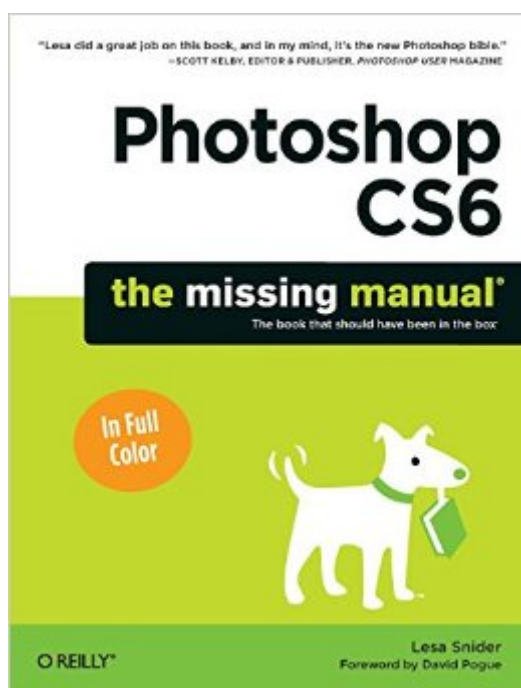


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Photoshop CS6: The Missing Manual



Synopsis

Photoshop CS6 is truly amazing, but it can also be overwhelming if you're just getting started. This book makes learning Photoshop a breeze by explaining things in a friendly, conversational style without technical jargon. After a thorough introduction to the program, I'll delve deep into Photoshop's secrets with expert tips and practical advice you can use every day. The important stuff you need to know: Learn your way around. Get a guided tour of Photoshop's beautiful new workspace. Unlock the magic. Discover the most practical ways to use layers, channels, masks, paths, and other tools. Fine-tune your images. Learn techniques for cropping, retouching, and combining photos. Play with color. Drain, change, and add color; and create gorgeous black-and-whites and duotones. Be artistic. Create original illustrations and paintings, use text and filters effectively, and edit video clips. Share your work. Produce great-looking images for print and the Web. Work smarter and faster. Automate common chores and install plug-ins for complex tasks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For every ten people knowledgeable on a subject, only one among them is fit to be a tutor. For every ten tutors, only one is fit to be a classroom teacher. And for every ten classroom teachers, only one is fit to write a treatise on the subject. This author certainly falls short of the last pinnacle. Like most computer program books this text was obviously proofread by nodding

Photoshop experts rather than tested on someone who actually had to learn the subject from the beginning. Just about every example offered on any topic involves marginally explained or totally omitted steps. Anyone trying to learn Photoshop from square one will soon become annoyed by having to figure out these missing steps. For example, on page 277 the author tries to explain how to merge the two images of a baseball and a player in seven steps. To these, I wrote into the margin of the page three more crucial steps, without which the final results would be impossible to achieve. She seems to give a higher priority to unnecessary explanations of the deep Zen theory behind the program, so by page 250 the reader comes to realize that very little hands-on practical knowledge has been gained. This becomes more obvious if you go to the YouTube tutorials as you read the book. You will quickly discover that you are learning three times as much online, for the same amount of time spent with this book. Most frustrating is the fact that she will not repeat anything already stated. So, if she mentions something on page 30 which you are required to know for the lesson on page 300, you'd better have it tattooed to your wrist because she's not saying it again, and with a typically poor index, you'll be searching hard to find it back on page 30. Again, on the page 277 example, there was a small stumbling point involving critical information explained on page 166. Initially unable to find this info 111 pages back, I spent half an hour figuring it out for myself. The writing also lacks structure and continuity, apparent for the fact that all too often the author will start out explaining something only to tell the reader that further relevant material will be explained in chapters ahead. Most people would think that an 850 page book would just about cover everything in terms of the techniques of manipulating a program of this type. Most disappointing is the fact that all clues of how to control the program end at about page 285, at which point the author dedicates the next 550 pages to endlessly long-winded explanations of enhancing photographs of people, including tummy tucks, teeth whitening, butt reduction, plus an endless parade of the nonsense of making normal looking people look very weird and bizarre. In other words, she goes completely off the edge into the art and minutia of photo faking. ALL OF THE ABOVE BEING SAID, every critical review of this type demands a solution in terms of an alternative, and here it is. With Adobe Photoshop CS6 Digital Classroom by Jennifer Smith, I am now learning this program at twice the speed. In the first 100 pages of this far superior text, I have learned about three times as much as in the first 300 pages of Missing Manual, with very well explained procedures and few stumbling points. And unlike Missing Manual, which makes a joke of the "missing CD," Digital Classroom comes with a CD that is full of extra tips and demos to supplement the text. What a difference! Ron DiGiovanni Easton, PAUPDATE: Want an even better book! I just finished Top 100 Simplified Tips and Tricks by Lynette Kent. This book literally holds you by the hand with step by step photos

showing you where each little control icon is located on the workspace. What's more, it actually gives 117 of the most important tasks, in two page presentations. If you can't learn Photoshop from this book, definitely give up trying.

I have never reviewed a product on , and I buy stuff on here frequently, but I have to say, this is the BEST book on Photoshop that I have ever read. This is the only book you need for understanding the ins and outs of such an exciting program. Lesa does a masterful job at focusing on every detail of Photoshop CS6 and showing you exactly how every piece of it works. Don't want to read about every tiny detail of a program with tons of features? No problem, she's way ahead of you. She goes so far as to tell you what you should read if you are reading it for a certain reason (photography, design, etc). This isn't some boring book as the word "manual" in the title might lead you to believe. No, Lesa is a pro at keeping the information she presents, insightful, detailed, interesting and she does it all in a very conversational and fun way. It's like having a super cool instructor right there telling you all about the best photo editing software ever made. I got the print version for my office and a digital copy so I can have it with me on the go. It's the only Photoshop reference book you need. Feel free to shop around like I did, you won't find a better book than this.

A previous reviewer questioned if figures appeared in the e-book version because the sample doesn't show them. In the comments to this reviewer, it was noted by the publisher that figures do appear in the full book, just not the sample. I thought this was a bit odd, but being a Missing Manuals fan, I accepted this answer. I purchased the full book and there are have found some very bad issues with about half of the figures that I viewed. They are very small (often an inch high) and you can't enlarge them! I can't tell what in the world the figures are trying to show. I see red arrows going from here to there, but can't tell what is going on. This is extraordinarily sloppy and I wonder now if it is purposeful that figures aren't shown in the sample. I certainly would not have purchased this book if I would have seen this problem before purchase. Im on an iPad and about half the figures are tiny and unusable so I really feel for anyone trying to view these on a device with a smaller screen. This problem is pure laziness on O'Reilly's part. They should have taken the time to make sure ALL of the figures were readable instead of enlarging only about half. I am so disappointed. With other Missing Manual books, The publisher has made certain all figures were easily viewable. It is so sloppy that they didnt do this here. My next stop is to call and get a refund for this book. Word to the wise- forget the Kindle version of this book. From a Missing Manuals fan.

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