# 3 STEP SCANNING

## How To Edit Your Scans In GIMP In Three Easy To Follow Steps

HowToScan.ca

You'll learn how to fix scans like this. © A. Ruth, ScanCanada.ca

# Scan Faster, Get Better Looking Scans, Don't Waste Your Free Time

**Here are 7 things you'll get after reading this ebook...**

**1** An easy **3 Step Scanning System** to fix your scans in GIMP

**2** Your scans will improve in quality 10 to 100 times

**3** Colours will look brighter, vivid, natural – and not faded or flat

**4** Details in people's faces, smiles, gestures will be more defined

**5** A fast way to get rid of unwanted dust specks that are covering up important detail

**6** In 30 minutes you'll have learned what took me 10 years to discover

**7** All free, because knowledge should always be free

Hey, Konrad here.  When I first started scanning, my images were terrible.  And all the books and videos on scanning were all about the technical stuff.  It seemed like those books were more about how smart the author was, and not about fixing MY problems.

That's my goal here: I want you to read this ebook, and in 30 – 40 minutes you'll see results.   You'll fix faded colours.  You'll learn how to bring out more textures, details, definition in your images.  You'll get a way to fix dust so you don't mess up important parts of your scan.

It's going to be fun.  You'll discover a lot of new skills.  And you'll be satisfied because you'll see a HUGE improvement in your scans.

Ready? Grab your favourite drink, put on some jazz (or not), and let's go!

Your original picture looks like this…


…But your scan looks like this!

# Scan Problem Number 1: Colour

## This Is The Real Reason Your Scans Look Faded...

Take a slide up to a light.  You'll notice that the colours look perfect.  The colours are vivid, sharp, and bright.

But the moment you pass your slides and negatives through the scanner, those bright colours are gone.  Your digital image looks nothing like your original picture.

Same with photos.  The colours look great.  But the scans don't look as good as the original.

Why?

It's not because your pictures are old.  Or because your scanner isn't expensive enough.  The real reason is because LIGHT bounces off your pictures.  And no matter what scanner you use, that light will always be scanned, too.

Let me show you what I mean...

Your slides and negatives are made of film.  And if you look closely, light is bouncing off the surface of that film.  Same with photos.  In fact, newer photos are printed with glossy paper.  The shiny gloss is a nice touch.  But when run through the scanner, that glossy shine is also scanned.

This light causes, "colour cast".  Colour cast makes your scans look flat, dull, and faded.    So, it doesn't matter how old or new your pictures are.  The real reason your scans look dull is because light is causing the "colour cast" effect.

And in a moment I'll show you a one-button fix in GIMP to get rid of colour cast.

**1** Light bounces off your slides and negative film surface.



**2** Photos also have light bouncing off the surface. Especially newer photos that are printed on glossy paper.



**3** This light will also be scanned, no matter how expensive your scanner is!



**4** This light causes a "colour cast" effect... so your scans look like this!

Bad lighting hides details



Fix lighting and you'll see more!

# Scan Problem Number 2: Lighting

**If You Want More Definition In Your Scans, You Need To Fix Lighting**

Most scans come out with bad lighting.  And it's not because your dad took bad pictures.  It's because your scanner isn't perfect.

You're converting analog into digital.  And there's going to be some problems in-between that process.

Here's what I mean...

Sometimes your scans will look blown out.  Especially if you have photos from the beach or outdoor.  The scans will look too bright.  And that brightness will hide detail.

Sometimes your scans will look too dark.  Say you have Christmas morning pictures.  Those indoor shots will look too dark when scanned.  Details will be hiding in the shadows.

What's happening here is, your scanner has a hard time balancing light.  And the problem is, maybe you want to darken the background but not the foreground.

For example, you want to darken the sky, beach, ocean.  But the people on the beach don't need adjusting.

The problem with scanning is, your scanner will darken or lighten everything -- the background, peoples faces, and important details.

That's why it's important to get a natural scan – so your scanner doesn't mess up lighting.  I'll show you how to get a natural scan later.

Also, I'll show you how to adjust lighting in one easy step with GIMP.

Next, I want to show you the last problem with scanning...

☑ Some scans will be blown-out, too bright – even though the original picture is not.



Before



After

☑ Some scans will be too dark, and hide details.



Before



After

☑ See how much more definition you can get out of a scan when you fix lighting?

You will discover how to fix lighting in GIMP soon!

More DPI = More Detail = More Dust!

# Scan Problem Number 3: Dust

**More Resolution DPI Means More Problems**

The worst part of scanning at a high DPI is too much UNWANTED detail. Yes, you want to use as much DPI as your scanner can give you. More DPI means your pixels will be more defined and more detailed. Sharper pixels means a higher definition image.

