

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR SPARE TIME IN A PANDEMIC

ARCHIVING YOUR PHOTOS, NEGATIVES AND SLIDES

HOUSE KEEPING



"And that goes for Lancelot, Galahad, and the rest of you guys—no more stickin' your gum under the table."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DEFINE THE BEST SOLUTION

- What do you want to do with them once scanned?
 - Archive only
 - Send via email, messages, Facebook, etc
 - Print them
 - How big?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DEFINE THE BEST SOLUTION

- What do you have?
 - Prints
 - Negatives
 - Slides
- How Many Do You Have?
 - Under 100
 - Hundreds
 - Thousands

UNDER A HUNDRED PRINTS FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS

- Shot them with your phone using an app
 - Microsoft Lens – if you take one at a time you will get about a 2 MB Jpeg. Free
 - Google PhotoScan – will give you the best outcome but slow. You have to move the image around on your phone to capture every corner. Free
 - Photomyne – Will capture multiple images at once and separate them into separate images. But you will end up with quite smaller images as every image is a fraction of the 2 MB, i.e. 4 shots means you have 4 -500 KB images. Also if you want them on your photos catalog you have to purchase a subscription.

UNDER A HUNDRED PRINTS FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS

- Send them to a lab. This also works for slides and negatives.
 - www.theDarkRoom.com
 - About a \$1 scan for normal quality slides
 - High Quality Scans especially for slides and negatives
 - Drum Scanners - \$35/scan for 100 MB size
- Scan them yourself using your current scanner
- Buy a photo scanner – Photo scanners are normally 2 types
 - Flatbed scanners that do Photos, Negatives and Slides

SLIDES OR NEGATIVES FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS

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 - About a \$1 scan
 - High Quality Scans especially for slides and negatives
 - Drum Scanners - \$35/scan for 100 MB size
- You can't Scan them yourself using your current scanner
 - Use Image Capture
 - Depending on your scanner you will get ok results

SLIDES OR NEGATIVES FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS

- Buy a photo scanner – Photo scanners are normally 2 types
 - Dedicated slide and negative
 - Flatbed scanners that do Photos, Negatives and Slides
- Pros – Dedicated slide and negative scanners
 - Quality – depends on scanner – 5 to 9 Megapixels
 - Speed
 - Single slide scanner
 - up to a minute per slide not including putting it in and taking it out
 - Can create large files at up to 7200 DPI

SLIDES OR NEGATIVES FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS

- Pros – Dedicated slide and negative scanners
 - Price - \$100s and up.
 - Compatible – Will work with most of your computers via USB. Though one of the best made – the Nikon CoolScan used Firewire as well as USB. Unfortunately not made any more and if you look at eBay can go for 2 to 3 times the original price.
- Cons
 - I slide at a time expect for the more expensive one.
 - Doesn't do prints
 - May need to buy software to do a good job like VueScan or SilverFast

SLIDES OR NEGATIVES FOR ARCHIVING, SENDING VIA INTERNET, PRINTING SMALL PRINTS OR LARGE PRINTS

- Flatbed Photo Scanners like Epson V600 (\$220)
 - Does Prints, Negatives and Slides
 - Can do scans of multiple images all at once
 - Good quality
 - Relatively Fast – 1 minute to scan 5 slides without correction
 - Software comes with it that will help you correct images of dust and other issues when scanned at the cost of time. Epson comes with Epson software and a free copy of Silverfast.
 - Preferred choice by most of my photographic friends.

PRE-SCAN OPTIONS

- **Color Correction.** If you don't plan on printing these in large sizes many prints, slides and negatives have faded with time. The scanning software can do a good job of recovering colors.
- **Dust**
 - Unless you want to spend hours getting rid of dust using your post processing software you want to make sure your originals and the glass are as clean as possible.
 - The Epson V600 has an infrared light which means software for slides and negatives can do a great job of eliminating dust. This does not work for prints but there is software called ICE which will do an ok job by double scanning. ICE is part of the free Epson software.

