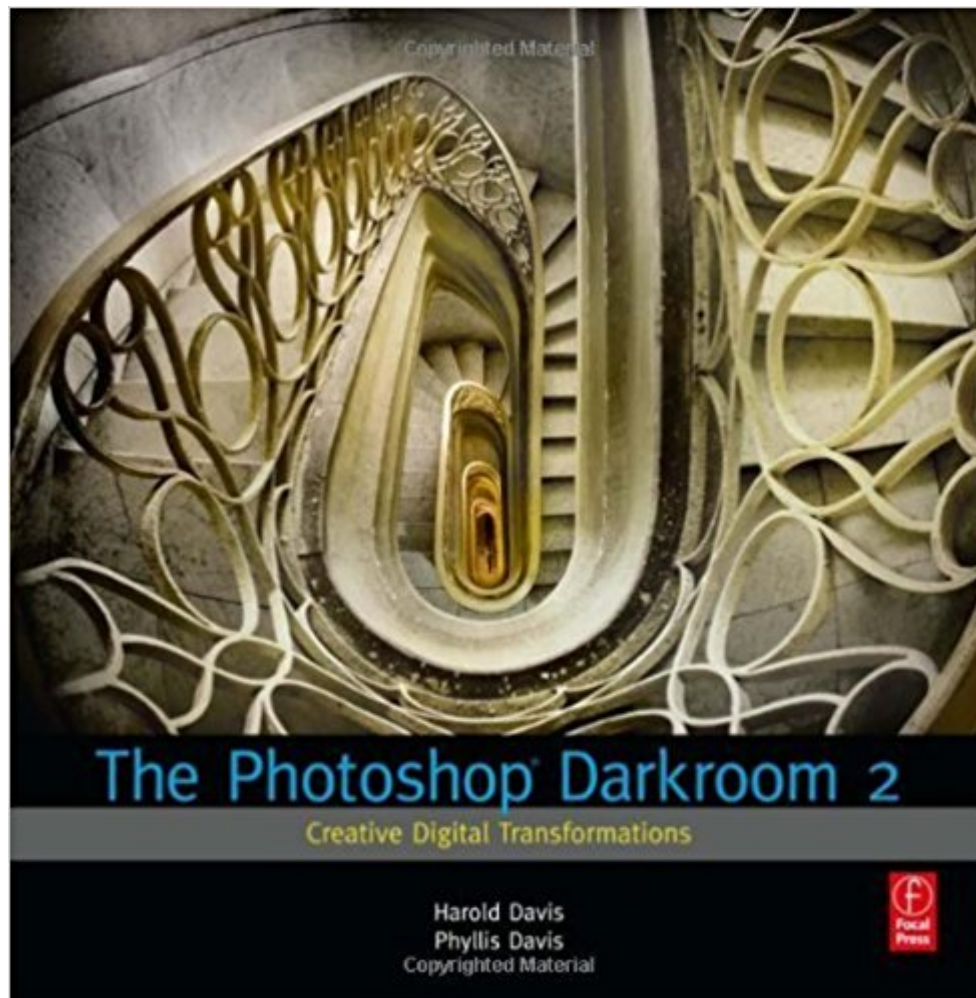




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# The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Creative Digital Transformations



## Synopsis

Award-winning photography/design team Harold and Phyllis Davis are back with a brand-new volume in their new Photoshop Darkroom series. Picking up where their best-selling first book left off, *The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Advanced Digital Post-Processing* will show you everything you need to know to take your digital imaging skills to the next level. Great photographers know that the best images begin well before the shutter clicks, and certainly well before Photoshop boots up. Harold takes a step back, and shares his helpful tips for capturing the most compelling images possible by keeping in mind what type of post-processing you'll do before you start shooting. You'll also find complete coverage of important topics such as compositing, working with layers, and HDR. Packed with tons of eye-popping images which have won Harold national acclaim, this is a fantastic resource for photographers who want to think outside the box and create truly stunning artwork. Compatible with any version of Photoshop Useful case studies break information down into condensed, real-world examples which are easy to follow and put into practice immediately Images and supplemental material are available for free on Focal Press's website

**Exclusive: Selected Techniques from *The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Creative Digital Transformations*** These images show some of the techniques explained in *The Photoshop Darkroom 2*: I used multi-RAW processing to build up this striking portrait with a dark background. Photoshop's retouching features smoothed the skin and helped enhance the eyes. This macro photo of water drop reflections and refractions was enhanced using partial desaturation and the soft light blending mode. This image of sea palms (kelp) in the surf is a stacked composite view with photos taken over a period of time combined in Photoshop. This photo composite started with a shot of an empty eggshell, and an entirely separate shot of a wasp. In Photoshop, I used an LAB color adjustment to turn the wasp wings green, then composited the wasp into the eggshell.

**Exclusive: A Letter from Harold and Phyllis Davis on *The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Creative Digital Transformations*** Dear Readers, How would you like a Photoshop book that is one part inspiration, one part nuts-and-bolts techniques, and 100% as visually gorgeous as a 21st-century Photoshop book should be? That's our idea behind *The Photoshop Darkroom 2*: to inspire you so you can create your best imagery with the tools you need. There's really no secret sauce here. Our earlier book, *The Photoshop Darkroom: Creative Digital Post-Processing* has been hailed as "the best Photoshop book ever," "easy to use," and "fun!" We've used the same approach in *The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Creative Digital Transformations*. We don't try to cover everything: we explain Photoshop from the perspective of what we really do every day in the course of our professional lives. We are not interested in bells and whistles for the sake of bells and whistles; we are interested in getting things done. We believe