But at the same time, more DPI means you'll also start seeing minute scratches, dust, and specks.

What's happening is your scanner is picking up details IN your image. But it is also scanning the SURFACE of the film and paper.

Film loves to attract dust and specks. Film also will have oils and smudges on it that you can't see until you scan it.

Photo paper will have minute scratches you can't see with the naked eye... but your scanner can. And glossy photo paper will have smudges and finger print oils on them that you won't see until you scan it.

The biggest mistake I hear people tell me is that they LOWER the DPI so they don't see the dust and specks. But then you're also losing definition in your scan! The peoples faces will look less detailed. A smile will look like a blur. The eyes will look like black dots. Little details like that add up, and make your scan look terrible

I say go big. Use as much DPI as your scanner can give you. Get a high resolution scan. Don't worry about also scanning unwanted detail. You'll learn how to get unwanted details in GIMP soon!

Ok, now you're ready to discover what tools GIMP has to fix colour, lighting, and dust. Let's go...


Film will attract dust and oils you won't see until you scan the picture.


Photos paper will have minute rips and scratches that you won't see until it's scanned.

# How To Fix Scan Colours In GIMP

## GIMP Auto White Balance

Remember, the first problem is called "colour cast".

Colour cast makes your scans look less bright. The colours are dull. And the entire image looks flat.

In GIMP, there's a tool called **White Balance**.

Here are the benefits of White Balance...

☑ It automatically balances RGB

☑ What this means is it will get rid of colour cast

☑ But at the same time it won't ruin the colours in your scan

☑ And it will make the colours look brighter and vivid

In a moment you'll get a step-by-step guide on how to use the White Balance tool.

But next, you'll learn the best tool to fix lighting...



Here's an example of colour cast. Notice how the image looks flat and dull.



Here's what happens when you use the White Balance tool. Notice the dull colours are gone. And the image looks brighter, fuller.

# How To Fix Scan Lighting In GIMP

## GIMP Auto Colour Levels

Problem number 2 is lighting. And to fix lighting in GIMP, you use the **Levels** tool.

Here are the benefits of the Levels tool...

☑ In one step you can darken ONLY the light parts of your scan

☑ In one step you can lighten ONLY the dark parts of your scan

☑ This is great because the lighting that is perfect won't be touched

☑ You will see more definition in your scans

☑ Blown-out, light areas will darkened enough to see more detail

☑ Dark, shadowy areas will be uncovered to see more detail

You'll learn exactly how to use Levels, soon. But I want to show you one more quick fix, next...



Notice the faces. They are blown out, and have low definition.



Here's after fixing lighting with Levels. Notice how the faces are more detailed and defined.

