

CREATING BOOKS WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

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Tripod Camera Club Program

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What We Will Talk About

- What are Photo Books?
- Why Create Photo Books?
- Types
- Planning Photo Books
- Overview of Suppliers
- Lightroom demonstration (Blub Plugin)
- Examples of Photo Books (Paul, Jeff, Ron, etc)

What are Photo Books?

- A photo book is a book in which photographs make a significant contribution to the overall content (just pictures or text plus pictures)
- Digital photo books have digitally printed pages as opposed to albums that consist of traditional photos mounted on the album pages.
- Historically (up to about 5 to 10 years ago):
 - To produce a top quality photo book worthy as a table top would have been extremely expensive due to the quantity produced (namely one).
- Aesthetically, digital photo books seem neater and more professional than albums.
 - This has led to their growing popularity with both professional and amateur photographers.

Why Create Photo Books?

- Many people have hundreds, if not thousands, of personal digital photos stored on their hard drives, where most are likely to remain untouched.
- Also people have hundreds, if not thousands of prints/slides stored in the closet.

Photo books are an excellent way to make the most out of those photographs and preserve your favorite memories for years to come.

Types of Photo Books?

- Different sizes

Small Square	7 x 7 in (18 x 18 cm)
Standard Portrait	8 x 10 in (20 x 25 cm)
Standard Landscape	10 x 8 in (25 x 20 cm)
Large Landscape	13 x 11 in (33 x 28 cm)
Large Square	12 x 12 in (30 x 30 cm)

- Different Covers:

Hardcover Image Wrap
Hardcover Dust Jacket
Softcover

- Different types of paper

Premium Lustre
Premium Matte
ProLine Uncoated
ProLine Pearl Photo
Standard

- 20 pages to 100 or more pages, etc
- Different Page Layouts: 1 image per page to multi per page

Photo Books Subject Ideas

- Family History
- Narrative
- Weddings
- Big Life Events
- Travel
- Collections
- Kids
- Sports
- Portfolio (Yearly, Event, Special Occasion)

Just tip of iceberg, a photo book can be any collection of photos arranged around a compelling theme

Planning/Designing Your Photo Book

- Think in terms of spreads not pages.
 - Every left hand page has a corresponding right hand page - You are designing the whole not the individual page
- Traditionally the image is placed on the right hand page and left hand is blank or with caption - But \$
 - Your eye is drawn to the right hand page so consider this when placing images
- Create a Focal Point
 - Create a focal point on each page using a standout photo, surrounded with smaller, supporting images.
 - For particularly eye-catching photos, opt for a panoramic spread, in which a single image is spread across two pages, similar to a two-page magazine spread.
- Make sure you adhere to the margins, your margins form the important function of framing the image (ROT: 1/4" margins but inside margins 5/8" - defines image safe area)
- Be aware that with templates (predefined images cells), photos can "Zoom photo to Fill" or "Zoom Photo to Fill"
- Make sure your images are high enough resolution to print properly
- Mix it up - try to use some different layouts vs all the same (Takes more time)

Online Photo Book Suppliers

- What to look for:
 - Reviews from other users (Print Quality, Ease of Use)
 - Number of Templates
 - Cost
 - Additional Page Cost
 - Shipping Costs
 - Days To Print
 - Safeguards
 - Do they insure the resolution of image is enough for the size printed
 - Do they insure you don't try to print outside of margins

Some Examples of Photo Book Suppliers

Photo Book Supplier	Website	Criteria							
		Overall Rating	Number of Templates	Price of 8.5 x 8.5 Hardcover (20 Pages)	Standard Shipping	Cost of Additional Page	Ease of Use	Print Quality	Amount of Days to Print
Mixbook	mixbook.com	9.80	150	\$30.00	\$6.00	\$0.50	100%	90%	3 - 5
Shutterfly	shutterfly.com	9.70	47	\$30.00	\$8.00	\$1.00	95%	95%	3 - 5
MyCanvas	ancestry.mycanvas.com	9.13	45	\$30.00	\$8.50	\$0.50	90%	100%	5 - 7
Picaboo	picaboo.com	8.90	60	\$35.00	Free	\$1.00	70%	90%	3 - 4
Snapfish	snapfish.com	8.85	127	\$29.00	\$8.00	\$1.00	80%	80%	4 - 7
Kola	kolo.com	8.85	6	\$39.00	\$7.00	\$0.73	80%	100%	3 - 5
SmileBooks	smilebook.com	8.75	14	\$36.00	\$8.00	\$1.00	70%	90%	2 - 5
MyPublisher	mypublisher.com	8.63	10	\$36.00	\$11.00	\$1.00	75%	95%	2 - 6
Presto Photo	prestpphoto.com	8.38	74	\$30.00	\$5.23	\$0.50	50%	60%	5 - 10
Lulu	lulu.com	8.08	19	\$20.00	\$5.00	\$0.40	70%	80%	3 to 12
Blurb	blurb.com	7.98	11	\$32.00	\$8.00	\$0.20	60%	80%	5 - 6
Picture	pictures.com	7.63	17	\$15.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	95%	70%	5
MyMemories	mymemories.com	7.50		\$30.00	\$8.00	\$0.20	55%	80%	5 - 6

