



Langford's Basic Photography: The Guide for Serious Photographers

Michael Langford

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Langford's Basic Photography has informed the work and career of many of the world's leading photographers. It is a comprehensive guide to all aspects of photography, from pre-capture to output, written for photographers who want to understand the principles behind photography and how to create great images. In this book you will learn: . How images are formed and how to control what you capture* The best camera and lens type for your work * The principles and equipment of lighting * How to organize the picture and measure exposure * How to edit, organise and store digital images * How to print, finish and present your photographs * How to get your work noticedStunning photographs and visual learning - key principles and techniques are explained using diagrams and images. Inspirational and thought-provoking shots are shown throughout, from key images by photography greats to those by working professionals. Projects and Summaries at the end of each chapter help to cement newly learned skills and get you exploring key techniques. This 8th edition has been entirely restructured and rewritten for digital photography. It will continue to instruct, inspire and motivate up and coming photographers for generations to come. Michael Langford, renowned author, teacher, and practitioner, is a legend because of his skill that balanced art and technique. He inspired and taught thousands as Photography Course Director at the Royal College of Art, London, UK. Anna Fox is Head of the BA Photography program at the University College of the Creative Arts at Farnham, UK and has been working in photography for almost twenty years. Her work has been exhibited in numerous shows around the world. Richard Sawdon Smith is Deputy Head of the University College for the Creative Arts at Maidstone, UK. He is an award-winning studio photographer, exhibiting worldwide for over twenty years. The Langford SeriesLangford's Starting Photography - The ultimate introduction to photography, covering all the beginner photographer needs in order to start achieving great results Langford's Basic Photography - The authoritative classic for beginner to intermediate photographers wanting to understand the principles behind photography and how to put them into practiceLangford's Advanced Photography - Highly respected guide for the serious photographer wanting to advance their skills and produce professional resultsLevel: BEGINNING/INTERMEDIATE

Langford's Basic Photography: The Guide for Serious Photographers Details

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César Viteri says

Basic Photography provides a comprehensive look into the world of photography, from basic principles (light, composition, etc.) through types of cameras, lenses and lighting gear to practical considerations on how print and present your work. It covers both film and digital photography, and has a hefty presence and a serious textbook presentation, with abundant and clear illustrations, charts and pictures to support quite detailed explanations.

This is a classic book, and while it has been revised and expanded, it still leans heavily towards film photography. The 9th edition I am reviewing was published in 2010, and I could not help but feel the imbalance; the chapters on film characteristics, film developing and printing feel deeply technical, while the discussions on digital light capture and processing seem like a bare overview. The chapters on Internet presence are already outdated, and of course there is not a single mention about mobile photography.

The world of the photography is huge and varied, but I can not help feeling the point of view of this book has the artistic photographer in mind, and offers less insights for photojournalists, commercial photographers or plain amateurs. I think more varied examples and a discussion on the possible specializations of photography would have been interesting.

If you are looking for an eminently practical guide on how to deal with particular situations, deep discussions on techniques, or want a book that is fully applicable to digital photography, perhaps you would be better off checking Mastering Digital Photography from Michael Freeman. If you are interested in a complete view of what the concepts are, getting an idea of how the problems in photography can be solved with film or digital cameras, and what tools and techniques are available to deal with every situation, then it is good book for you. And of course it is a must read if you are interested in shooting film, as I am doing from time to time again.

Jennifer says

Recommended from Julie Downie.

Not a 'picture' book but a good technical manual.

Rafaella says

Excelente livro pra quem está começando a fotografar.

Victor Santos says

Um livro muito interessante para iniciados e mesmo profissionais da fotografia. Gostei e aconselho. Tenho o mesmo livro de 1987 que também é excelente com técnicas da fotografia analógica.

Sina says

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Amir Hossein says

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Olesya Razuvayevskaya says

Langford's book is a very comprehensive intro to the basic photography that covers diverse aspects of both digital and film photography, chemical and mechanical routes behind, including some interesting thoughts on its cultural and social role. It provides a detailed guidance to the composition structuring principles: proportions, textures, colors and undertones, lighting wavelength, exposure, distance, down to some practical tips on choosing the size of lenses, stabilisation equipment, films, filters, close-up and lighting equipment, sensors, and many more. The book also covers some post-processing techniques, such as printing, toning, retouching, digital techniques (noise reduction, masking), and gives some insights into how to present your work depending on the target audiences: commercial, artistic, family. The presentation is clear, not very verbose and enjoyable to read. I am interested in reading the more advanced books in the series.

Drew says

Fantastic textbook, really well-presented and just as useful for beginners starting out as it is for the seasoned photographer. Highly recommended.

Christina says

When a book has a dozen editions and has been around for more than 50 years, you know it has to be good. This was a great intro for intermediate photographers, with great technical details, diagrams and explanations as well as practical tips for better composition. I skipped a few of the chapters dedicated to film

Teri Temme says

Loved the writing style and education about film and developing. Now know for sure developing my own photo's is not for me - but it was fascinating to learn about. Thank you (Adobe) Photoshop LOL!

Apaxe says

Muito bom para aprendizagem dos meandros da fotografia.

Mahdi Meskin says

It is too basic and also is full of useless information for new photographers.
