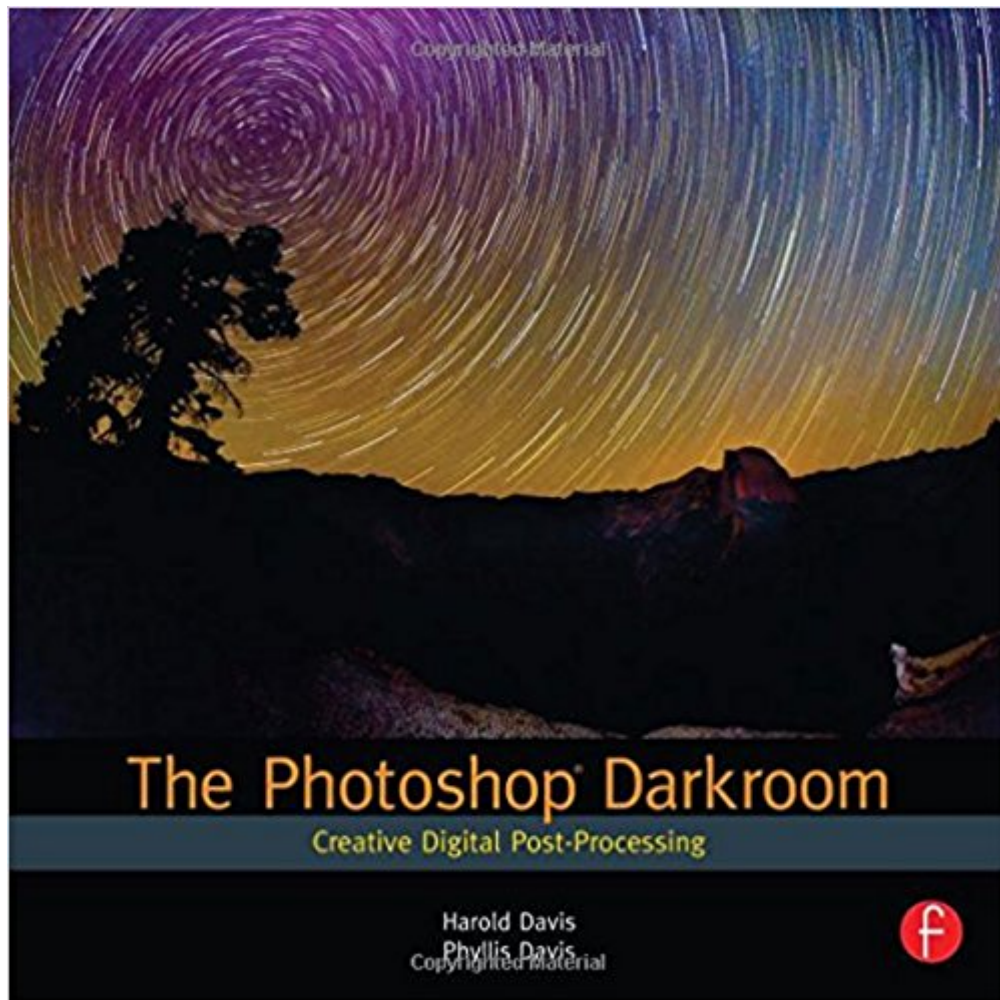




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The Photoshop Darkroom: Creative Digital Post-Processing



Synopsis

The Photoshop Darkroom offers limitless possibilities for photographers looking for jaw-dropping results, using powerful and innovative creative post-processing techniques. If you want folks to ask "How did you do that?" then this is the book for you! The images in The Photoshop Darkroom will inspire you and help you unleash your creative potential. You'll learn to view your own digital photography with new eyes. Step-by-step directions show you real-world examples of how to achieve the results you want from your photography and post-processing.

- *Learn how to work with RAW image files
- *Understand the Photoshop darkroom workflow
- *Multi-process RAW files
- *Extend the dynamic range of your photographs
- *Create High Dynamic Range (HDR) images by hand
- *Create stunning black and white imagery with Photoshop
- *Use layers and masking for compositing
- *Create striking color effects using LAB color

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #587,720 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Darkroom & Processing](#) #359 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Digital Editing](#) #853 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Photography](#)

Customer Reviews

Hello. I am primarily an (amateur) landscape photographer as you may discern if you look at my Flickr gallery: [...] I am also interested in night photography - particularly of the night sky. So it is not a surprise that the cover of the book would have been enough to capture my attention. I pre-ordered my copy of The Photoshop Darkroom in June, 2009. It was a long wait and worth it. I have several other books on Photoshop and this one beats them all in clarity and usefulness by a wide margin. Thankfully this book is NOT an exhaustive description of all of the features and nuances of

Photoshop. A book that attempted to cover "all things Photoshop" would be thousands of pages long and filled with lots of really useless and boring information. No, the authors: Harold and Phyllis Davis have instead taken a laser-like focus on about a dozen very useful techniques that are effective in producing pleasing results. The techniques are illustrated with full color, step by step images from Harold's own photographs. The quality of the illustrations is crucial to understanding the processes and the images in this book score very high on clarity [unlike several other books I have]. The steps for each process are clearly numbered, illustrated and labeled. And though the examples are from a Mac, I have no trouble following along with my older Photoshop version on a PC. Is this book for you? Well, let me ask you these questions: Would you like to make your photographs more appealing? More like the way you saw them? More like art? Something altogether different? The techniques and processes described allow all of these approaches.* Do you use burn and dodge to darken and lighten? The Davis's will show you a far better way!

The images in this book were well done and impressive. Unfortunately I was not as impressed with the Photoshop (PS) techniques. The authors acknowledge that there are many ways to accomplish the same things in PS and theirs is only one, which is true, but often there are more efficient and well known ways to accomplish something. For instance, they use multiple copies of the same Camera Raw file at different exposures instead of simply using a file with multiple smart object layers. That doesn't make any sense, and is definitely the hard way to do it. They do this with several examples, and complicated painting layers. It wore me out just reading it. I started to get excited when they were discussing blending modes, because they had a well-done graphic showing white, gray, and black and how the different blending modes affect the layer. Unfortunately they only covered four blending modes. Then there's the dodging and burning example. They don't like the dodge and burn tool. Everyone says the dodge and burn tool used to be really awful, but now with the "protect tones" option it works just fine. Instead they add a duplicate layer with either a screen blending mode to lighten, or a multiply blending mode to darken, then add a layer mask and paint in where they want to dodge and burn. Okay, so yes it works, but seems complicated. They have this lovely example of a stacked star trails photo, where they use separate stacking software to accomplish. Again, why complicate it. Select the files in Bridge, choose load in Photoshop as layers, then change the blending modes to screen. Their discussion of LAB mode was interesting, and the way they use it to modify color is dramatic. Unfortunately that was the only strong point in the book.

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