

The background of the image is a collage of vintage Polaroid photographs and a map of Germany. The Polaroids show various scenes: a green landscape, a cup of coffee, and autumn foliage. The map shows German cities like Munich, Memmingen, and Ravensburg. The text is overlaid on a white semi-transparent rectangle in the center.

THE *Ultimate* GUIDE

to bringing your photos into the
DIGITAL AGE

1

Get Started

The idea of scanning boxes and albums full of photos may seem daunting, but the old adage still holds true: “How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time!” You didn’t create your collection of photos, slides, and important documents overnight – so don’t

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Approach as a Fun Adventure

You’re about to wander down memory lane. Enjoy it! You’ll

be reliving the moments that you felt worthy of capturing in the first place – and that your ancestors did as well!

3

Themed Album

Bring everything into one location. All the photos, slides, film movies, video tape, backup computer

4

Orient

Decide how you want to access your photos in the future. This can be chronological or by people, activities, and so on. We find that a couple of words to describe your photos to make them easier to label and find is helpful: date, event, people/place. Example, May – 1980, Graduation, Rick





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Evaluate Scanning Options

There are 3 options: Do it yourself, Have a professional scanner do it for you, or a mixture of both. If you are hiring a professional scanner, be sure to read customer reviews and experiences in order to help you in your search!

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Have Others Scan

The range of options are wide. You can have a Photo Organizer come into your home and take on the project completely, making your work minimal. You can also bring your photos into a local store that provides on-site scanning or that offers mail-away services (scanning is done domestically and internationally, so understand how they scan – and what you are comfortable with). You can also mail them away yourself! Be sure to understand all your pricing options and set yourself a budget that works best for you.



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DIY Scanning

Evaluate what types of photos and documents you plan to scan and where they

are located. If many photos are in photo albums, you may want to scan from the album so as to not damage the photo, and to also capture any information that was written on the album page.



There are a multitude of scanning options available to you. You can purchase scanning equipment, rent equipment, and go to locations such as libraries that often provide flatbed scanners to their patrons. Scanning slides/movies/videos is a different project, and often times it might be good to evaluate having someone else do the scanning for you in these special cases.



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Photo Restoration

You likely have photos that have seen better days – torn, cracked, damp and mouldy. All of these states seem to cause irreparable damage to photos. Don't worry – help exists. You can either learn fairly complex software and do a complete restoration yourself, or you can hire someone to do this service. Prices for these services vary, but for particularly damaged photos, these same services can be a lifesaver.