that having fun and being inspired is part of the point of Photoshop, and weâ€™ve tried to make every page in our book both fun and inspiring. We often get asked two questions about The Photoshop Darkroom 2: First, how does this book relate to the first Photoshop Darkroom? And then, do I need the latest and greatest version of Photoshop to get the most out of your book? These are good questions. The Photoshop Darkroom 2 and the original Photoshop Darkroom are companion volumes. Each one is meant to be read on its own. Since we didnâ€™t want to repeat ourselves too much, in some places in The Photoshop Darkroom 2 we refer you to the first book for more in-depth information about certain topics. But you certainly donâ€™t need to read them in order. As the subtitle, Creative Digital Transformations, suggests, The Photoshop Darkroom 2 emphasizes the portions of Photoshop that involve changing the nature of what is shown: retouching to remove flaws and enhance beauty, making the unseen visible, and photo compositing to create new worlds. The Photoshop Darkroom 2 was written using the most up-to-date software available at the time of writing, Adobe Photoshop CS5 and Adobe Lightroom 3. A few of the features specific to these versions are discussed in the book. However, for the most part, the techniques shown in The Photoshop Darkroom 2 (as with the first Photoshop Darkroom) involve core features of Photoshop such as layers and masking that have been available for a long time. If you are new to Photoshop, The Photoshop Darkroom 2 is designed to get you up to speed quickly. If you are an old hand in the digital darkroom, we think youâ€™ll find some new techniques in The Photoshop Darkroom 2--and, more importantly, some new ideas about how to approach Photoshop and the digital future. We hope our book helps you along your path as a photographer and digital image creator. Enjoy!

--Harold and Phyllis Davis

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

"Written by a photographer and designer team, this excellent release deals with such matters in easy-to-follow steps and thorough detail, covering topics such as lighting and compositional post-work and HDR processing, all accompanied with stunning example imagery. This is an extremely thorough overview for anyone who's relatively new to the whole postproduction process."--Computer Arts Magazine "The book covers effects and techniques compatible with any version of Photoshop, although one technique deals with Content Aware Fill, found in Photoshop CS5. An astute user could potentially achieve the same effects in older versions of Photoshop, by modifying the outlined steps. Experimentation is always a journey unto itself: you may discover some new way of achieving the results desired, or even uncover something new and totally different."--Horizons Erie User Group Newsletter "The goal of the book is to inspire you with techniques to try. The emphasis in this title is on creative transformations. This involves a wide range of image creation challenges from cleaning up an image to creating entirely new fantastic digital images. With this book you will learn how to take advantage of the possibilities available in RAW image files; use Adobe Lightroom to multi-RAW process your photo; correct flaws and improve the tonality of your images; improve and enhance portraits and glamour shots; extend the dynamic range of your photos; create high dynamic range images by hand, and much more."--NeoPopRealismJournal.com

Harold Davis is an award-winning professional photographer. He is the best-selling author of more than 30 books, including *The Photoshop Darkroom 2: Creative Digital Transformations* (Focal Press), *Creative Portraits: Digital Photography Tips & Techniques* (Wiley), *Creative Black & White: Digital Photography Tips & Techniques* (Wiley), *Creative Composition: Digital Photography Tips & Techniques* (Wiley), *Creative Night: Digital Photography Tips & Techniques* (Wiley), *Creative Close-Ups: Digital Photography Tips & Techniques* (Wiley), *The Photoshop Darkroom: Creative Digital Post-Processing* (Focal Press) and *Practical Artistry: Light & Exposure for Digital Photographers* (O'Reilly). Harold writes the popular Photoblog 2.0, [www.photoblog2.com](http://www.photoblog2.com), and is a regular photography and Photoshop columnist for Photo.net, a photography site with more than one

million members. Harold is a popular presenter on a wide range of digital photography and Photoshop topics. His workshops are sought after and often sold out. In addition to writing and photography, Harold has been a software engineer, an enterprise technology consultant, and an Internet company executive. Photographic adventures and assignments have taken him across the Brooks Range, the northernmost mountains in Alaska. He has photographed the World Trade Towers, hanging out of a small plane, followed in the footsteps of Seneca Ray Stoddard, a 19th-century photographer of the Adirondacks, and created human interest photo stories about the residents of Love Canal, an environmental disaster area. Harold is well known for his night photography and experimental ultra-long exposure techniques, use of vibrant, saturated colors in landscape compositions, and beautiful creative floral imagery. He is inspired by the flowers in his garden, hiking in the wilderness, and the work of great artists and photographers including M.C. Escher, Monet, van Gogh, and Edward Weston.

My rating is for the Kindle version. I purchased the Kindle edition so I could start diving into the info I wanted immediately. However, that was a bad decision. There are a lot of photos and diagrams in this book which are difficult to see in the kindle version even when magnified. The ebook conversion this went through is very poor. I am very disappointed with my purchase and wish I had gone with the print edition. Don't make the same mistake as me. Update: As I've been reading this book on my tablet and PC I can say it offers a wealth of information. Enough that I have purchased the paperback edition and will take the \$30+ hit on this worthless kindle edition. Harold Davis has a number of images to show camera settings and photoshop steps that need to be taken that are simply unreadable due to very low resolution. There are also numerous typos from the text to ebook conversion. Very sloppy. should be ashamed for selling an unreadable book with such a hearty price tag.

Shipped quickly. Book is as expected. Really great layout and easy to follow instructions.

I thought that I knew Photoshop, now I know more!

What a GREAT resource!

Have just scratched the surface of this book so far but I can't wait to follow up on the case studies

Very good read

Loved it. Harold Davis knows how to write a good learning book.

This is a great Photoshop book. Darkroom 1 is a must because a lot of references are made to it in Darkroom 2. Easy reading with great examples.

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