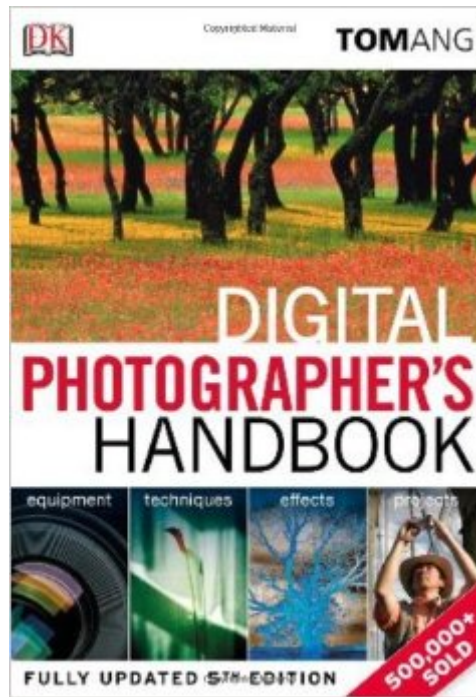# Digital Photographer's Handbook

Synopsis

Revised and updated for to include the latest advances in digital image-making, the Digital Photographer's Handbook offers expert advice to all photographers, whether novices or seasoned professionals. Featuring exciting new photographic and image-manipulation projects, up-to-the-minute information on the latest technology and equipment, with revised and updated text and new pictures, the Digital Photographer's Handbook is on top of current trends and developments. In Digital Photographer's Handbook Tom Ang teaches how to capture the best possible shots, how to enhance or transform any picture, and encourages photographers to practice their skills, so they can ultimately show their work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a relatively novice photographer (haven't owned one since my old Brownie Hawkeye) with some knowledge of computers and a new digital camera, I've been working my way through as many books on digicams and image-editing software as I can find. Some are pretty general, some are more specialized, but most seem to repeat the same mostly superficial information and advice on both photography and digital editing. This book is the great exception! Ang is a very talented photographer and this lushly printed... volume is crammed with his work, but he's also a very good teacher. The first part of the book, under the heading of "Total Photography," is a mini-course in types of cameras and lenses, lighting, optical physics, and the essential practical differences in

using film-based and digital cameras. (There's also a survey of information on specific models of cameras, printers, and scanners, which will soon be outdated and which might have been omitted.) The second section, "Photography for the Digital Age," leads you through such topics as composition, zoom, optical distortion, color balance, and how to avoid or at least fix the most common mistakes; I learned a great deal from his clear explanations and visual examples. "A Compendium of Ideas" is almost a separate book, being an excursion through all the major categories of subjects that interest people with cameras, from buildings and travel to microphotography and high-speed sports; you'll want to return to this section now and then for leisurely browsing.

This is an excellent digital photography reference book, but it should be noted upfront that it is not "How to take photos 101". If you need to understand basics like f-stops and exposure, there are 100's of other books out there better suited for you. I mention this because another reviewer was critical for those omissions. The author assumes you have basic photographic understanding, and works upward from there. I don't want or need basic information, and it was refreshing to find a current (2004) book that doesn't waste space on the elementary. I'd checked out a dozen books from the library prior to this one (which had a waiting list), and this one was the only one I am purchasing.This is not a book intended to be read front to back. It is a reference book best digested in chunks. It starts off with some technical info on digital, as well as film, cameras, followed by info on PCs, monitors, scanners, printers and software. Not terribly exciting, but I read a few paragraphs here and there and did learn a few things. From there the book is organized in "topic format" allowing you to quickly find on your present interest, be it photographing buildings, clouds, animals, sports, children, etc. Then it progresses into scanning, color management, cropping, correcting and enhancing images, filters, and other creative processes prior to finalinzing your image, and also speaks to certain software.Overall the book is intelligently organized. Interspersed throughout are "Quick Fix" charts for a multitude of issues, enabling a quick scan across a page or two to find your issue, which is a real benefit.

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