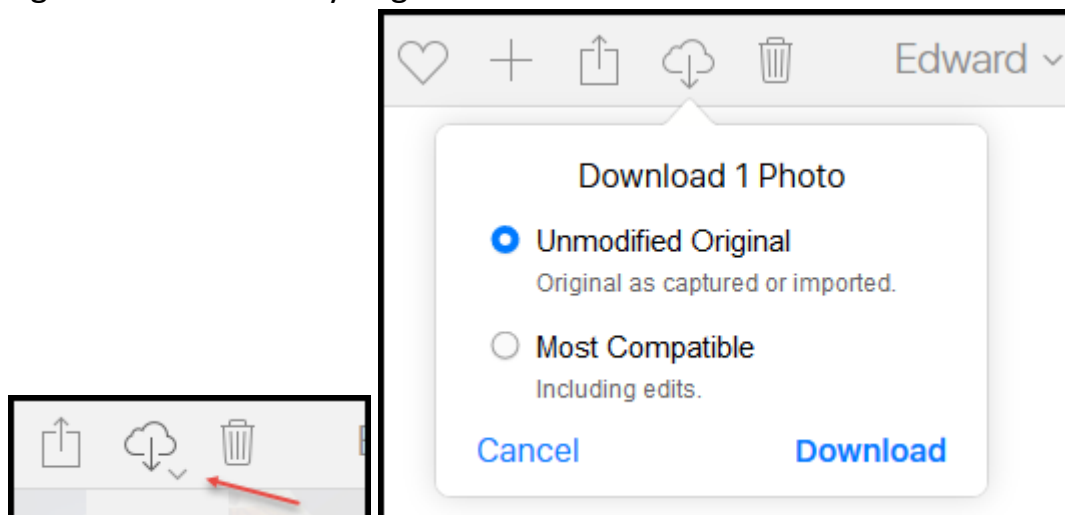
Default will transfer original photos such as DNG and HEIC. The JPG choice will convert all photos to JPG. JPEG + HEIC will transfer both and convert DNG to JPG. If you transfer HEIC photos, you can convert them at this site for free <https://www.apowersoft.com/heic-to-jpg> .

- My Favorite app for transferring photos to a PC is PhotoSync seen [here](#). It can transfer both original and edited photos in any format.
- A great device for transferring or backing up photos is the SanDisk iXpand USB to Lightning Flash Drive as seen [here](#) and pictured below..



Notes:

1. To have a choice of what to download from iCloud online, click the tiny dropdown arrow under the download icon as shown below on the left. On the right are the choices you get.



If you choose Unmodified originals, you will get HEICs and JPGs depending on your camera settings when you took the photos. You will also get LIVE photos as movies and Raw photos. If you choose most compatible, you will get all JPGs and no LIVE photos nor Raw photos.

#### Misc. info

- If you use a photo editing app on your mobile device such as Enlight, all saved edited photos will transfer to your PC with edits using any method. These will also show up in Google Photos on your mobile device.
- You can edit a photo on a mobile device and transfer it to your PC and later revert it to its original state and re-edit if you choose. Just tap the photo in the Photos app, tap Edit, then tap Revert.

#### Transfer photos from your PC to your mobile devices

- You can upload photos to your iCloud account and they will show up on your mobile devices. It's best to create an album on your device first. You can only upload the JPG format.
- You can also use the app called Simple Transfer. It lets you create an album during the upload. This app will let you transfer HEIC photos as JPGs. Just go to Settings on the app and choose.

## Things to watch out for

- When you view photos on your device in the Albums view (All Photos), the photos are not necessarily displayed in the same order as viewed on iCloud.com. The photos at iCloud.com are listed by the date taken. On your device, switch to the photos view and now the view at iCloud.com will match exactly.

## Summary of transfer choices

<b>App</b>	<b>Upload</b>	<b>Download</b>	<b>Version</b>
iCloud	JPG	JPG, HEIC, Raw	Edited or Original
Simple Transfer	JPG	JPG, HEIC, Raw	Edited Only
PhotoSync	JPG, HEIC, Raw	JPG, HEIC, Raw	Edited or Original

If you work with only JPGs, you have more choices.

## Summary

- My number 1 recommendation is to have your camera take HEICs for highest quality and lowest storage size. Go to Settings, Camera, Formats and select High Efficiency.
- To transfer photos from your mobile device to your PC without the edits (originals) use Photosync or iCloud.
- To transfer photos from your mobile device to your PC with the edits use any method in the above table..
- It's challenging to preserve albums when transferring photos to your PC unless you use Simple Transfer or PhotoSync.