

# REAL PEOPLE reviews by daniel east



**Real People Reviews** by Daniel M. East  
**Product:** DesktopCollage v2.01  
**Manufacturer/Vendor/Developer:** Aksima  
**MSRP:** \$12.95  
**Review date:** 26 October, 2004

**PULL QUOTE:** “ not something I found to be useful, but my kids love it.”

If you have favorite images, movies, animations or just want to keep pictures of your pets, friends or family on your desktop, DesktopCollage gives you these abilities so that you can let your creative energy flow and personalize your desktop to your heart's content.

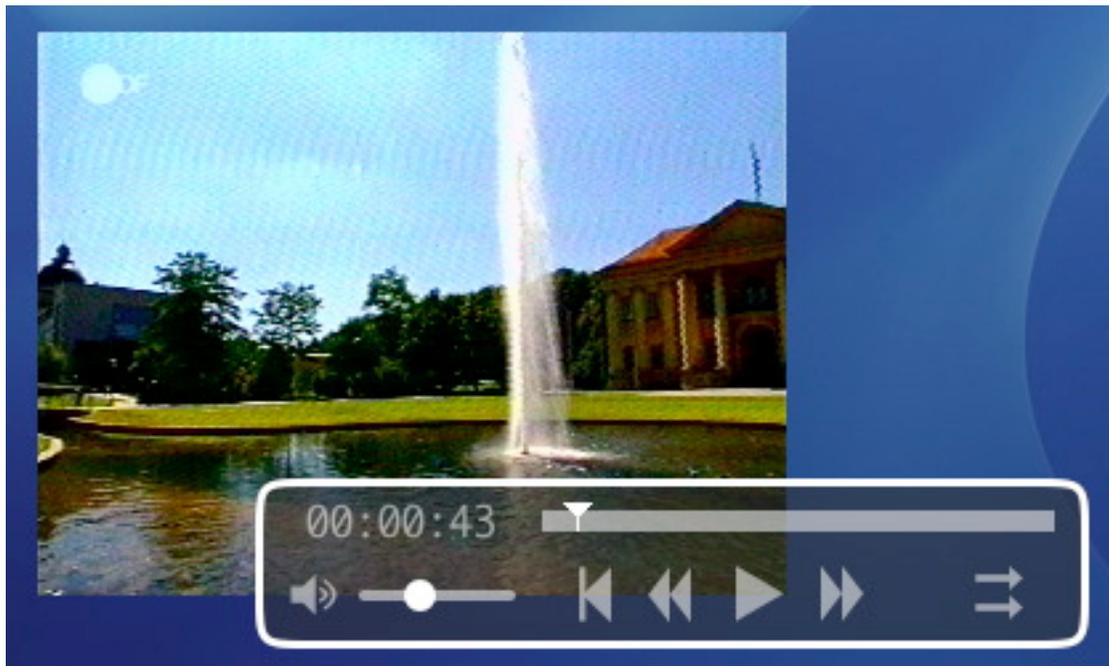


**MIN. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:** OS X 10.2 or higher.

DesktopCollage is really for those who want a “virtual cork board” and this feature-rich shareware delivers; however, it may be an uncertain future given that Apple has already announced desktop enhancements in the 10.4 “Tiger” OS that may make the shelf life of this product short. Having said that, DesktopCollage can be fun as it allows the user to post “stickies,” (images, movies, etc.) anywhere on the desktop, itself, by simply selecting and placing the images you want to appear. A handy movie controller appears for QuickTime files and the application even recognizes OS X’s “fast user switching” and pauses the playback when your system is in use by another screen name. It can even be set to remain static when clearing your desktop windows via Exposé so that the images can be enjoyed at will.

DesktopCollage will resize your large images, allow you to overlap those images and even respond to your workflow by pausing your movies when in the background. Great for when the boss stops by your cubical during the Macworld Expo keynote address you are streaming or while checking out the latest QuickTime movie trailers for “The Incredibles.”

Even though decorating your desktop is not unique to this software, it is a different approach to it and is less processor-thirsty compared to Konfabulator or simply keeping many viewer windows open. Personally, I find these images make my desktop too cluttered, even for just one or two images, but my family just loved it. In fact, DesktopCollage may be a little tricky for some student age family members, but they seem to be the ones who like it the most.



If you want to keep photos of your pets, kids, friends, vacations, iMovies or whatever in plain view, DesktopCollage is all you need to do. For me, I can say that I appreciate the thorough design to the interface, ease of use and good quality results, (but this is for my specific needs for my desktop). This is not something I found to be useful, but my kids love it.



**OVERALL RATING: 3 out of 5 stars GOOD**

**For more information, visit: [www.aksima.com](http://www.aksima.com)**

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