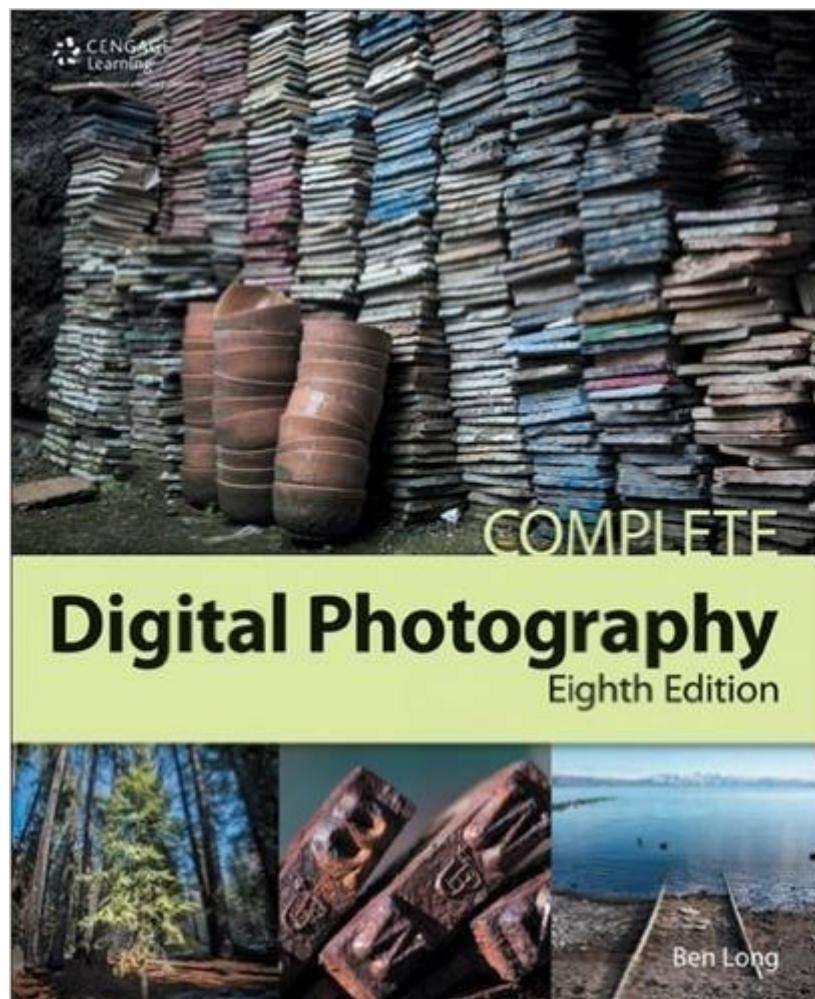


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# Complete Digital Photography, 8th



## **Synopsis**

In this thoroughly updated eighth edition of COMPLETE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY, popular photographer, writer, and teacher Ben Long is your guide through the creative and challenging world of digital photography. In this book is everything you'll need to know in order to create great digital photos, from how a camera works and how to choose the right camera for you, to all the details of shooting, image editing, output, and workflow. The step-by-step tutorials included here offer great tips and techniques on improving your processes from start to finish; you'll learn about exposure theory, composition, lighting, complex masking, image adjustment, and much more. No prior experience is needed or assumed, and by the end of the book you'll be tackling complex photographic challenges with your own growing expertise. And the results will astound you.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 624 pages

Publisher: Cengage Learning PTR; 8 edition (August 28, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 130525872X

ISBN-13: 978-1305258723

Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 7.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #36,336 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Handbooks & Manuals #47 inÂ  Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Photography #61 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Digital Photography

## **Customer Reviews**

Excellent book for beginners or near-beginners in digital photography. The author goes into great detail about how digital cameras work. It can get a bit overwhelming at times but just keep reading. He then spends time explaining post-processing of photos. This was the area I was looking for. I am pleased with his coverage of post-processing even though I don't use the Photoshop programs he recommends. I'm using Corel PaintShop Pro and was able to translate most of what he discusses without much problem. It may take more than one reading of a chapter to really understand what is being said. I suspect I will continue to reread sections as a refresher. If you buy the paper version from , you can get the Kindle version for \$2.99. Ended up being cheaper than buying the Kindle

version alone. The only complaints I have: The pictures in the Kindle version are a bit difficult to see even when you expand them. In the book some of the screen prints are difficult to read because there is not enough contrast in the darker sections of the screen.

This is a great introductory book for beginners - people who have only used the "automatic" mode in their digital cameras. Ben Long explains the basics of using your camera, exposure, lighting, focus, depth of field, shooting modes and workflow. The writing is clear and very easy to understand. Beginners will love this book and the way that the basics of a wide range of topics are discussed. Some modern techniques like panorama stitching and HDR merging are covered extensively. Once you read this book you should be able to read and understand more advanced photography books and magazines as well as use your camera more effectively. This book does not assume that the reader has a particular kind of camera and in many places the differences between SLR photography and point and shoot photography are pointed out. Many advanced topics are not covered such as different types of lenses. Experts and enthusiasts will probably not find a lot of new information in this book. About half of this book is devoted to workflow and post processing of camera images. Initially I thought that this would be a weakness of the book but I enjoyed these chapters too - especially the chapter on tonal adjustment. Although they are written assuming the reader has access to Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop, the general concepts are well explained and many of the edits can be done with other photo software too. The book has a companion website where more information is available. In summary, this book touches upon nearly all the issues that a novice photographer should be familiar with. An excellent first resource for learning digital photography.

I skimmed through most of this book and for what it is, I am okay with purchasing this textbook for my current reference needs. As a filmmaker who uses digital video on a regular basis (in particular a DSLR), having a guide that allows me to refresh myself on the basics is crucial if I want to keep up on my techniques. Combine that with consistent experimentation and you have yourself a self-sufficient guide on how to your skills up to par in the 2010s when it comes to digital video production.

I bought this book as a gift for someone new to digital photography. As a professional photographer myself, I thought the book clearly describes the complete process of digital photography in a concise volume. Naturally, topics are not discussed in depth, but they are presented in a way that (I

hope) is understandable to a beginner.

I've been recommending this book to students in my "Basic Photography" classes for several years now, first the 7th and now the 8th edition. It's bigger and more thorough than Langford's Starting Photography, a bit denser to read, and fully half of it is about working with image-editing software. Many of the illustrating photos are lack-luster, but the book is quite readable and thorough. I recommend it for beginning to intermediate digital shooters who are seriously interested in learning about post-processing.-Bill Helsel

Begin here. This is an excellent introduction to digital photography, from understanding your camera to taking photos to processing those photos on your computer. The writing is clear and efficient. The photos are pertinent and well chosen. You will get a good foundation from this book for your further learning about photography.

I have a previous version on this book on my bookshelf, and have also given a previous version to my daughter. And now I just gave this version to my nephew, whose wife has decided that she wants to know more about creating good photographs. Ben Long covers all of the aspects on digital photography. The references to the Lightroom software for digital manipulation of images can generally be translated to any good photo manipulation software, even the free Gimp software. (BTW. Gimp is not always my last choice. Gimp combined with UFRaw is an excellent program.) If you read the book cover to cover, it is a complete course on photography. But you can also pick and choose the areas of your interest for a quick reference. This book has nearly 600 full size pages of information. And the price is less than other photo reference / instructional books which provide far less information. If you are interested in producing good photographs, then you can't go wrong with this book.

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