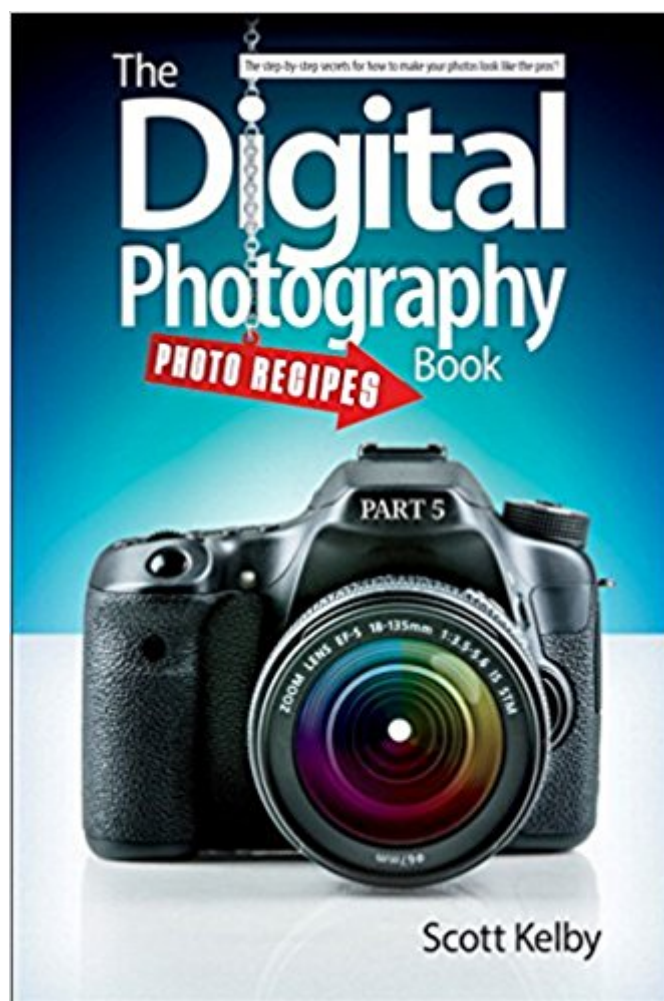


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The Digital Photography Book, Part 5: Photo Recipes



Synopsis

Scott Kelby, author of the top-selling digital photography book of all time, is back with an entirely new book in his popular series that picks up right where part 4 left off. It's more of that "Ah ha" so that's how they do it, straight-to-the-point, skip-the-technojargon stuff you can really use today that made part 1 so successful. In parts 1 through 4 of this series, the most popular chapter in the book has always been the last chapter: "Photo Recipes to Help You Get The Shot". In each of those chapters, Scott shows a final image and then describes how to get that type of shot. Here, in part 5, he gives you what you've been waiting for: an entire book of nothing but those amazing photo recipes. But, he took it up a big notch by adding a behind-the-scenes photo for every single recipe. Now you can see exactly how it was done, so you can get that exact same look every time. In these extra pages, each spread allows you to dig in a little deeper and really unlock the power of these recipes. Scott breaks each spread into four segments: (1) he explains exactly what you're seeing behind the scenes, (2) he lists all of his camera settings, and lens and lighting info, (3) he gives you his thought process, so you learn exactly why he does it this way, and (4) he shares all the post-processing in Lightroom or Photoshop that goes on after the shoot (this is something other books leave out). Plus, the whole book is packed with tips and insights you won't find anywhere else. This isn't a book of theory, full of confusing jargon and detailed concepts. This is a book on which button to push, which settings to use, and exactly how and when to use them. With around 100 of the most popular photographic "tricks of the trade," the entire book is designed to get you shooting like a pro starting today. You're gonna love it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Scott Kelby is the world's #1 best-selling author of photography books, as well as Editor and Publisher of the highly acclaimed Photoshop User magazine. He is co-host of the influential weekly photography webcast talk show The Grid, and he teaches digital photography workshops and seminars around the world. Scott is an award-winning author of more than 60 books, including The Photoshop Book for Digital Photographers, The Lightroom Book for Digital Photographers, and Light It, Shoot It, Retouch It: Learn Step by Step How to Go from Empty Studio to Finished Image. For more on Scott, visit his daily blog at <http://scottkelby.com>.

