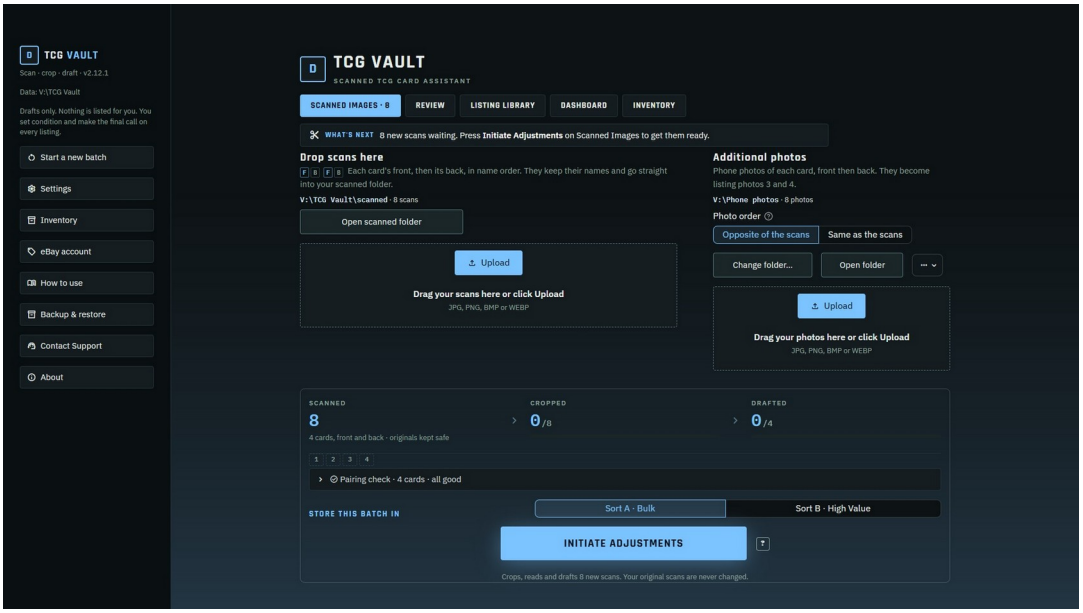
TCG Vault

Scanned TCG Card Assistant

User Guide

Version 2.12.1



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1. Welcome to TCG Vault

TCG Vault helps you list Pokémon cards faster. You scan each card, front then back, and the app straightens and crops the scans, reads each card's name and number (English, Japanese or Chinese), looks the card up, and drafts a listing title (up to 80 characters) and description. It builds the listing photos, gives every card a SKU and a spot in your storage, and tells you where to find a card when it sells.

> **Good to know:** TCG Vault only makes drafts. It never lists anything for you and shows no prices. It can read your eBay orders if you connect your account, but it can't change anything there. You check every draft, set the condition and make the final call.

The app has five tabs. Each shows a count of what's waiting there, and the **What's next** line under the tabs always tells you the next thing to do, with a button to get there.

Tab	What it's for
Scanned Images	Add scans and phone photos, pick the sort, and press Initiate Adjustments.
Review	Cards the app couldn't finish on its own, and editing any card.
Listing Library	Your drafts, one card at a time: copy, list, mark it as listed.
Dashboard	A chart of every batch, past cards and Diagnostics.
Inventory	Recently sold cards, SKU search, and a 3D view of every box and bin.

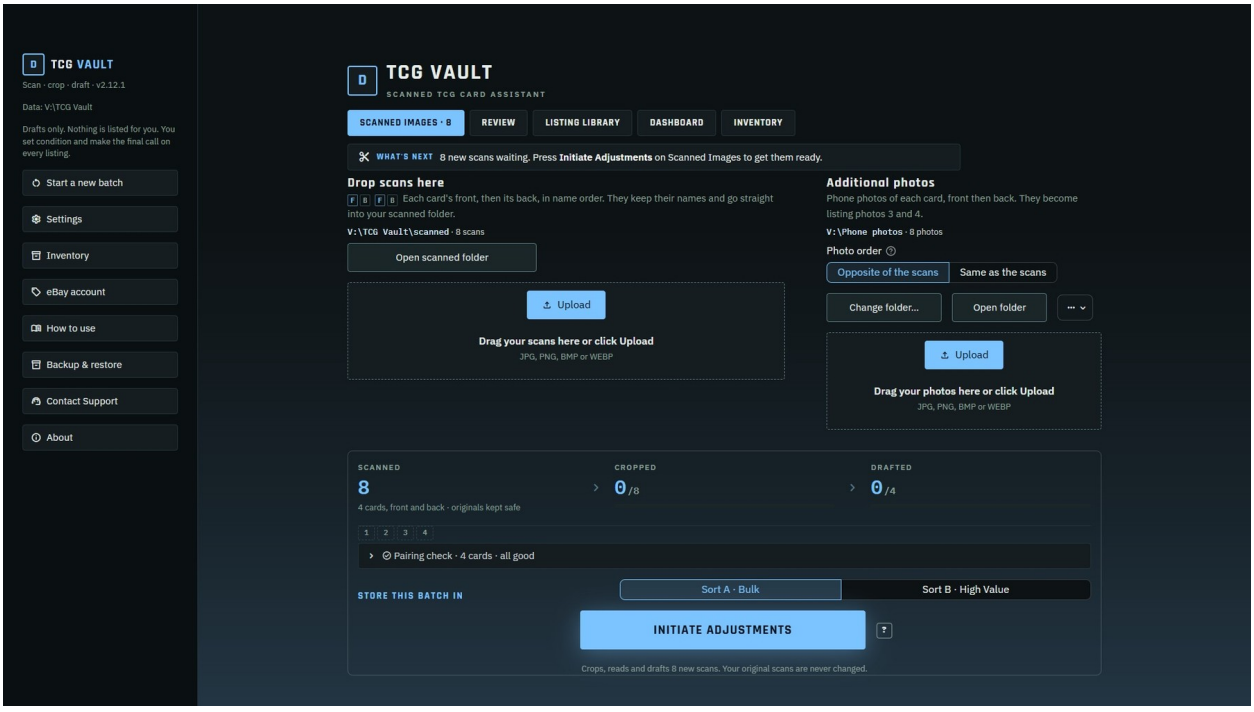

Figure 1. *TCG Vault 2.12.1 with the sidebar open, on the Scanned Images tab.*

2. Getting started

Install and open

1. Run the **TCGVault-Setup** file. If Windows says “Windows protected your PC”, click **More info**, then **Run anyway**.
2. Open TCG Vault from the desktop shortcut or the Start menu (the dark square with a light blue D). It opens in its own window; closing the window closes the app.

The sidebar on the left holds **Start a new batch**, **Settings**, **Inventory**, **eBay account**, **How to use**, **Backup & restore**, **Contact Support** and **About**. If it's hidden, click the » arrow at the top left.

First-time setup

The first time you open the app, a Welcome box asks for your usual choices: condition, description style, card language and listing photo touch-up. Click **Save and start**. You can change any of this later in **Settings**.

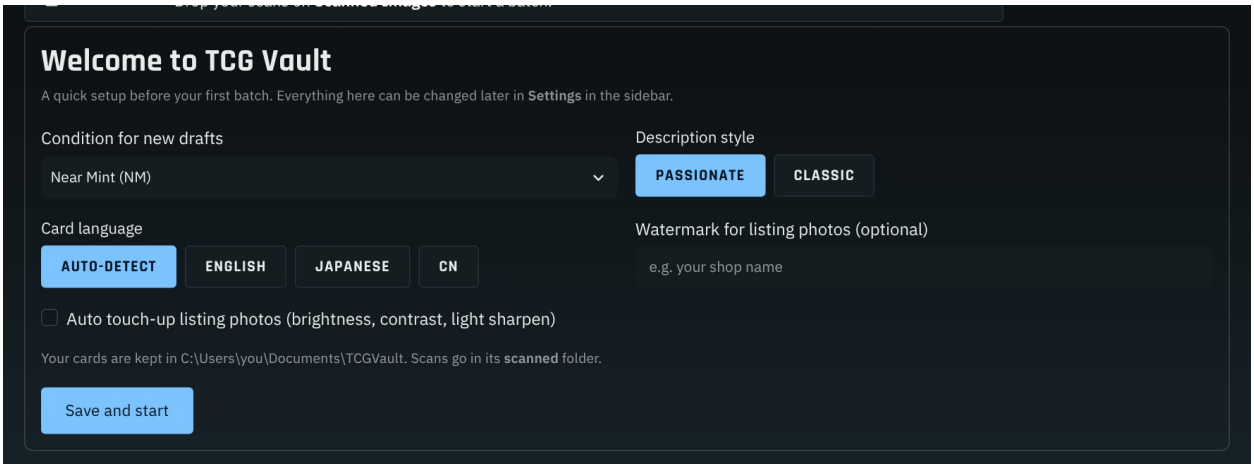

Figure 2. *The one-time Welcome box.*

> **Tip:** Your cards are stored in Documents\TCGVault. Your scans go in its scanned folder. If you used TCG Vault before version 2.0, your cards stay where they were, in Documents\CropperBot.

