

The Digital Shoebox: How to Organize, Find, and Share Your Photos

By Sarah Bay Williams

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Review by Pam Raisanen, COMP User Group

Written by a professional with a background in archival management, this colorful little book provides a sensible system to manage digital photo storage. The easy to follow step by step instructions include lots of colorful illustrations that add a fun, light hearted touch to what I once considered an overwhelming task. This book ends the frustration of camera and editing programs putting photo files where you can't find them. It teaches how to disable auto open features and put the control back in your hands. Basic organization is covered in seven steps with specific instruction for both PCs and Macs. Additional subjects include file formats, printing, photos from friends and the web, copyrights, metadata and a glossary.

Not being a particularly well organized person, I thought while this book was necessary, reading it would be a chore. To my surprise, I found it interesting and fun to both read and apply. From camera set up to file back up plans, *The Digital Shoebox* has enabled me to sort all my photos and create and implement a back plan so I know my memories are safe. While probably not for professional photographers it provides an easy to use plan for personal collections. I'd recommend this book to anyone who doesn't have a good working file management plan and as a sure to be appreciated gift for friends.