I love Scott Kelby. His books are exciting to read, informative at a decent level without being pedantic or boring, and he's a master at explaining complex issues in easy-to-understand terms. If this isn't enough, he gives a lot of "recipes" for achieving some basic (and not-so-basic) effects that will delight you. Another well-known publisher of Photoshop / Photography books throws a poison dart at Scott (at least, it sounds like it's aimed at Scott!) with a disgruntled comment about writers who base their books on recipes. But why? There's no rule that says you can't have the best of both worlds. Yes, teach me how to fish for the long haul. But, like Scott, a few fish on the plate right now would be fantastic. Scott does throw in a lot of learning that will go far as you advance in your understanding and ability. He just does it so well--and so logically--you absorb it almost painlessly. (And if pain is involved, he's kind enough to warn you: This might hurt a bit. Okay, it's gonna hurt a lot!) You've gotta love Dr. Kelby. Another Kelby book that's a must-have is "The Adobe Photoshop CS5 Book for Digital Photographers." (Or, any similar titles by Kelby targeted to your current version of Photoshop.) One final compliment: Reading Scott's books is like having him alongside on a personal photo adventure. He's smart, funny and genuine--not always an easy combination to find in a how-to book. AND his tips are plentiful, useful and understandable for even a beginner. Go ahead, buy the boring technical books written in pompous language by the self-promoting "professors" of photography. They're useful and necessary if you want to reach the top layers of the profession. But you can have the best of both worlds by hanging out with your buddy, Scott Kelby. He won't saddle you with a diet of technical jargon. His goal is to get you in there, shoot the

pictures, pick up great tips along the way and enjoy the ride.

This was Scott Kelby's last book I've read after reading all his Digital Photography Book Part 1, 2, 3, 4. I think the way he wrote Part 5 was entirely different than he did in all previous 4 books. What I liked about this book was he was shooting in all different environments with different lightening set ups giving you the all the necessary parameters related to all the aspects of capturing high quality photos. You can see the THOUGHT PROCESS where he tells you all the preps and BEHIND THE SCENES outside image of how the object and lightening were position in relation to his camera. Next he tells you all about his choices of the lens he uses, the chosen f/stop, shutter speed, ISO and why he decided to use them. Next he goes into POST-PRECESSING section of the flow and he teach you what actually should be done there, either in Light Room or in Photoshop Camera Raw. Finally, you see the final image so you can judge the result and mentally to connect that with all the details he gives as how to get that quality of the capture. I think this book is not like a tutorial but like a reference. The only thing I wished to clear up for me and I could not find some explanation was as how he could use 1/60 shutter speeds with zoomed lens at 135 mm while hand-holding his camera and having camera-shake-free photos without using a tripod. As we know that your shutter speed should be at least the reciprocal of your lens focal length to get shake free sharp images. Using the 135 mm focal length, should call for at least 1/160 shutter speed or even faster to be on a safe side. Actually, he did mention couple times about setting higher shutter speed (faster) to avoid camera-shake problems, but at the same time he did not followed that rule religiously. In conclusion this book is very good for a photographer who is already has good working knowledge and who wants to sharpen up his/her skills in variety of different shooting situations. I do recommend this book for all the enthusiastic photographers professional or hobbyist.

First of all, I have most of the books that Scott Kelby has written on digital photography and Photoshop. They're all first rate, and his books make up a substantial portion of my digital photography library. The Digital Photography Book has hundreds of practical ideas about improving your photography and making it look more professional. The book is organized into eleven chapters, plus an index. The chapter titles are as follows: Chapter One: Pro Tips For Getting Really Sharp Photos Chapter Two: Shooting Flowers Like a Pro Chapter Three: Shooting Weddings Like a Pro Chapter Four: Shooting Landscapes Like a Pro Chapter Five: Shooting Sports Like a Pro Chapter Six: Shooting People Like A Pro Chapter Seven: Avoiding Problems Like a Pro Chapter Eight: Taking Advantage of Digital Like a Pro Chapter Nine: Taking Travel & City Life Shots Like a Pro Chapter

Ten: How to Print Like a Pro and Other Cool StuffChapter Eleven: Photo Recipes to Help You Get "The Shot" In each chapter, Kelby goes over equipment and techniques required for different types of photography. These are not intended to be in-depth coverage of any topic. Chapters average about twenty pages each, giving a brief overview of the topic, followed by some practical tips. The last chapter, "Photo Recipes," shows a number of real-world example images, with "recipes" for getting your own version of the shot. The recipes include elements such as equipment, lenses, lighting (natural and artificial), camera settings, composition, and Photoshop enhancements. The book is a superb resource for amateur photographers who are serious about their photography and want to step up their game. Many other books cover each of the "Shooting Like..." chapters in much greater depth, but The Digital Photography Book is one of the best books that I've read for taking a vast amount of information and distilling it down and organizing it into a single book of only about two hundred pages.

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