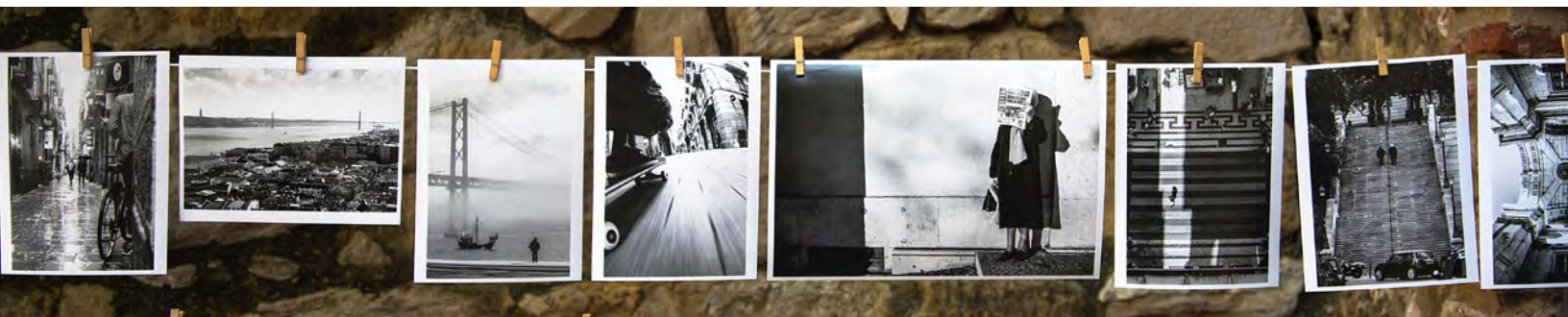
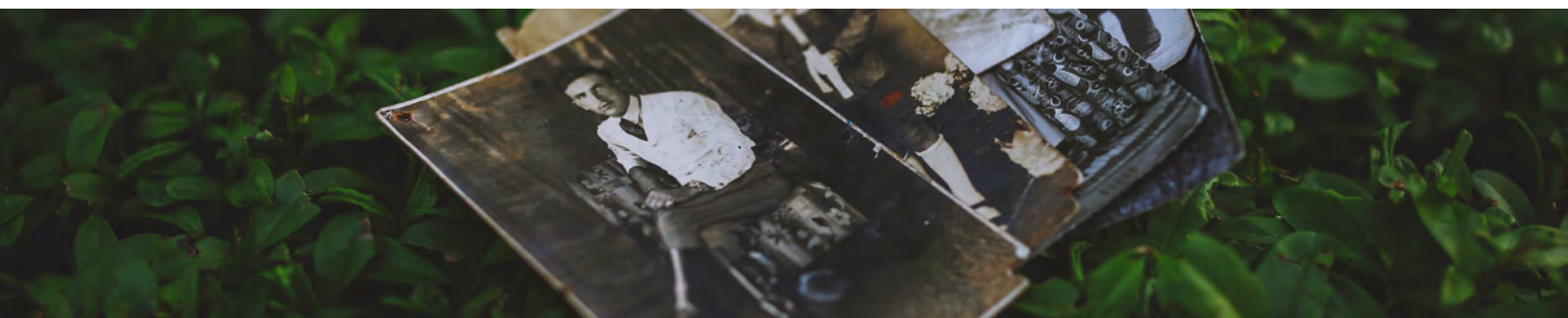


Photo Improvement

You probably also have many photos that have faded due to light, heat, humidity, and other environmental factors – including all your snapshots and those in frames. These photos can also be improved by photo restoration professionals. You can also find plenty of easy to use software that will aid you in this task!

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A Blast From the Past Album

Do you still have a shoebox of dusty old sepia photos or black and whites? Dust these treasures off and choose 30-40 photos to have scanned at a high resolution. Upload these images to a photo book printer and add any details about relatives that you can recall. Make several copies to share and enjoy with your family. Don't forget to store your old prints in a photo safe box or album for safe keeping. These heirloom photos need to be protected from heat, humidity, and light.



Dealer Members



B&C Camera
 Bedford Camera & Video
 Bergen County Camera
 Biggs Camera
 Calagaz
 Cardinal Camera
 CRIS Camera Services
 Dodd Camera
 Dury's
 Forth Worth Camera
 Glazer's Camera
 Horn Photo
 Hunts Photo & Video
 Jacks Cameras
 Midwest Photo
 Mike's Photo
 Murphy's Camera
 Nelson Photo Supplies
 Newtonville Camera
 Paul's Photo
 Precision Camera
 Roberts
 Rockbrook Camera
 Schillers
 Service Photo Supply, Inc.
 Shutterbug Camera
 Wolfe's
 World of Photography

Las Vegas, NV
 Springdale, AR
 Mahwah, NJ
 Charlotte, NC
 Pensacola, FL
 Lansdale, PA
 Chandler, AZ
 Cleveland, OH
 Nashville, TN
 Fort Worth, TX
 Seattle, WA
 Fresno, CA
 Boston, MA
 Philadelphia, PA
 Columbus, OH
 Boulder, CO
 Louisville, KY
 San Diego, CA
 Newton, MA
 Torrance, CA
 Austin, TX
 Indianapolis, IN
 Omaha, NE
 St. Louis, MO
 Baltimore, MD
 Santa Rosa, CA
 Tokeka, Kansas
 Columbus, OH