3. Your workflow in eight steps

#	Step	What you do
1	**Add your scans**	Drop scans on the Scanned Images tab, front first, then back. Add phone photos beside them if you take them.
2	**Check your settings**	Condition, description style and card language (sidebar › Settings), and Sort A · Bulk or Sort B · High Value for this batch.
3	**Press Initiate Adjustments**	The app crops, reads, drafts and builds photos, then opens the Listing Library (or Review, if a card needs a look).
4	**Check cards that need a look**	On the Review tab, read the card again or type its name and number.
5	**Get it ready to list**	In the Listing Library, copy the top card's title, description and SKU.
6	**List it**	On eBay, add the photos, paste the text, put the SKU in Custom label (SKU), set price and shipping. A copy of a card you already have? Add 1 to that listing's quantity instead.
7	**Mark it as listed**	Click Mark as listed and put the card in the slot shown. When it sells, Inventory shows you where it is.
8	**Start a new batch**	Clear the finished batch from the sidebar (a copy is archived and shows on the Dashboard). The next batch gets a new bin.

The same steps are in the app under **How to use** in the sidebar.

4. Adding scans and running a batch

Scan order

Scan each card's front first, then its back. The app pairs scans in name order: Image (1) is a front, Image (2) is its back, Image (3) is the next front, and so on. English, Japanese and Chinese cards can be mixed in one batch.

Add your scans

Drag your scans onto the **Drop scans here** box on the Scanned Images tab, or click **Upload**. They're saved straight into your scanned folder. You can also click **Open scanned folder** and save them there yourself. Your original scans are never changed.

Additional photos

If you also take phone photos of each card (front then back), they become listing photos 3 and 4. The **Additional photos** box sits right beside the scans: it shows which folder the photos come from and how many it holds. Drop photos on it (or click **Upload**) to copy them into that folder, or use **Choose folder...** and **Open folder**. With no folder set yet, dropping photos sets up Documents\AdditionalPhotos for you. The ▪▪▪ button lets you paste a folder path or stop using additional photos.

Photo order says which way round your photos are. Most people photograph the stack first and scan it after, so the first photo is the last scanned card: that's **Opposite of the scans**, the default. Pick **Same as the scans** if your first photo is the first scanned card.

Pick the sort and press Initiate Adjustments

Under the counts, **Store this batch in** lets you pick **Sort A · Bulk** or **Sort B · High Value** (see section 8). Every card in the batch is stored in that sort; you can still switch a single card later in the Listing Library.

When new scans are waiting, the light blue **Initiate Adjustments** button glows, and the line under it says how many scans it will crop, read and draft. Press it and a panel ticks off each step: finding your scans, straightening and cropping, reading and drafting each card, building listing photos and opening your Listing Library. When it's done you land in the Listing Library, or on Review if any card still needs a look.



Figure 3. *The progress panel while a batch runs.*

Pairing check

The **Pairing check** sits just above the sort, with a numbered chip for every card. Open it to see each card's front and back. If a back is in a front slot, or a scan is missing, the chips, the Pairing check and the What's next line turn red, and the problem card is shown with the wrong slot marked. Fix the scan order, or press **Continue anyway** if you're sure.

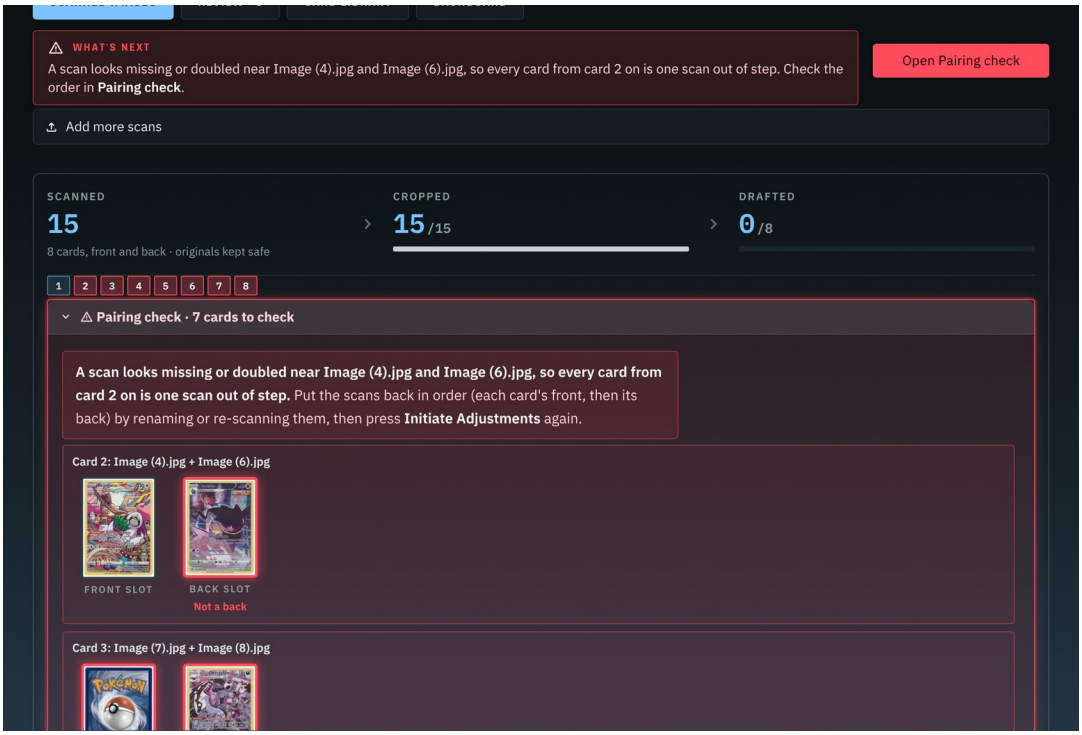

Figure 4. *A pairing problem: a back scan is missing, so every card from card 2 on is one scan out of step.*

5. Review

Review shows only the cards that still need a look, for example when the number couldn't be read or several cards matched.

- **Read all cards** reads and looks up every waiting card at once.
- For one card, click it, then click **Read this card**. If that doesn't work, type the **Card name**, **Number** and **Set total** (for 025/198, that's 25 and 198) and click **Look up & save draft**.
- If several cards matched, compare them with your card, set **Pick** and look up again. Only choose a **Variant** (holo, reverse holo, 1st Edition) if you're sure.

A Japanese or Chinese card from a set the card database doesn't fully cover yet is drafted from what's printed on it (name, number, set code, rarity, HP, illustrator) and flagged so you check it. Typing the English name in the lookup box works too. Once the draft is saved, the card joins the Listing Library.

