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# Digital Restoration From Start To Finish: How To Repair Old And Damaged Photographs



## Synopsis

Digital Restoration: Start to Finish 2nd edition guides you step-by-step through the entire process of restoring old photographs and repairing new ones using Adobe Photoshop, Picture Window, and now Elements. Nothing is left out, from choosing the right hardware and software and getting the photographs into the computer, to getting the finished photo out of the computer and preserving it for posterity.Â LEARN HOW TO: Scan faded and damaged prints or films Improve snapshots with Shadow/Highlight adjustment Correct uneven exposure Fix color and skin tones quickly with Curves, plug-ins, and Hue/Saturation adjustment layers Correct uneven exposure and do dodging and burning-in with adjustment layers Hand-tint your photographs easily Correct skin tones with airbrush layers Clean up dust and scratches speedily and effectively Repair small and large cracks with masks and filters Eliminate tarnish and silvered-out spots from a photograph in just a few steps Minimize unwanted print surface textures Erase mildew spots Eliminate dots from newspaper photographs Increase sharpness and fine detail and Maximize print quality

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[A] top pick.. It tells how to make a range of corrections, how to hand-tint photos, repair problems in lighting, and even erase mildew spots and eliminate pixel problems. A fine specific guide any digital photographer needs!"--Midwest Book Review

Repair even the most intractable cases of deterioration with the step-by-step guide to restoring old photographs and repairing new ones. Each step-from choosing the right hardware and software to preserving your photographs for posterity-is explained using a variety of both cost and time-efficient tools including third-party plug-ins, Photoshop Elements, and Picture Window. LEARN HOW TO:

- Scan faded and damaged prints or films
- Improve snapshots with Shadow/Highlight adjustment
- Correct uneven exposure
- Fix color and skin tones quickly with Curves, plug-ins, and Hue/Saturation adjustment layers
- Correct uneven exposure and do dodging and burning-in with adjustment layers
- Hand-tint your photographs easily
- Correct skin tones with airbrush layers
- Clean up dust and scratches speedily and effectively
- Repair small and large cracks with masks and filters
- Eliminate tarnish and silvered-out spots from a photograph in just a few steps
- Minimize unwanted print surface textures
- Erase mildew spots
- Eliminate dots from newspaper photographs
- Increase sharpness and fine detail
- Maximize print quality

The Good News:+ the author really knows his stuff and is something of a perfectionist  
The Bad News:- time marches on, although the book is "just" 4 years old, Photoshop CS4 (basis for this book) seem ancient (relative to current Photoshop CC). When the book was written it was not possible to comment on the capabilities of the tools of PS as it exists today. There might be better / different / more efficient ways to accomplish same results using newer versions of PS and newer tools (compared to what was available when this was written).- many plug ins mentioned are a) Windows based only, b) pretty ancient and not being updated, or both.

I am currently reading the book authored by Ctein. I did not know it was written in the Adobe Photoshop CS4 time frame when I purchased it but there is still a lot of good information to help one restore photographs of the past. The author covers the tools needed, both hardware and software, as well as the procedures used by the author to restore photographs. For me, it was well worth the money I paid.

Great book if you really want to dig in digital restoration of old photos. This book is packed with information on how to tackle jobs that you will probably never encounter, but if you do, it will help you fix them. From really washed out photos to dull and yellowish photos, damaged photos with really deep scratches, and so on. You can read it from start to finish, or just go to the guide in the beginning of the book, which will show you a damaged photo you can compare with what you have, and then take you directly to the page that tackles the problem. The book will show you the tools in

Photoshop that will help you with whatever problem you might encounter. I really think I made an excellent purchase and I highly recommend it.

I wish I knew about this book when I got started in this field. I was, and am, an expert in Photoshop, and assumed that and a lot of experience on a high-end scanner would be more than enough knowledge to take me anywhere I had to go. Wrong! Some of the best advice here is counter-intuitive, and I'd have spent less time up blind alleys if I'd known some of the stuff in the very first chapter! Biggest problem with the info presented here has nothing to do with Ctein-- it's that some of the essential software he uses for the book hasn't been updated to run under newer OS versions. But this edition does a decent job of updating the first edition, and I'll be buying the third the minute he gets done with it.

Digital Restoration From Start to Finish: How to repair old and damaged photographs (Paperback) 2nd edition by Ctein Well Illustrated, and lots of examples showing the procedure from original photograph to finished restoration. I bought this book to aid me in restoring old B/W photos, and older color photographs that had color shifted. I found the review of alternatives to the Expensive Photoshop helpful. This edition has a section of "How-to's" if you want to jump right in and correct a problem before reading the chapters. Although I am a beginner in photo restoration, I was able to understand and follow his advice I would recommend this book for someone that wants to understand the art of photo restoration.

The first edition of Digital Restoration has been the essential Bible on this subject. This second edition is a major update that has retained the excellent examples of the first and added to them. The discussion of pertinent software and hardware has been almost completely rewritten to make it relevant to today's state of the art. Links have been added for more information. All in all, I would say that this second edition is twice as useful as the first. One of this book's strongest points is that it does not assume that all readers use Photoshop. He shows what can be done with Photoshop and also shows many examples of what can be done with other methods and tools. The book has a major value that is not apparent from the title. It explains how to get the best results when scanning photos that do not need to be repaired or restored. Whenever someone in my camera club tells me that they are going to scan their old films and ask what they need to know I tell them to buy Ctein's book on restoration.

This book inspires me to further improve all of the old, and many of the current photos that often pass over my desk. Photoshop can be intimidating with its seemingly endless abilities, so it is great to get so many new ideas and techniques to try. The book also gives me the background necessary to understand these ideas, but occasionally I find it difficult to work out all of the necessary steps. At the end of the day my tired brain needs more of a recipe, with step-by-step instructions, to allow me to quickly remember all of what I have to do to get the desired effect. After that, I am quite happy to develop my technique by experimentation. Overall, a valuable addition to my reference library.

Great Book, wonderful ideas, with step by step instructions from the man who is obviously the Father of Digital correction. Delivered in a timely manner with a nice hefty price tag for a paper back book, I found it fascinating and it has become one of my favorite books when I sit down to look at my Grandmother's, my Mother's and my photo work that cover (in total) a period of almost one hundred years. This guy is a never ending source of inspiration, as well. Thank You.

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