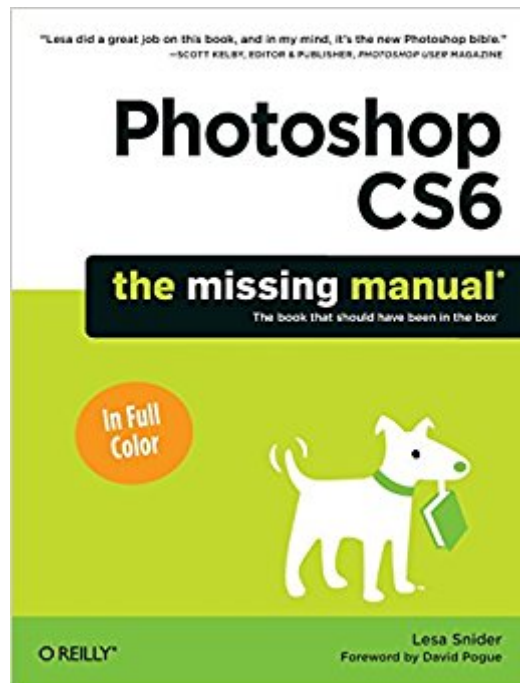




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# Photoshop CS6: The Missing Manual



## 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, you'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

Lesa Snider is on a mission to teach the world to create—and use!—better graphics. She's an internationally acclaimed speaker; stock photographer and chief evangelist for iStockphoto.com ([www.lesa.in/istockdeal](http://www.lesa.in/istockdeal)); as well as the founder of the creative tutorial site

PhotoLesa.com. Lesa is the author of many video-training workshops ([www.lesa.in/clvideos](http://www.lesa.in/clvideos)) and the coauthor of iPhoto 11: The Missing Manual. She writes a regular column for Photoshop User, Elements Techniques, and Macworld magazines, and contributes frequently to Design-Tools.com and PlanetPhotoshop.com. Lesa is also a long-time member of the Photoshop World Dream Team of instructors and can be spotted teaching at many other conferences around the globe. She also teaches Advanced Photoshop for the international graphic design school, Sessions.edu. You can connect with her online on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/PhotoLesa](http://www.facebook.com/PhotoLesa)), YouTube ([www.lesa.in/ytvideochannel](http://www.lesa.in/ytvideochannel)), Twitter (@PhotoLesa), and [www.PhotoLesa.com](http://www.PhotoLesa.com). During her free time, you'll find Lesa carving the twisties on her sportbike, dressed up in her Star Trek best at a sci-fi convention, or hanging with fellow Apple Mac enthusiasts. Lesa is a proud member of the BMWMOA, F800 Riders Club, and the Colorado Mac User Group ([www.CoMUG.com](http://www.CoMUG.com)) a.k.a. the Boulder Mac Maniacs. Email: [lesa@photolesa.com](mailto:lesa@photolesa.com).

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.

A fantastic book and must have for Photoshop users!!! There's a lot of content in here and it's quite a read and you will learn a lot!! In my opinion, this is a great book for mainly intermediate users. Beginners might have a hard time following thru the manual because they will encounter a few missing instructions in the step-by-step tutorial. Somehow I can imagine some readers will end up scratching their heads with frustrations but don't get discouraged, there's a lot to learn. This is a great book to have in conjunction with Photoshop Bible and YouTube tutorials. This book is massive, with 862 pages, but no CD. I don't mind not having the CD at all because I prefer to flip thru pages or search the index... but it's comprehensive (too much at times), easy to navigate, it's an excellent reference guide, and it's WORTH IT!!!

I have a dozen Photoshop CS6 books. I was looking specifically for one that covered Photoshop Actions in depth. I have owned CS6 for about a decade. With this book I have found features I was

previously unaware of. I have owned Photoshop since the first release when it was Mac only and didn't support Windows. I love Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. That said, I will never get another copy. I don't do subscriptions. Anyway, This is without doubt the very best Photoshop book I have found. It is indeed "The Missing Manual". I want to thank the authors for providing such an in depth and easily understood book.

I've been using Photoshop for a while, but like many, felt that I had never gotten into the meat of what it can really do. When I decided to upgrade to CS6 Extended, I felt that to justify spending that much money I needed to use the program at a much higher level than in the past. I, typically, dislike manuals that come with a high end product, mostly, because of the technical level in which they are written and the amount of research and time one has to put in in order to understand the language. I reviewed the available books and bought this one, primarily, because of the recommendations and comments of other customer reviews, and so far, have no disappointments at all. The book is written in a simple and understandable way, walking one through the different aspects of the programs capabilities, one step at a time, in a very logical fashion. From the first page it gives one the confidence and excitement to continue, that the author is thoroughly capable of writing in a language that most, beginners to advanced product users, will understand and that her intent is to do everything possible to give one the confidence needed to learn such a difficult and complex program as Photoshop. I am totally looking forward to working through the challenges presented in The Missing Manual.

Fantastic book for most levels of Photoshop users. Beginners will find the tips they need to get started with this complex program. Intermediate users will find the pointers they need to take their skill with the program to the next level. Even advanced users will find something that they may find useful. This book is huge- it does not cover everything in the program (how could you), but it gives clear explanations and examples of the techniques that are used. What I find great about this book is that it is simultaneously concise when it needs to be, and deep where further explanation is required. In summary: -Good for all user levels but especially geared towards intermediate users -Clear, concise writing with good depth -Excellent examples of techniques used

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