The Heal tool gives you more control than Digital ICE

# How To Fix Scan Dust In GIMP

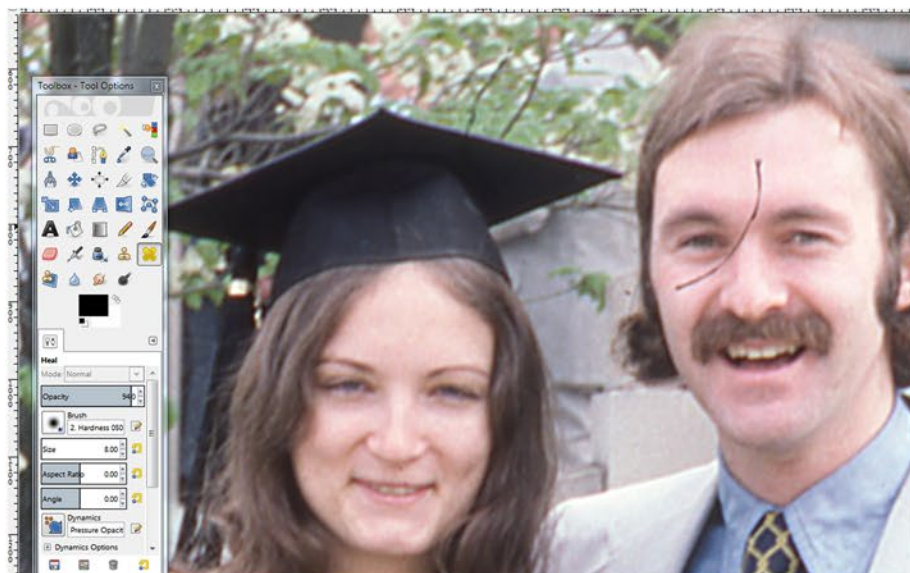**GIMP Heal Tool**

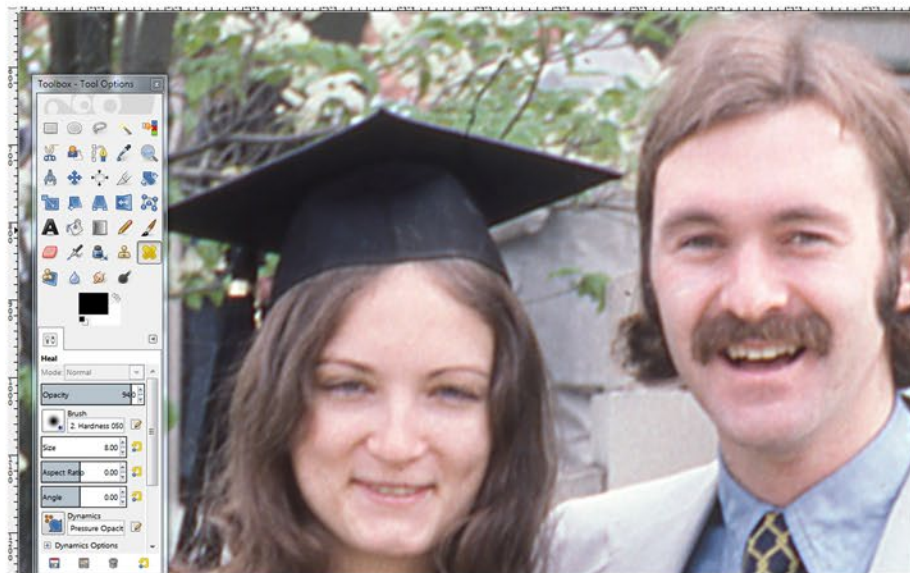The best way to remove dust and specks is with the **Heal tool.**

Here's what's great about the Heal tool…

☑ Very easy to use… just click on dust, and it's gone

☑ You can change the brush size to fix smaller or bigger dust

☑ Digital ICE and other software applies this fix on the ENTIRE image, messing up other important detail

☑ With Heal tool, you focus ONLY on the dust, and you don't touch and ruin important detail

You'll learn how to use the Heal tool, soon!



The Heal tool is designed to remove unwanted pixels WITHOUT messing up other pixels.



Notice how the dust speck was removed seamlessly, without messing up any other part of the image.

# Before You Start Editing Your Scans, Remember To Do This...
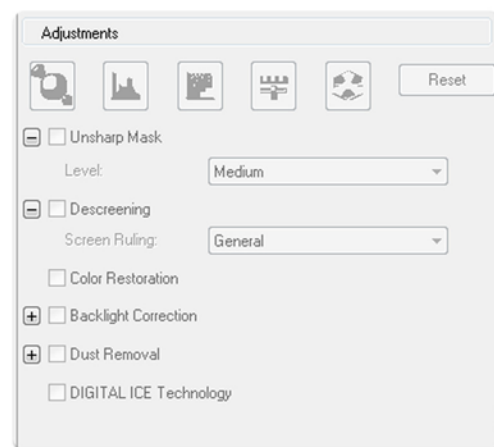
## Get A Natural Scan

A natural scan is where you DO NOT use any scanning software features. What I mean is, NO Digital Ice, Color Fix, etc. Don't adjust anything in the Preview Scan. Why?

☑ Because your Preview Scan will NOT look like your actual scan

☑ Because the changes you do BEFORE your scan are irreversible

☑ This means if you scan is messed up, you have to go back and re-scan

☑ It's best to get a "natural" scan – no changes to the Preview Scan

☑ Then use GIMP to fix the scan AFTER

## Make A Copy Of Your Natural Scans

Do NOT edit your original scans. Make a copy. And edit that copy. Why? Well, just in case you mess up your edits. You can always go back to your original and make another copy. Always keep a backup copy of your original scans as a safety measure.



Don't make changes BEFORE your scan.
Those changes are irreversible.
Best to get a natural scan.



Make a copy of your natural scans.
And only edit the copy, as a safe measure.

