

# How can I write a script that finds my top-rated photos?

 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20130114-00](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20130114-00)

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I'm not sure if I'll be able to keep it up, but I'm going to see if I can make Monday "Little Programs" day, where I solve simple problems with little programs.

Today's little program is a script that goes through your Pictures folder and picks out your top-rated photos.

The key step here is extracting the rating, which goes by the name System.Rating in the shell property system. The method which does the extraction is ShellFolder-Item.ExtendedProperty.

```
var shell = new ActiveXObject("Shell.Application");
var picturesFolder = shell.Namespace(39); // CSIDL_MYPICTURES
var items = picturesFolder.Items();
var SHCONTF_NONFOLDERS = 64;
items.Filter(SHCONTF_NONFOLDERS, "*.jpg");
for (var i = 0; i < items.Count; i++) {
    var item = items.Item(i);
    if (item.ExtendedProperty("System.Rating") >= 80) {
        WScript.Stdout.WriteLine(item.Path);
    }
}
```

Wow, that was way easier than doing it in C++!

That program searches one folder, but let's say we want to do a full recursive search. No problem. Take the code we wrote and shove it into a helper function `processFilesInFolder`, then call it as part of a recursive directory search.

```
function processFilesInFolder(folder) {
    var items = folder.Items();
    var SHCONTF_NONFOLDERS = 64;
    items.Filter(SHCONTF_NONFOLDERS, "*.jpg");
    for (var i = 0; i < items.Count; i++) {
        var item = items.Item(i);
        if (item.ExtendedProperty("System.Rating") >= 80) {
            WScript.StdOut.WriteLine(item.Path);
        }
    }
}
```

```
function recursiveProcessFolder(folder) {
    processFilesInFolder(folder);
    var items = folder.Items();
    var SHCONTF_FOLDERS = 32;
    items.Filter(SHCONTF_FOLDERS, "**");
    for (var i = 0; i < items.Count; i++) {
        recursiveProcessFolder(items.Item(i).GetFolder());
    }
}
```

```
var shell = new ActiveXObject("Shell.Application");
var picturesFolder = shell.Namespace(39);
recursiveProcessFolder(picturesFolder);
```

You can use this as a jumping-off point for whatever you want to do with your top-rated pictures, like copy them to your digital photo frame.

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