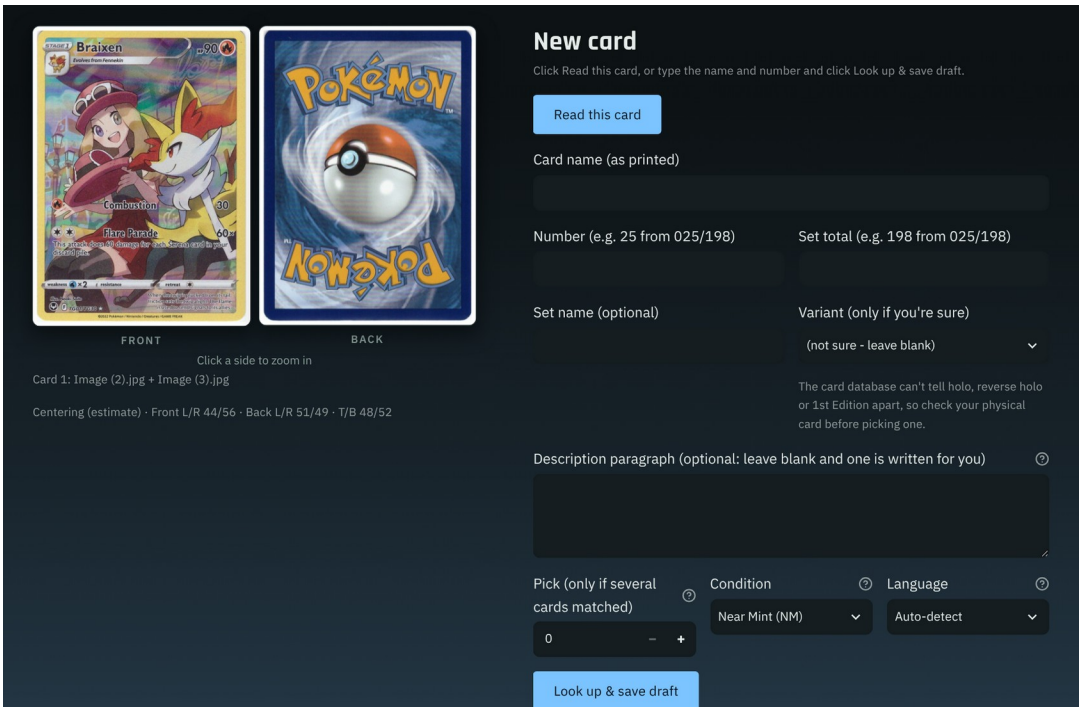

Figure 5. A card waiting in Review, with the lookup form.

Editing a card

Edit in Review on any Listing Library card opens it here. Click the front or back picture to see it large, and hover over it to magnify that spot. The **Draft** tab lets you change the title (a counter shows the 80-character limit) and description, then **Save changes**. **Rewrite description** writes fresh wording with a different opening line. The **Flags** tab shows anything to double-check, and **Redo lookup** looks the card up again. Click **Done, back to the library** when you're finished.

Fix a card once, every copy follows. If the same card (same variant and condition) is in your Listing Library more than once, a tick box under the description says **Also save to the other copies of this card in the Listing Library**. It's on at first, so Save changes updates every copy's title and description. Untick it to change just this card.

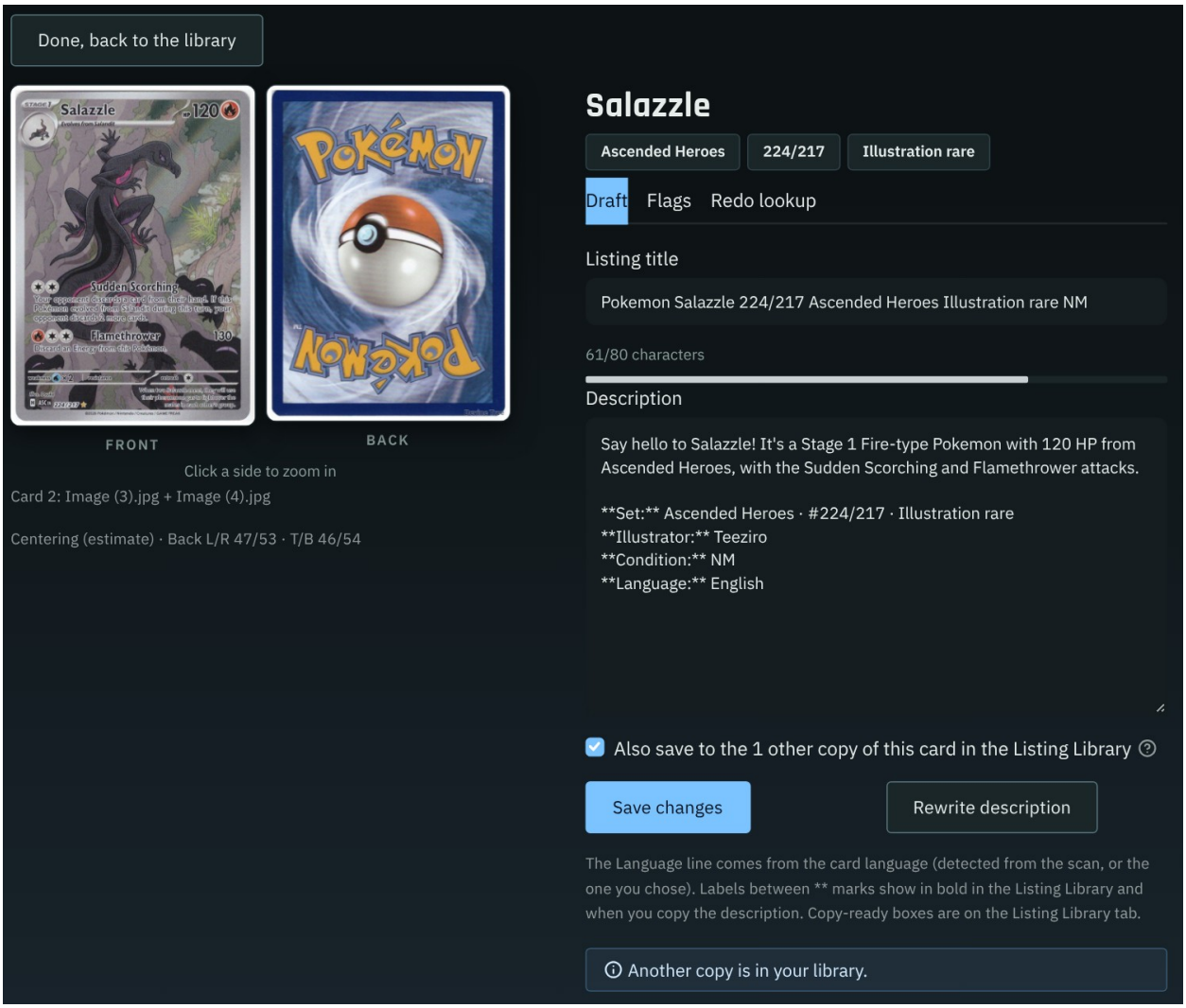

Figure 6. *Editing a card that has another copy waiting in the library.*

6. The Listing Library

Your cards wait in line in scan order, the same order as your stack. You work on the top card, **Up next**: list it, mark it as listed, and the next card moves up. A line at the top reminds you where you put the last card away, and the chips above the card say how many are in line, whether the listing photos are built, and where each sort's next card goes.

