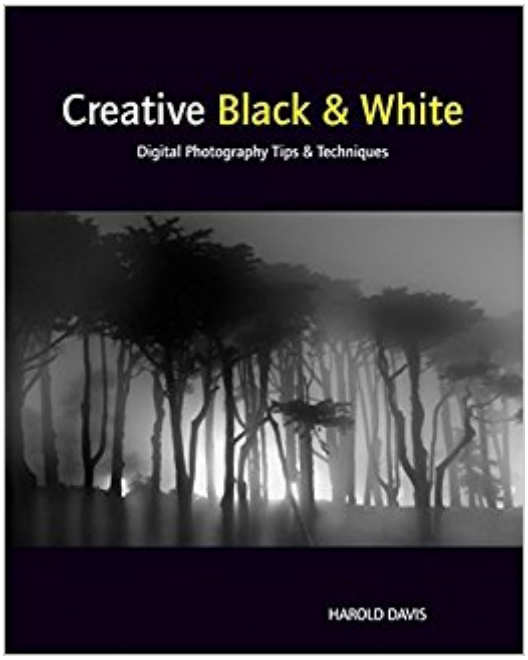
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Creative Black And White: Digital Photography Tips And Techniques



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Synopsis

Black-and-white photography poses unique challenges; without color to guide the eye, contrast, lighting and composition take on even more importance. Renowned photographer Harold Davis explains these elements and demonstrates the basic rules of black and white photography as well as when and how to break them. He breaks through the complexity of this photographic medium, explores opportunities for black-and-white imagery and shows how to capitalize on every one.

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Customer Reviews

Black-and-white photography poses unique challenges; without color to guide the eye, contrast, lighting, and composition take on even more importance. Renowned photographer Harold Davis explains these elements and demonstrates the basic rules of black and white photography as well as when and how to break them. He breaks through the complexity of this photographic medium, explores opportunities for black-and-white imagery, and shows how to capitalize on every one. Richly illustrated with the author’s own images, this beautiful guide presents the skills needed for great black-and-white photos while encouraging your confidence and creativity. Goes beyond basics to teach photographers how to conquer the challenges posed by black-and-white photography Appeals to professionals and serious amateurs who are interested in exploring creative black-and-white imagery Presents photography fundamentals and shows how black and white requires some of the rules to be bent Encourages creative thinking and confidence Lavishly illustrated with Harold Davis’s outstanding monochromatic photos Whether you’re a professional

just venturing into black and white or a serious amateur, Creative Black & White will both educate and inspire you. Black-and-White Photography Tips from Author Harold Davis Black-and-White Photography Tips Photos by Harold Davis Tips for Seeing in Black and White [PDF]

"Harold Davis's Creative Photography series is a great way to start a photography library"---PhotoFidelity

I've worked with computers for 25 years. I had no interest in digital photography. I've been through it all before - upgrades of both software and hardware, trying to keep current on new features you probably will never need, etc. I figured it would be the same with Photoshop and digicams...and it has been. Plus, I have a traditional darkroom and 40 years experience with film ...and all my film cameras are paid for! However, I started reading Mr. Davis' blog. He talked about the unique possibilities with digital B&W that are much different from traditional photography. I've corresponded with him several times. He's well aware that a lot of us cannot justify upgrading hardware and software every 18 months. Thus, in many ways, his book is a reference manual. It deals with new ways to apply core functions of Photoshop, and many techniques are cross referenced in the book. I have CS2, which is about the oldest version I would use, since Mr. Davis strongly advocates shooting in RAW and uses ACR extensively. I have been pleasantly surprised at how valuable this book has become to me in a short period of time. For example, the chart on page 68 was quite helpful to me. With anything digital, you can "process it" for days, trying for perfection. The chart indicates levels of digital B&W. Sometimes, you may want "gallery quality;" with other shots the "quick and dirty" approach is just fine. It's all in this book. It's the single best book on my type of digital photography I've found. It's a wonderful book, just to browse. The printing and layout are of the highest quality, and Mr. Davis' photos are stunning. The techniques Mr. Davis suggests are illustrated with complete step-by-step instructions. As long as film is manufactured, that is what I will shoot. However, scanning negatives and trying out some "Photoshop Magic" is starting to make photography fun again. If you are just beginning with Photoshop, this book will be somewhat intimidating. Still, it was all new to me, and I find it's now an essential reference after about six months. In summary - this has been a great book for an old film guy. If you are interested in producing wonderful digital B&W prints, this book is the one for you.

Many practical insights on how to compose and edit black and white images. While desaturation can yield black and white images good images require much more than that starting with a good

composition, proceeding by tonal and color balances before making it monochrome. The author provides many insights on how to make interesting black and white images. For me at least Black and white while not necessarily better than color is different and just as complex.

I had seen Davis' videos on youTube, and was very impressed by him. I bought a couple of his books initially, and then several others so that I now have 9 of them. Each one, so far, is excellent--it is taking me longer than I expected to read them because there is so much information to absorb. If you want to learn whatever the subject matter of the book is, from the concepts behind the subject (night photography, lighting, etc.) planning for the picture (e.g., the use of lightboxes to create translucent pictures), to the detailed post-processing of them in Photoshop or equivalent, you will not be disappointed--at least, I haven't.One of the particularly great things about this book, specifically, is that it really helped me understand what photographs are good candidates for B&W conversion, as well as how to start seeing the world in terms of light and dark tones.

My copy of this book will end up dog-eared and coffee stained as the years go by.In addition to a discussion of the art of b&w, the author provides many examples of his own work... and step-by-step descriptions of how he accomplished his results. He also examines the reasons for what he does.The step-by-step discussions are even more valuable because he does everything using digital photography - so many consider b&w an artifact of film. And since digital images are always captured in color, he covers the various techniques of conversion to b&w. He discusses these techniques using several different photo processing software programs - Photoshop, which is the only one I have, and some others.I consider this book an educational investment.

If you are a serious black and white digital photographer, then you must own this book. The author reveals little tips and tricks that he has developed which will make your images come alive with dynamic range and contrast. You will not find these tips in a book on Photoshop or in Photoshop courses. They are specific to the abstract art of black and white.I took an image of a tree in a snowy field that was nice but unexciting. Normal photoshop adjustments made it better but not great. I paid a professional Photoshop master to try and improve it but he hit the same limitations that I did. Then I bought this book and learned about creating layers with different adjustments for level, contrast and filtering. The magic started when I began to add those layers together with different levels of opacity. The final print was a "wow".Get this book. The price is very fair when compared to other professionally oriented photography books. It will even help you before you take a photo because

you now have ways to deal with extreme ranges of brightness.

I am quite surprised at the content of this book. I though I was buying another mostly inspirational, visual book but it ispacked full of Lightroom, Layers and other techniques just like a Photoshop "classroom in a book" would have. Although I amfairly adept with Photoshop CS6 I am learning a great deal and I am new to Lightroom so any user info is welcome.This is an inexpensive JEWEL. Well worth the purchase!

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