# Why do image lists and tool bars use horizontal strips if vertical is so much better?

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Two people pointed out that the `ImageList_Add` function and toolbars use horizontal strips even though we learned that vertical strips are much more efficient. While it's true that the images are passed to the `ImageList_Add` and `CreateToolbarEx` functions in horizontal strips, the image list and toolbar code copy them to a vertical strip.

In other words, the horizontal strip is merely an interchange format. Internally, the image list and toolbar use the more efficient vertical arrangement.

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