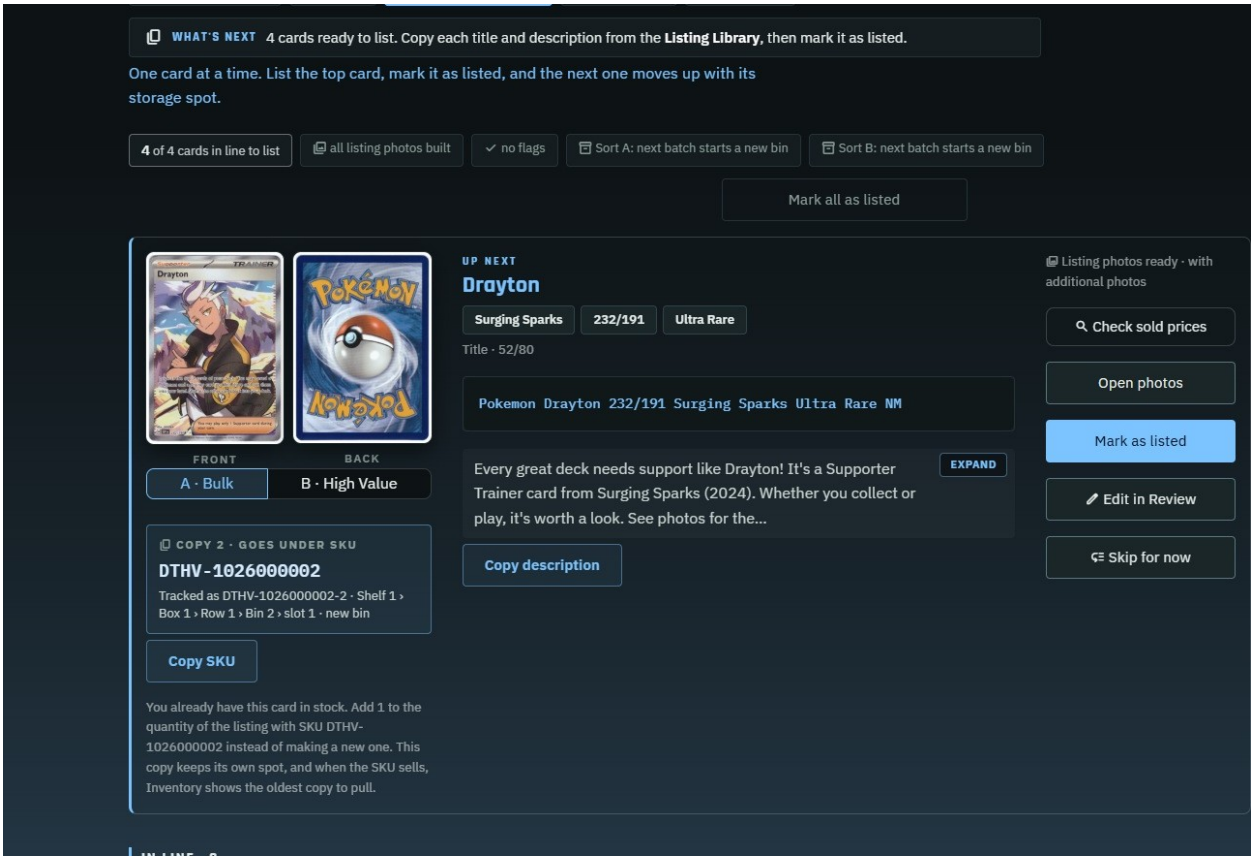

Figure 7. *The top card. Drayton is already in stock, so this copy goes under the first copy's SKU.*

On each card	What it does
Title	Click the copy icon at its right to copy it.
Description	**Expand** shows all of it; **Copy description** copies it.
A · Bulk / B · High Value	Under the pictures: moves just this card to the other sort before you list it.
Where is it? · SKU	The card's SKU to paste into your listing, with the spot it goes into below it. **Copy SKU** copies it.
Copy 2 · goes under SKU	Shown instead when you already have this card in stock: Copy SKU copies the first copy's SKU (see below).
Flags to check	Things to double-check. Click **Checked, clear flags** when done.
Check sold prices	Opens sold listings for the card in your browser.
Open photos	Opens the card's listing photos, ready to drag into your listing.

On each card	What it does
Mark as listed	Press after you've listed it. Pick the **Listed on** date and press **Yes, it's listed**. The card is stored in its slot and the next card moves up.
Skip for now	Sends the top card to the back of the line. **List next** on a waiting card brings it to the top.
Edit in Review	Change the title, description or lookup.

Listing a card

1. On eBay, search for the card's title and choose **Sell one like this** on a matching listing.
2. Add the photos (**Open photos**), paste the title and description, and check the condition.
3. Set your price and shipping, paste the SKU into **Custom label (SKU)**, and list it. Orders only carry the Custom label, so a SKU typed into Item specifics isn't matched when the card sells.
4. Back in the Listing Library, click **Mark as listed** and confirm. Put the card away in the slot shown.

A copy of a card you already have

When the top card is a card you already have in stock (same card, same variant and condition), it doesn't get a SKU of its own. The box under the pictures says **Copy 2 · goes under SKU** and shows the first copy's SKU, for example DTHV-1026000002. Copy SKU copies that SKU, so on eBay you add 1 to that listing's quantity instead of making a new listing. The card is tracked as a sub-SKU (DTHV-1026000002-2, then -3 for the next copy) and still gets its own slot in this batch's bin.

When a copy sells, an order with the first copy's SKU finds the oldest copy still in stock, so you always pull the oldest one first, and two sales use up two different copies.

Mark all and the Completed list

Mark all as listed stores every card in line order, top card first, so the slots follow your stack (it asks first, and waits if there isn't enough room). The **Completed** list at the bottom shows everything you've listed; **Restore** puts a card back and frees its spot. **Download CSV** saves the line as a spreadsheet.

Listing photos

Each card gets a front and back photo: the whole card, centred with a thin white border. Your additional photos are added as photos 3 and 4. A picture check matches each photo pair to the right card, taking a closer look when it isn't sure (a small card in a top-loader, a busy mat, holo glare). Nothing is added unless the pictures really match.

Any pair it couldn't place shows at the top of the Listing Library under **additional photo pair needs a card**, with your photos beside the card the app suggests by its place in line. Change the card if needed and press **Add to this card**, or **Skip**.

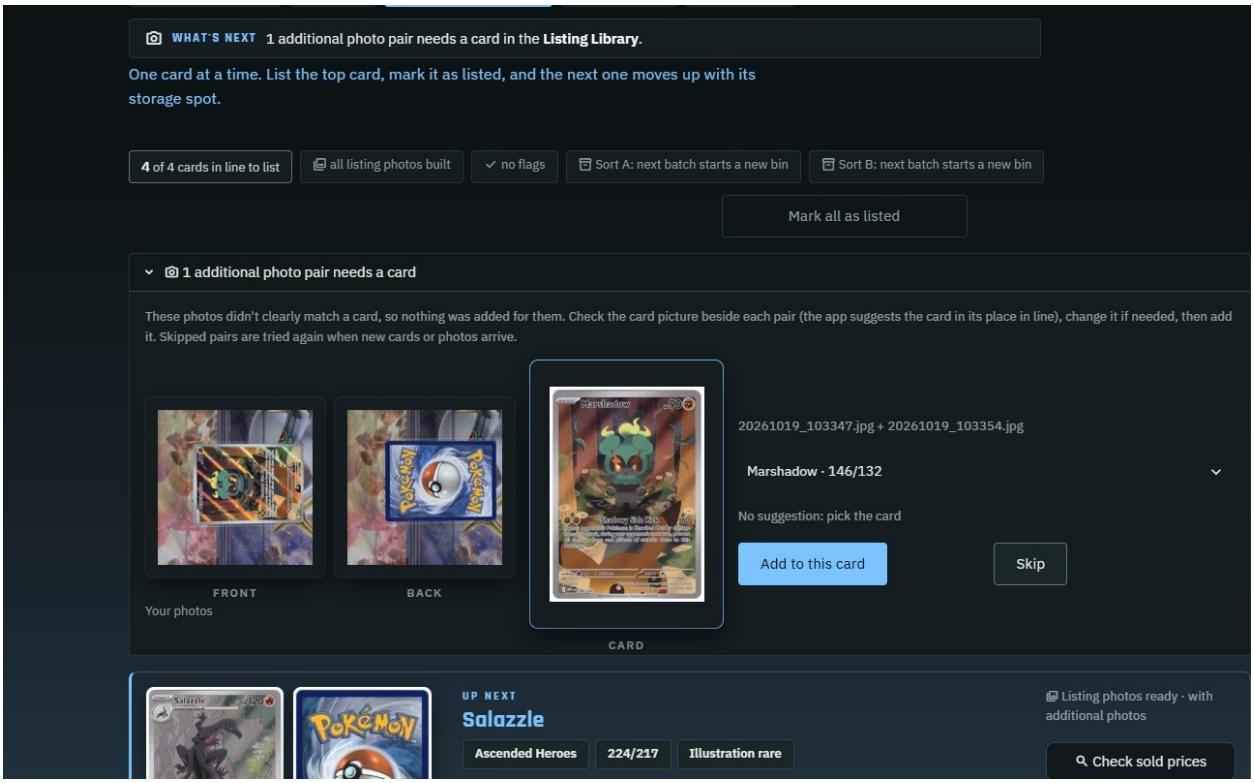

Figure 8. *A phone photo pair waiting for you to pick its card.*

7. The Dashboard

The Dashboard shows how your listing is going. Three totals sit at the top: listed cards, drafts not listed, and archived batches. Below them, **Batches by completion date** has a bar for every batch you've cleared, plus the current one, split into Listed (light blue) and Drafts not listed (grey). Switch to **By day listed** to see how many cards you listed each day. Hover over a bar for its numbers.