PRE-SCAN OPTIONS

- Corrections – for exposure etc can be done while scanning. I normally do these after the scan using my PP software
- Multiple images scanned at once
 - Both the Epson and Silverfast software will detect multiple prints and separate them. They may even rotate them correctly. This works most of the time but not always.
 - Slides and negatives go into a holder. You can do 4 35MM slides or negatives at a time.

DEMONSTRATION

- Using iPhone for scanning photos using Microsoft Lens, Google Camera and Photomyne
- Scanning a print using an inexpensive Canon MFP scanner and Image Capture
- Scanning multiple prints using Epson V600
 - Using Epson Scan 2
 - Using Silverfast

SETTINGS

- Prints are normally printed at 200 to 300 DPI. So an 8x10 print at 300 DPI would be 2400x3000 DPI. It is my opinion that increasing the scan to a higher than 300 DPI is a waste as it doesn't give you a better image but makes it quite bigger. A 300 DPI scan of a 4x6 print is about 5 to 6 MB in size if a Tiff file. At 600 DPI it is over 24 MB in size.
- Negatives and Slides can easily be scanned at much higher DPIs because they haven't been compressed like a print. The optical resolution of an Epson V600 is 6400x9600 DPI. So you can set the scan resolution to 6400. Because a slide or negative is much smaller than a print this setting will give you a reasonable size final scan.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Putting them in Apple Photos
 - The scans are sitting in a folder on your computer so just use the Import Menu choice under Edits or Shift-Command I.
 - They will be editable in Photos and with the plugins you might have.
 - Photos sort by a number of methods so Adding date to the images is critical unless you like chaos. Or you can name each set of images and search by the filename. Or you can put them in either Albums or Smart Albums.
- Or use other Post Processing Software like PhotoShop, Lightroom , On1 Raw 2020 (my fav), PSE, etc.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- In PP you can fix colors, dust, crop, etc. The sky is the limit.
- Then going back to 1st question.
 - If you are going to just send them thru Facebook, Messages, Mail etc you can generally use the share feature in your software to do that. Except for some reason Apple stopped supporting sharing to Facebook from MacOs yet all iOS devices still can.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Print them
 - Using your PP software you need to crop them so the size you are going to print. 35mm Film camera created images in an aspect of 3:2. Which means if you want to print something that is a multiple of 3:2 like 6x4, 12x8, 24x16 etc you do NOT have to crop. But if you are going to print a size not in a 3:2 aspect like 8x10 you will need to crop the image. In landscape mode that will mean you will lose 2 inches off the horizontal image vs a 8x12 image. By the way digital sensors have generally kept that same 3:2 aspect.
 - Some PP software will allow you to resize your images. This is important if you have a smaller size image that you want to enlarge. PS and On1 Raw 2020 both do that. They also both will do a soft-proof.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Print them
 - Both Walgreens and Costco do a good job of prints though Costco is generally better and cheaper. They are my go-to place for printing images up to 20x30. Costco prices go from \$.19 for a 4x6 up to \$9.99 for a 20x30. Walgreens has limited sizes from 4x4 to 8x10 and prices are from \$.34 for 4x6 to \$3.99 for 8x10. They often have discounts going.
 - Print them yourself – oh – Gives you the greatest control but at a cost! Best choice in my mind is the Canon Pixma Pro-100. Watch for Canon Discounts which can bring this down into the \$250 range. Right now the best price is about \$349. The ink refills will cost you about \$100 but unlike Epson they don't seem to dry out. You can certainly use any photo printer and get acceptable results. The Canon is for more professional results.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Print them
 - Canvas -If you want to try these keep an eye on Groupon offers as if you buy them at list price I want to be in your will. I think they look best if more artistic images.
 - Metal - if you have a high gloss landscape image these can be great but expensive. Again look to Groupon for deals to try them.
 - Photo books – never made one but again great offers from Groupon