Photo Book Source: Blurb

- Standalone and Runs within Lightroom 4 and above
- Templates: over 150 plus you can make custom pages
- 10x8 page Photo Book (Softcover) is \$22.44, Hard Cover is \$34.41, extra pages are \$.99 (2 page spread)
- Print Quality - good, better quality paper is nicer (Proline Pearl \$7 more)
- Processing time - Can be really quick if you use auto flow
- Pros:
 - Contained within photo editing software
 - Since you usually have processed your photos within Lightroom, just load them into Book Module, Upload your photos, about 5 days later book is at your doorstep
 - Your Book will be loaded on Blurb (password protected, you can order more books anytime, and others can order from the site once you share the link with them.
 - Can share the book on Facebook
- Cons:
 - Would like to have flush mounted pages with lay flat pages

Photo Book Source: Shutterfly

- Web-based, no software download required
- 100s of templates
- 8.5x11 20 page Photo Book is \$30 and they often have discounts/sales, \$1/page for additional pages
- Ease of Use: Easy to moderate
- Print Quality: Good color - used for all Tripod EOY Winners books
- Processing time - Usually got the book within one week sometimes 3 days
- Pros: A couple hundred preset, pre-designed, themed layouts to choose from; or you can create your own
- Many other printing options - calendars, mugs, canvas prints, phone cases, gift cards, etc.
- Comment: Another option for layout is to create an entire page in Photoshop and then make it one large jpg. That gives you complete flexibility - layout, text, shadows, clip art, etc.

Photo Book Source: Apple

- Runs within Aperture or iPhoto - Virtually automatic
- Aperture has 11 templates, iPhoto has 7 themes
- 8.5x11 20 page Photo Book is \$29.99, extra pages are \$.99 (2 page spread)
- Easy to set the pages, not real flexible, more automatic
- Print Quality - excellent (very consistent, soft-proofing available)
- Processing time - 90 pages, about one hour
- Pros:
 - Contained within photo editing software
 - Upload photos, 5 days later book is at your doorstep
 - Smart Folder allows complete automation
 - Neat feature - pages can depict travel locations
- Cons:
 - Not enough templates
 - Would like more options (a little too automatic)

More Information:

<http://www.photobookgirl.com>

<http://digital-photography-school.com>

5 top tips for layout Photo Book Design

1. [Photo Book Tools: My Digital Camera Gear and My Computer Lineup](#)
2. [How to Select and Edit Your Photos for your Photo Book](#)
3. [How to Make Your Photos Look Better – Edit Your Photos with iPhoto](#)
4. [Preparing to Make Your Photo Book – How To Edit Your Photos with Photoshop](#)
5. [How to Find the Best Online Photo Book Printing Company](#)
6. [What is the Right Resolution or DPI for Photos When Making a Photo Book?](#)
7. [Top Tips for Making Great Photo Book Templates and Layouts \(Photobook America Preview\)](#)
8. [Photo Book Layouts – A Design Tutorial – You Make the Call!](#)
9. [How to Create a Two-Page Spread \(most companies have this function built in now so I don't think I need to do a post on it – Yea!\)](#)
10. [The Right Way to Add Text to Your Photo Book & How to Use Your Own Fonts](#)
11. [Incorporating Non-Photo Elements Into Your Photo Book – A Bit of Digital Scrapbooking Fun](#)
12. [Q&A: My Photos Aren't Digital – How Do I Make a Photo Book? Scan Your Photos!](#)
13. [Photo Book Paper Quality Compared – Which Photo Book Company Prints on the Best Paper?](#)
14. [Make a Photo Book in Minutes](#)
15. [How to Choose the Best Paper for Your Photo Book \(Part 1 of 2\)](#)
16. [How to Choose the Best Paper for Your Photo Book \(Part 2 of 2\)](#)
17. [Six Must Read Tips Before Sending Your Photo Book To Print](#)
18. [Top Free Online Editing Tools Review](#)
19. [Multi-Volume Photo Books – Make it a Series](#)
20. [Photo Book Girl's Top 7 Tips on Journaling](#)

<http://www.indiephotobooklibrary.org>

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