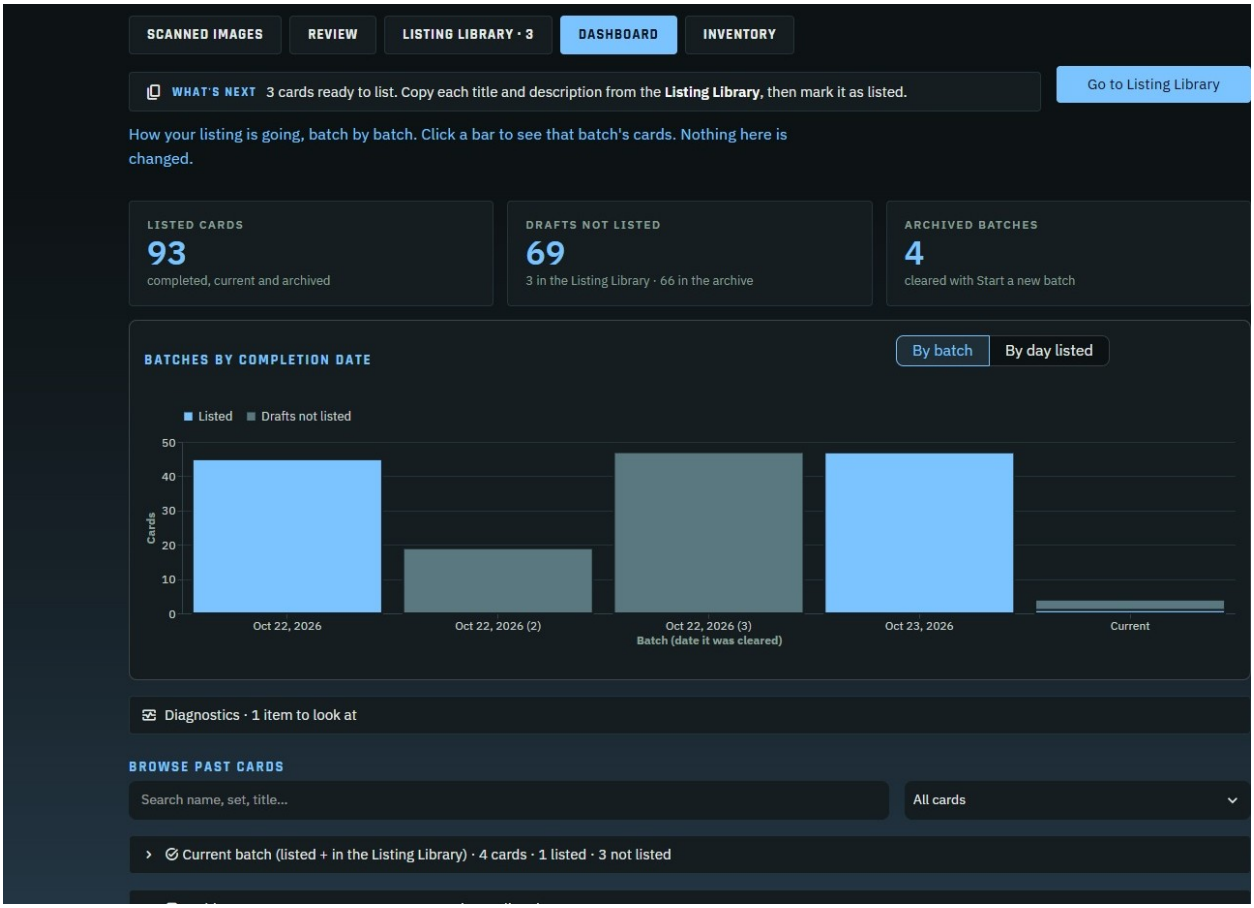

Figure 9. *The Dashboard: totals and the batch chart.*

Click a bar to open that batch's cards, each with its title, description and **Copy description**. **Show all batches** goes back. Under **Browse past cards** you can search every batch and filter Listed / Not listed.

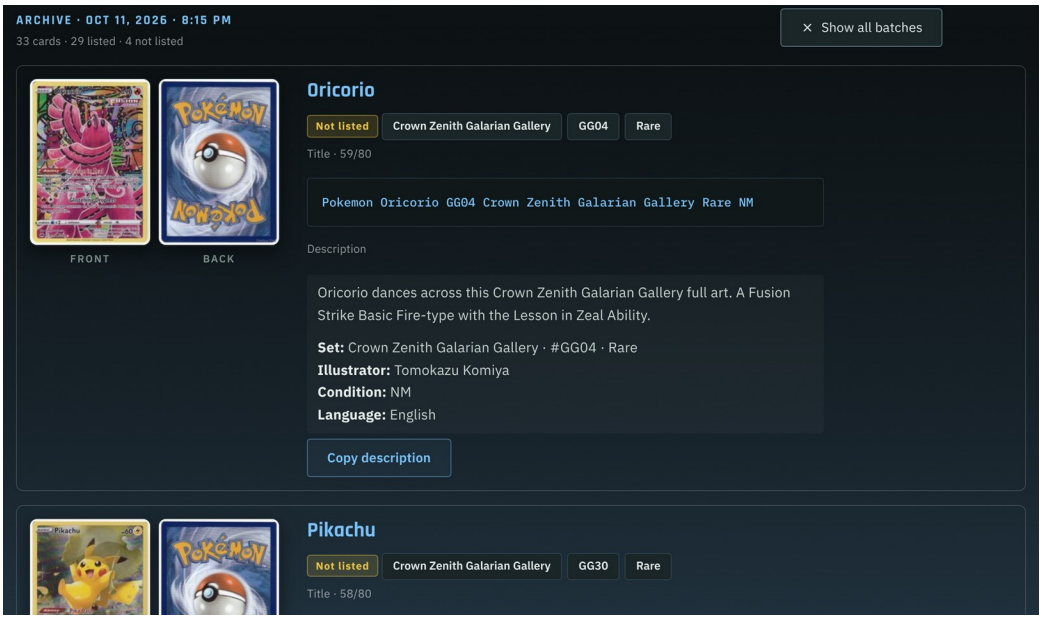

Figure 10. A batch opened from the chart.

Diagnostics

Diagnostics, just under the chart, is a quick health check: your version, the card reader, your data folder and its size, scans waiting, cards in Review or ready to list, pairing problems, cards with flags, the archive, your last backup and any errors logged in the last 7 days. Anything worth a look is marked **Check** in yellow. **Open data folder** and **Open log folder** are at the bottom.

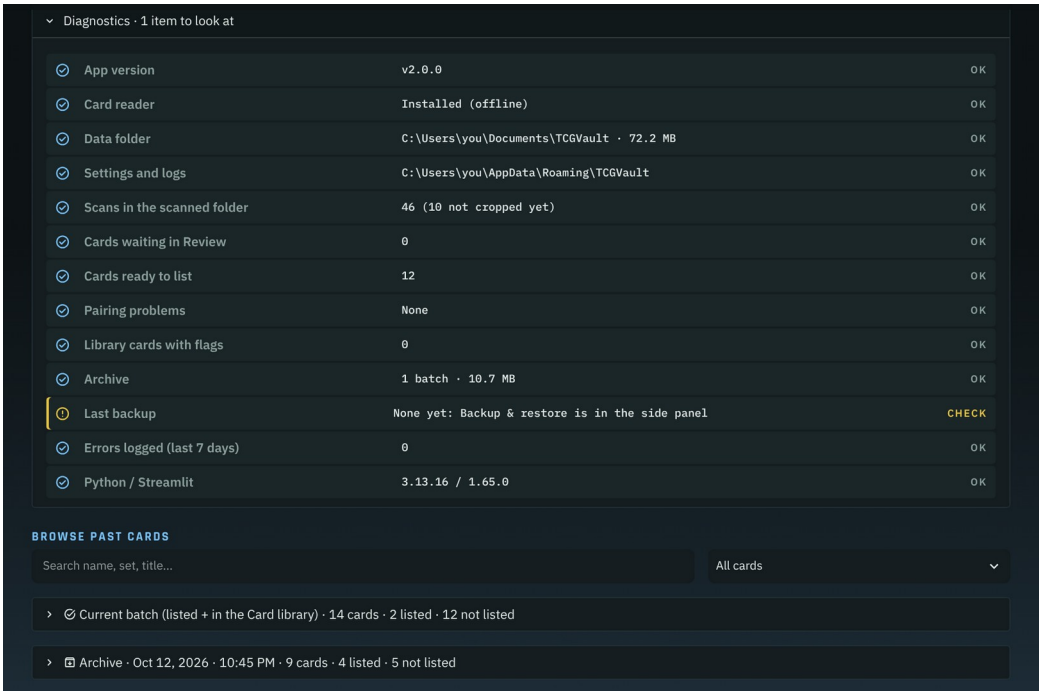

Figure 11. Diagnostics, with one item to check.

8. Inventory

Inventory keeps track of every card you've listed: where it is in your storage and whether it has sold. Every batch goes into its own **bin**, card by card in the order you mark them as listed, so the bin matches your stack. Your storage is set up as shelves, boxes, rows and bins.

