

Digital Cameras & Computers

Now that I have a Digital Camera what to I do with it?

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Film Camera / Digital Camera

Differences between Point & Shoot Film and Digital

- # of Pictures: 24 or 36 exposures/ 100++
- View Finder: Eye-piece/ Eye-piece & screen (useless in bright sun)
- Film Speed: 100, 200, 400/ Auto, needs more light
- Flash: Built-in (both), Digital has limited range
- Zoom: Optical/ Optical & Digital
- Auto Focus: Fast/ Slower (easier to blur images)
- Red Eye: Both—USE IT
- Selectable Printing: No/ Yes (you don't have to print all the photos)
- Edit Pictures: No/ Yes (One of the main benefits of digital)
- Email Pictures: No/ Yes
- Preview what you shot: No/ Yes (Instant preview-take another shot)



Aspect Ratio-

Digital image is different than 4x6 print

This is why all digital photos should be cropped so you decide what is to be printed



Taking Pictures- Basic Stuff

- Select Highest Resolution/Compression/jpeg
- Select Auto Mode (Check before shooting)
- Set Red Eye to **ON** and leave it
- Use both hands and you will get a better photo
- Zoom (optical) to frame image-Get as close to subject as practical & make sure heads are not too close to the top of the picture
- Wait for Auto Focus to set
- Take several shots (because you can and it's FREE)

Now What?

Here are a few alternatives for you to do after you take the photos

- Look at pictures with little camera screen- Okay to check the shot, but not to share with others
- Take memory card (stick) to store with Photo Kiosk, select, edit, and order prints- Time consuming, frustrating, and you will end up with marginal photos
- Insert memory card into printer and make prints- Okay for a few quick prints, but time consuming and costly (ink and paper) for many prints.
- Transfer pictures to computer and ????? -OMG, how do I do that and what do I do when I get them there? Oh, BTW, can I use my old computer? Answer: Depends, but probably not.



Computer-What you should have as a Minimum

- Windows PC or Apple iMac- I am a Windows guy so if you want to get a Mac go ahead, but I won't be of much help to you.
- 1.6 GHz
- Operating System: Windows XP/SP2 or Vista or Mac OSX
- 512 RAM (1 GB better)
- 50 GB + hard drive
- 4+ USB ports
- CD Reader/Writer
- 1024 (Minimum) monitor resolution (LCD or CRT)

Upload Photos to Computer

Microsoft Windows XP/SP2 or Vista

- Connect camera to computer using USB cable or insert memory card into Card Reader- I generally use a Compact Flash Card Reader, but many new computers have the slots for your memory card or stick
- Import pictures using Microsoft Scanner and Camera Wizard- My advice is to not use the “free” software that came with your camera or computer and unless you are willing to learn complicated software do not use photo editing software (i.e. Photoshop Elements) to manage and organize your photos.
- Create a Folder in My Documents/My Pictures- Use Windows Explorer file management to organize your photos because it is easy and won't take over your computer.

Scanner and Camera Wizard



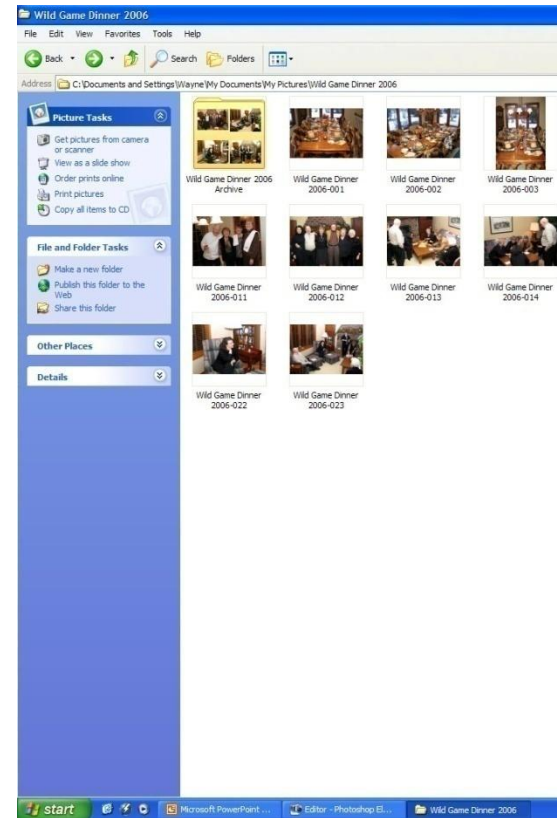
Create an Archive File

You may need the original file someday

- Before you do anything with the pictures create an Archive Folder and copy the original (untouched) pictures to it
- Simply create a new folder within the subject folder: *My Documents/My Pictures/Rotary/Rotary Archive*
- **Make a Backup CD-** This option is less used today because of the number of CDs required and the availability of other options
- **Copy to External Hard Drive-** An external drive is an inexpensive and convenient way to store photos. Consider having two drives, one for archived originals and one for edited photo files.

Picture Tasks

- Preview Photos
- Select and Edit Photos
- Upload to photo sharing social sites
- Order Prints Online
- Print Pictures on local computer
- Email Pictures to friends & relatives
- Copy to CD (Archive or Take to Photo Retail Store)
- Download to iPhone/iTouch or other PDA device for show and tell
- Create a DVD of event photos



Digital Picture Workflow

- Take pictures
- Upload pictures to computer using Microsoft Scanner and Camera Wizard; put them into My Pictures/XYZ folder
- Make an Archive Copy
- Select and Edit
- Print, send, order prints, slide show, etc.

Editing Pictures

- **Editing Software:** Adobe Photoshop Elements (Comprehensive), CorrectPhoto by PictoColor (Easy to use for basic editing functions. Many editing programs are available (most are complex) and online photo sharing sites offer basic editing
- **Editing functions:** All pictures should be cropped and color corrected. Other editing options: fix red eye, sharpen, scale
- **Calibrate your monitor for correct color**

More about editing photos in future presentations

Resources

- Microsoft web site:
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/default.mspx>
- PictoColor CorrectPhoto Website:
<http://www.correctphoto.com>
- PictoColor Website:
<http://www.pictocolor.com/correctphoto.htm>
- **Prints:** Find a Fuji Frontier Photo Printer (Ritz Camera, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart) Order Online and pick up prints

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