SKUs and locations

Each card has two codes. Its **SKU** goes on your listing and never changes, even if the card moves. DTHV-1026000003 means: your prefix (DTHV), the month and year it was listed (10 26), then the card's number that month (000003). The count starts again on the first of each month. A copy of a card you already have gets a sub-SKU under the first copy's SKU, such as DTHV-1026000003-2.

Its **location** says where it sits: DTHV-S01-B01-R01-N02-005 means Shelf 1, Box 1, Row 1, Bin 2, slot 5. Moving a card or a bin only changes its location, so there are never listings to update.

Set it up

Open **Inventory** in the sidebar. Pick the sort with **Settings for**, give it a name, and tick the levels you use (Shelf, Box, Row, Bin) with how many of each you have (rows are 1 to 5 a box). Set **Cards per bin** (5 to 50) and a **Prefix** such as DT. The preview shows the first and last bin and how many bins you have. Press **Set up Sort A** (**Save Sort A** once it's set up). Each sort's box and bins can have their own **Colours**.

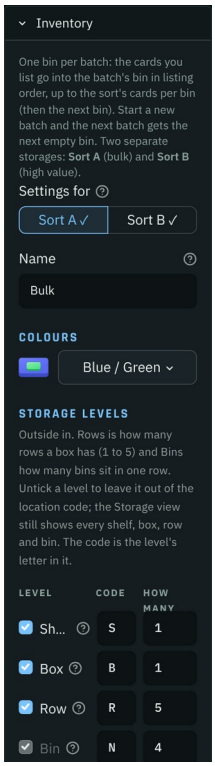

Figure 12. Inventory settings (top)

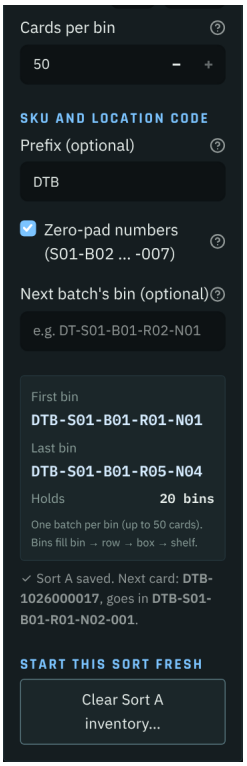

Figure 13. Inventory settings (bottom)

A batch with more cards than a bin holds carries on in the next bin (Batch 3 · part 2). Make Cards per bin smaller and any bins that already hold more are split when you save: the panel first tells you how many

cards move and which new bins they go into, every card keeps its SKU, and you get a list of the cards to move.

Bulk and High Value

You have two separate storages, **Sort A** (Bulk) and **Sort B** (High Value), each with its own layout, cards per bin, colours and prefix (DT and DTHV to start; the two can't share one). Pick the sort for each batch on Scanned Images, and switch a single card in the Listing Library if one turns out to be a hit.

The Inventory tab

At the top, **Recently sold** lists cards that sold (see below). Under it, the blue **Find a card by SKU** panel takes a SKU from a sold order, a name or a title. Results show above the Storage view. Every copy of a card is listed together, with the oldest copy in stock on top marked **Oldest**: that's the one to pull. Typing the SKU of a newer copy still shows the oldest copy first and tells you which SKU you typed. Click a result, or type a card's exact SKU, and the Storage view opens inside its bin with the card picked. **Download CSV** saves your whole inventory (with a listing_sku column showing the SKU on each copy's listing).

The **Storage view** draws each box in 3D with its rows, one block per bin. Pick **Sort A · Bulk** or **Sort B · High Value**, and use the ‹ › arrows to step through your boxes. The batches in the box are listed beside it (Batch 1, Batch 2 and so on): hover one to lift its block, or click it to zoom in. A bin still filling is striped, and the next batch's bin is marked. Each sort's totals (in stock, bins in use, where the next batch goes) are under the box.

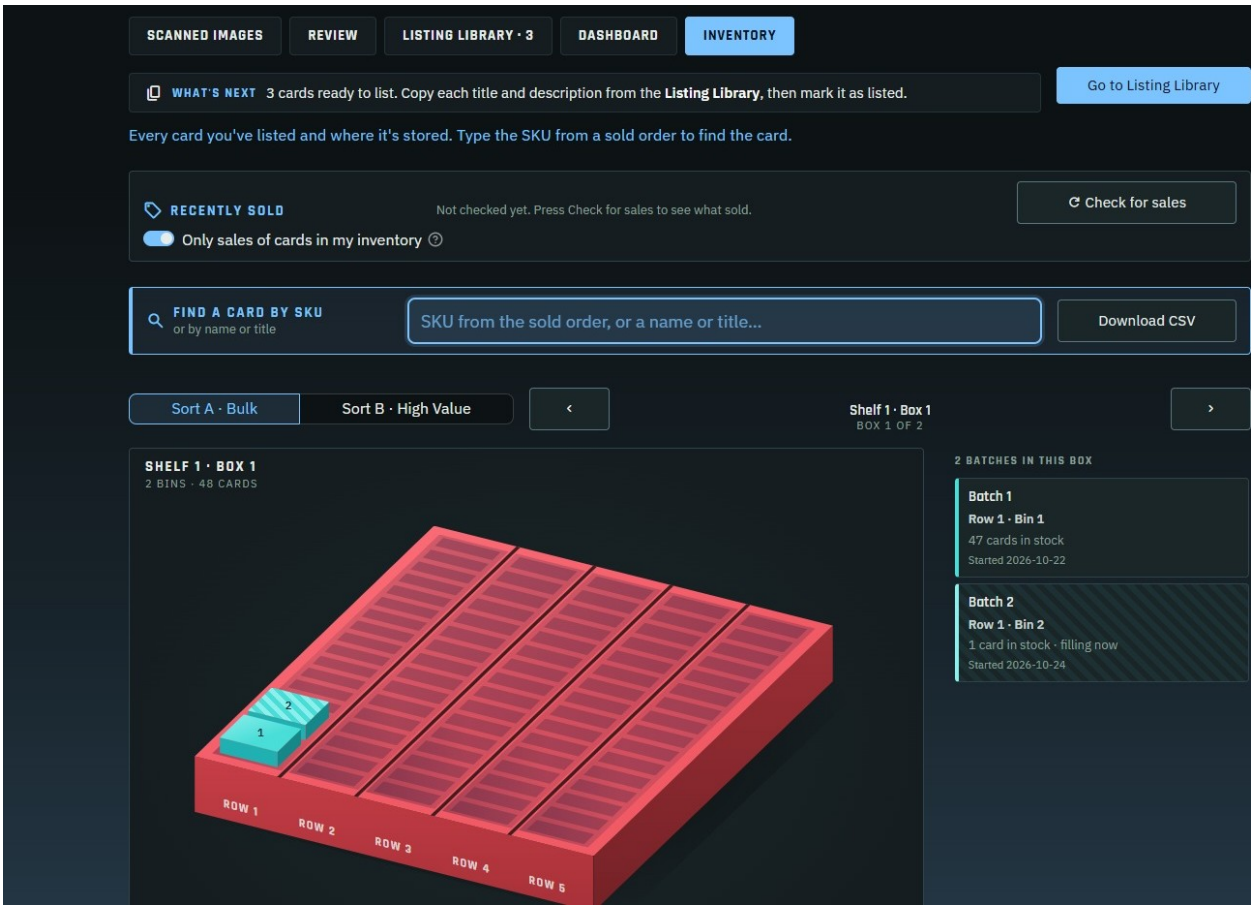

Figure 14. *The Inventory tab: Recently sold, the SKU search and the Storage view.*

Inside a bin

Click a bin and the view zooms into it: a tray with its cards standing upright, slot 1 at the front, each showing its picture. Grey cards are empty slots (sold or moved out). Hover a card to lift it out with its name; the ‹ › arrows at the top right open the bin before or after it in the same row. **Back to box** zooms out.

Click a card to open its panel on the right: its picture, SKU, **Current location** and an **Original location** menu (with any moves). **Mark sold** takes it out of your stock (**Put back in stock** undoes it). **Move to** and **Move card** move it into another batch's bin or an empty bin spot. Click the card again, or **Close**, to close the panel.

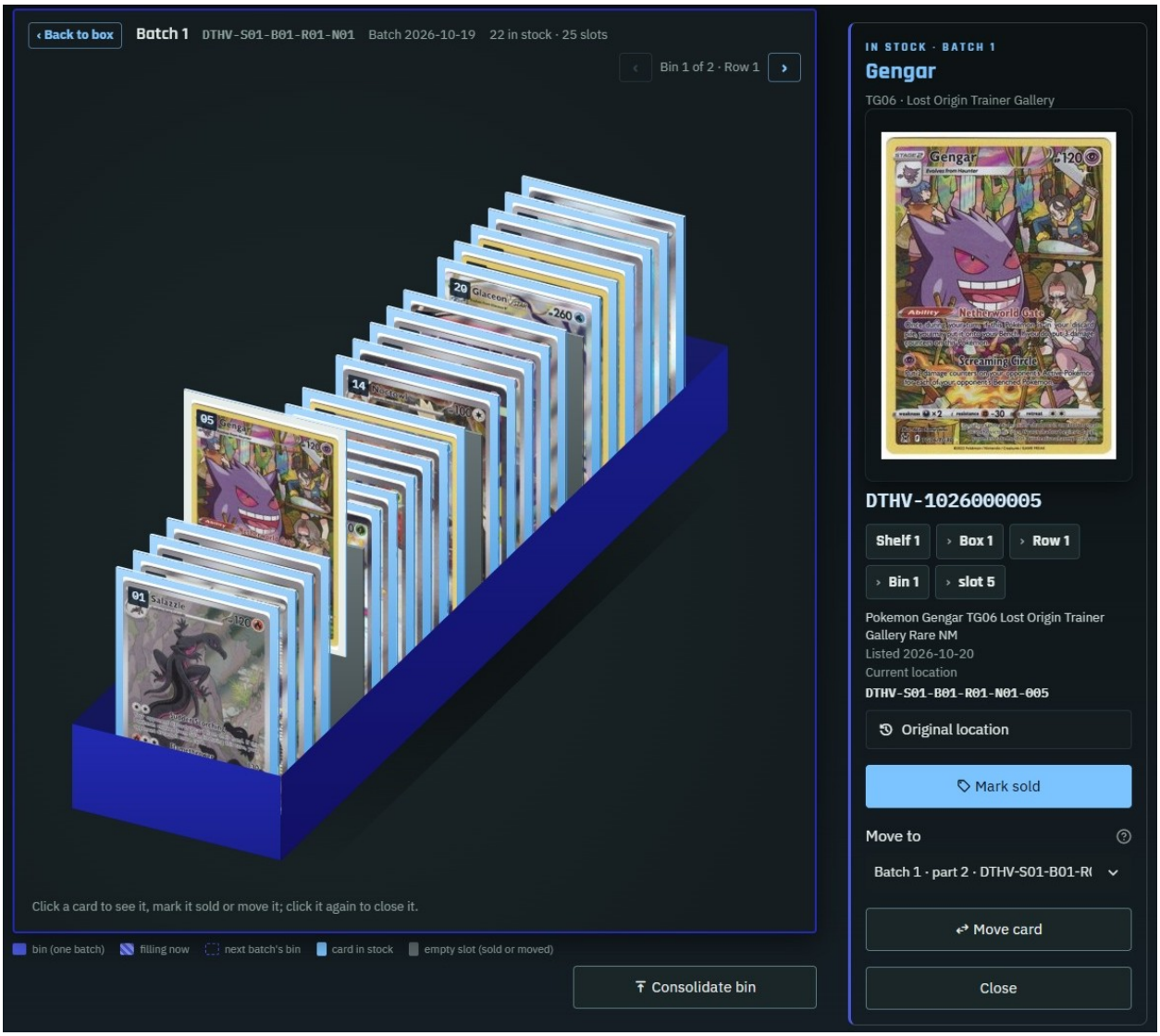

Figure 15. *Inside a bin, with a card's panel open.*

Recently sold

Once your eBay account is connected (section 9), press **Check for sales** and the app reads your recent orders and lists each sold card with its picture, SKU and spot. Pull the card and press **Mark sold**, or **Show in box** to see it in its bin first. A sale drops off once its card is marked sold.

- The app finds the card by the SKU on the order (the listing's **Custom label**), by its exact title, or by the card's name and number in the title. A match by name and number says **check it's the right card**.
- **Only sales of cards in my inventory** (on at first) leaves out your other items. Turn it off to see every sale; **Hide all ... not found** clears those in one press, and **Show hidden** brings them back.
- It's read only: it never lists, changes or ends anything, never marks a card sold for you, and checks only when you press the button.

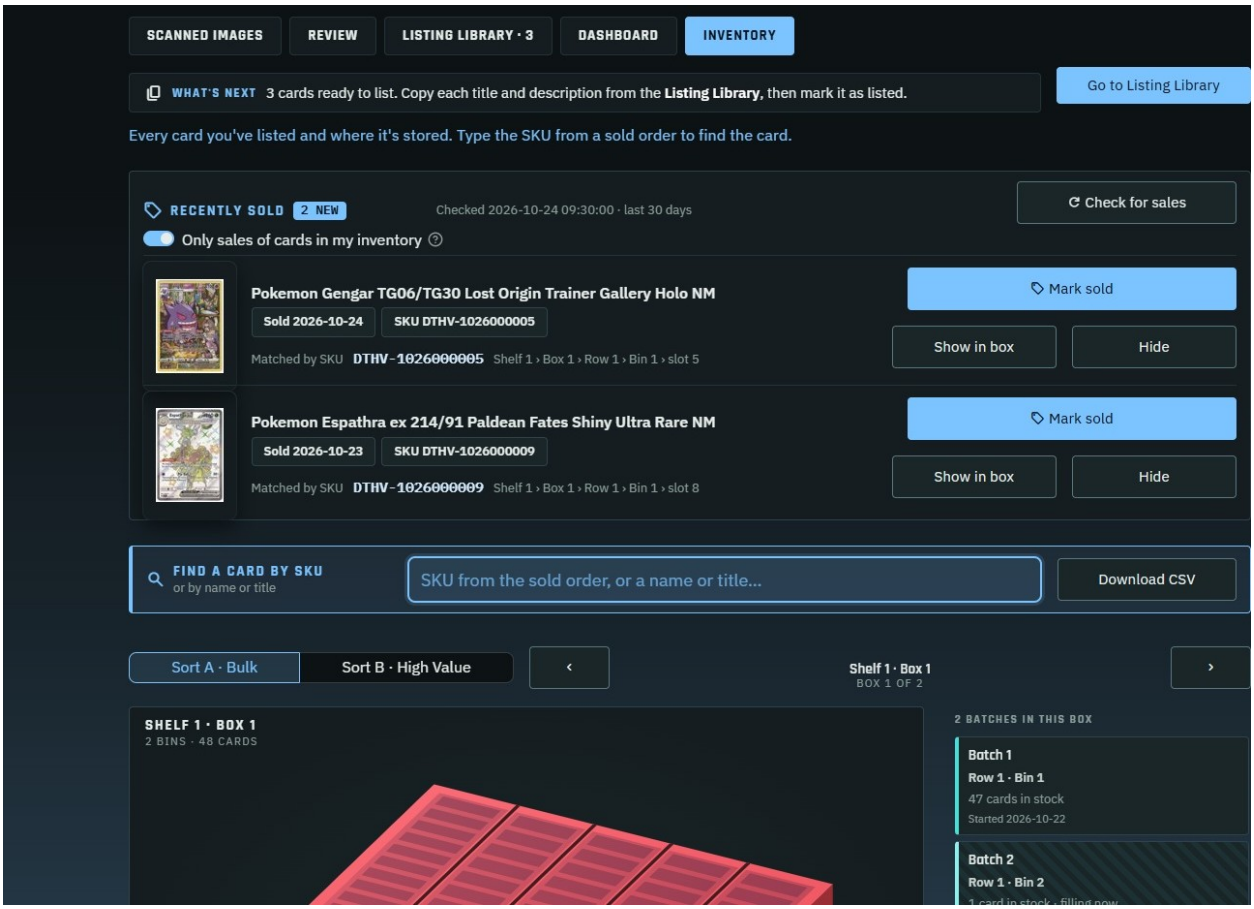

Figure 16. *Two sales waiting to be pulled and marked sold.*

Copies under separate SKUs

Copies you stored before version 2.12 each have their own SKU. Inventory lists any card with two or more copies like that and shows what would change. Press **Put copies under one SKU** to link them: the oldest copy keeps its SKU, the others get sub-SKUs and stay where they are. A copy's old SKU still finds it, so a sale from its old listing is matched too. Afterwards keep one listing with the first SKU and set its quantity to the number of copies.

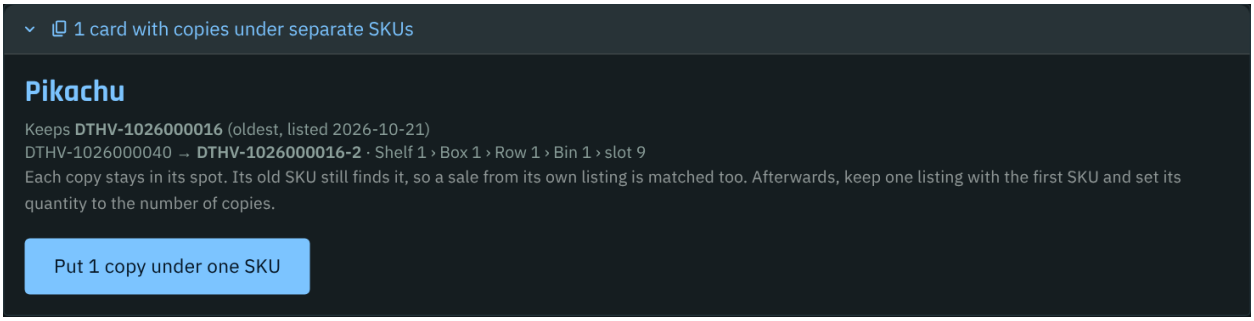

Figure 17. *Two Pikachu copies, ready to go under one SKU.*

Consolidate

As cards sell, bins get gaps. Inside a bin, **Consolidate bin** (bottom right) moves its cards up to the front: press it, then **Are you sure?** (the X cancels). In the box view, **Consolidate** opens its own screen: click the bin to empty and the app shows, bin by bin, which cards move into the gaps of the bins before it (Batch 1 first), with each card's old spot and new slot. Nothing moves until **Yes, move them**, and the list stays on screen with **Copy list** so you can move the real cards. SKUs never change.



Figure 18. Consolidate: the cards moving into an earlier bin.

Move, rename or close a bin

Under the totals, **Move, rename or close a bin** lets you give a bin a label, close a bin early so the next batch starts a new one, move one card into another bin, or move a whole bin to an empty spot.

> **Tip:** Your inventory and its card pictures are kept when you Start a new batch (the cards are still on your shelves) and are included in backups. To start a sort over, use **Clear Sort A inventory…** at the bottom of Inventory in the sidebar; a backup is saved first.

9. The sidebar

Start a new batch

When you've finished a batch, open **Start a new batch**, choose what to clear, tick **Yes, I'm sure** and press the button. Your settings and your inventory always stay.

- **Clear card data** removes the batch's drafts, listing photos and library cards. A copy is saved in your archive, and this batch's bin is closed so the next batch starts a new bin.
- **Clear completed cards too** also clears your listed cards, so the counts start at zero.
- **Empty the scanned folder** (off by default) moves your scans to the Recycle Bin.

Delete old archives frees up space by permanently deleting old archived batches. It asks first.

Settings

Setting	What it does
Condition for new drafts	NM, LP, MP, HP, DMG, or blank. Used in the title and description.
Description style	Passionate (warm, with an excited opening line) or Classic (plain and factual).
Card language	Auto-detect (recommended), English, Japanese or CN (Simplified Chinese).
Listing photos	Auto touch-up (brightness, contrast, light sharpen) and an optional watermark.
Background threshold	Leave at 230 unless a card isn't found on a scan; lower it for darker backgrounds.
Data folder	Where your cards are stored.

Additional photos moved out of Settings: they're on the Scanned Images tab, beside the scans (section 4).

Inventory

Your storage layout for each sort, covered in section 8: **Settings for**, **Name**, **Colours**, **Storage levels**, **Cards per bin**, the SKU **Prefix**, **Zero-pad numbers**, and **Next batch's bin** if you want the next batch to start somewhere else (a new row, say). **Start this sort fresh** at the bottom holds Clear Sort A (or B) inventory.

eBay account

Connect your eBay account once so Recently sold can read your orders. It's read only: TCG Vault can't list, change or end anything.

1. Under **1. Your eBay developer keys**, enter the **App ID**, **Cert ID** and **RuName** from your Production keyset on developer.ebay.com, and press **Save keys**. They're kept in Windows Credential Manager, never in your data folder, settings or backups.

2. Under **2. Sign in to eBay**, press **Open eBay sign-in**, sign in and press **Agree**. Copy the whole address of eBay's thank-you page, paste it in the box and press **Finish sign-in** (within 5 minutes).
3. Choose how far back **Look back** goes: 7 to 90 days (30 at first).

The sign-in lasts about 18 months; the panel says when you'll need to sign in again. **Disconnect eBay…** removes the keys and sign-in from this PC.

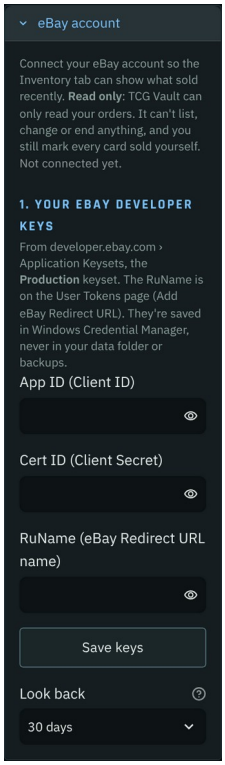

Figure 19. The eBay account panel

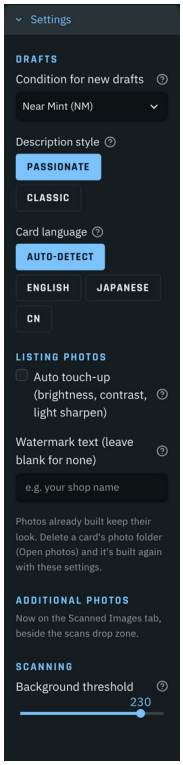

Figure 20. Settings

Backup & restore

Back up now saves all your cards, settings, inventory and scans in one zip file in Documents\TCG Vault backups (or a folder you choose, such as a USB stick). **Include scans** and **Include archive** are on by default. To restore, pick a backup, tick **Yes, replace my current data with this backup**, and click **Restore**. Your current data is kept, renamed, so nothing is lost.

How to use, Contact Support and About

How to use repeats the eight steps. **Contact Support** shows the support email. **About** shows your version, and **What's new** lists the changes in each version.

10. Tips and troubleshooting

If…	Try this
The What's next line is red	Click **Open Pairing check** and put the scans back in front-then-back order.
A card is waiting in Review	Click **Read this card**, or type its name and number and click **Look up & save draft**.
“Several cards matched”	Set **Pick** to the right match and look up again.
A Japanese card says “not in the Japanese card database yet”	It was drafted from what's printed on it. Check the details, or type the English name in the lookup box.
The title is too long	Shorten it in Edit in Review. The counter turns red past 80 characters.
You fixed a name and its copies still show the old one	Edit one copy with **Also save to the other copies** ticked.
A card wasn't found on a scan	Lower **Background threshold** in Settings and try again.
A phone photo pair needs a card	Pick the card beside the photos at the top of the Listing Library and press **Add to this card**.
A card sold	Press **Check for sales** on Inventory, or type the SKU from the order. Pull the card from the spot shown and click **Mark sold**.
A sale says “Not found in your inventory”	Check the listing's **Custom label (SKU)** holds the Vault SKU, or use **Search for it**.
You marked a card as listed by mistake	Click **Restore** in the Completed list. Its spot is freed.
Mark as listed is greyed out	That sort is full. Add space in Inventory in the sidebar.
Bins have gaps from sold cards	Use **Consolidate bin** or **Consolidate** on the Inventory tab.
A tab shows an error	Open Diagnostics on the Dashboard, click **Open log folder** and send the log file to Support.

Where your files are

Everything is in Documents\TCGVault (or Documents\CropperBot if you used TCG Vault before 2.0): your scanned originals, cropped cards, drafts, listings (photos for each card), completed cards, your inventory (with its own card pictures and backups) and the archive. Your eBay keys are in Windows Credential

Manager, not in this folder. The app never changes your original scans, never deletes anything without asking, and marks anything it doesn't know as TODO: confirm instead of guessing.

Questions? Email **support@devinetreevault.com**.