Before White Balance fix



After White Balance fix

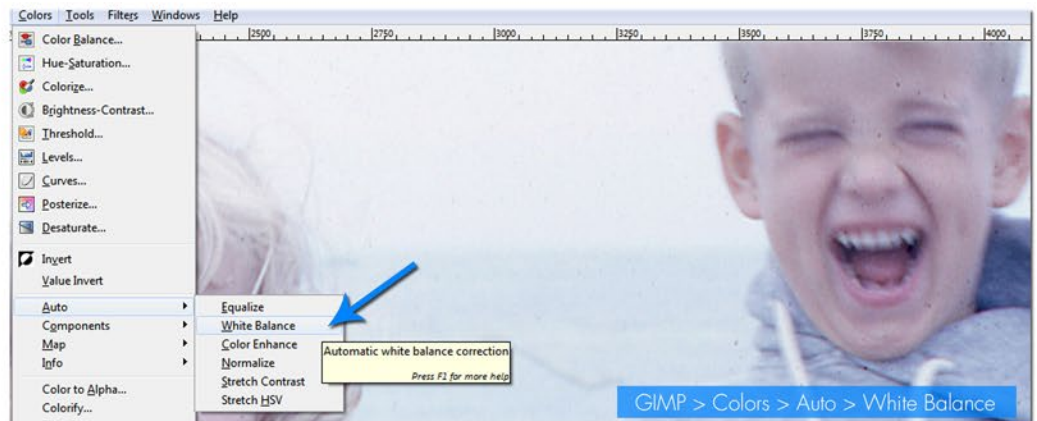# Step 1: How To Fix Scan Colours In One Step Using White Balance

## GIMP White Balance

Remember, the first problem you're going to fix is colour cast. And the best way to fix colour cast is using White Balance.

Here's how...

☑ Open your scans in GIMP

☑ I usually open 5 – 10 images at once

☑ To use White Balance, go...

☑ GIMP > Colors > Auto > White Balance

White Balance is subtle. But in the next step when fix lighting, you'll see a big difference.
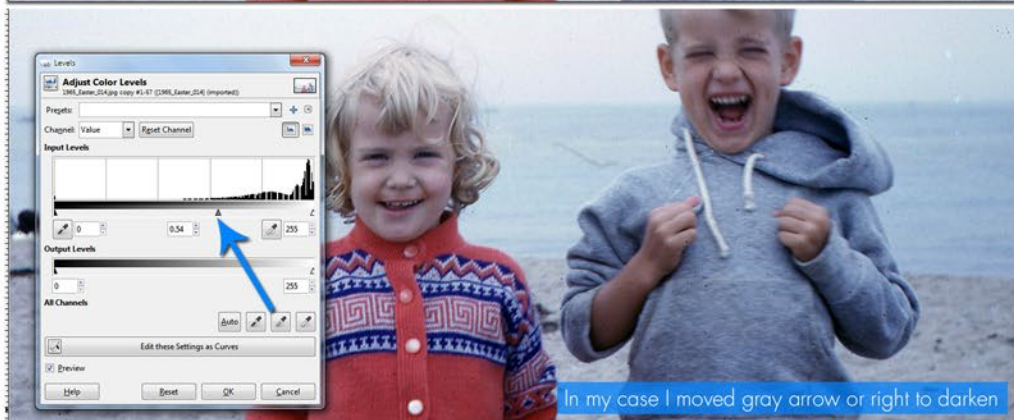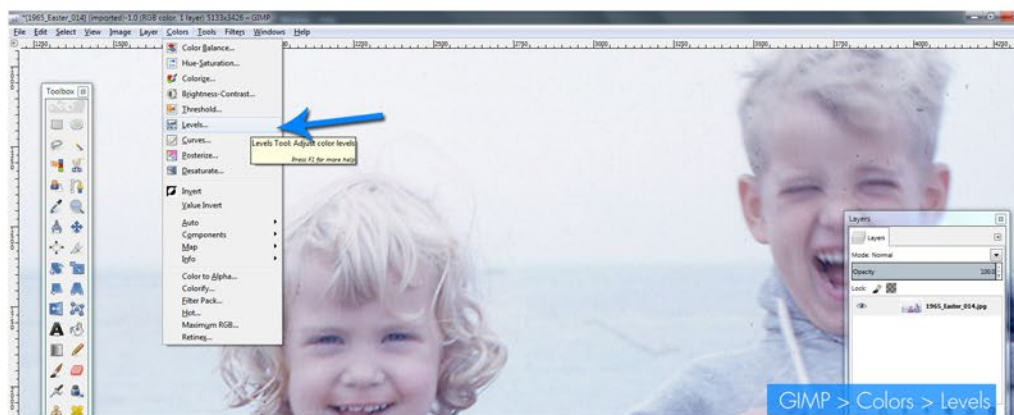
I'll show you...



GIMP > Colors > Auto > White Balance



Before



After

Before White Balance fix


After White Balance fix

# Step 2: Bring Out Higher Definition By Fixing Lighting Using Levels

### GIMP Levels

Lighting can be fixed in one simple action with Levels. Here's how to use Levels...

☑ GIMP > Colors > Levels

☑ Find the GRAY arrow

☑ Depending how much darker you want your image, move it further right

☑ Image too bright? Move GRAY arrow to the left

☑ Not working? Use then use the BLACK arrow

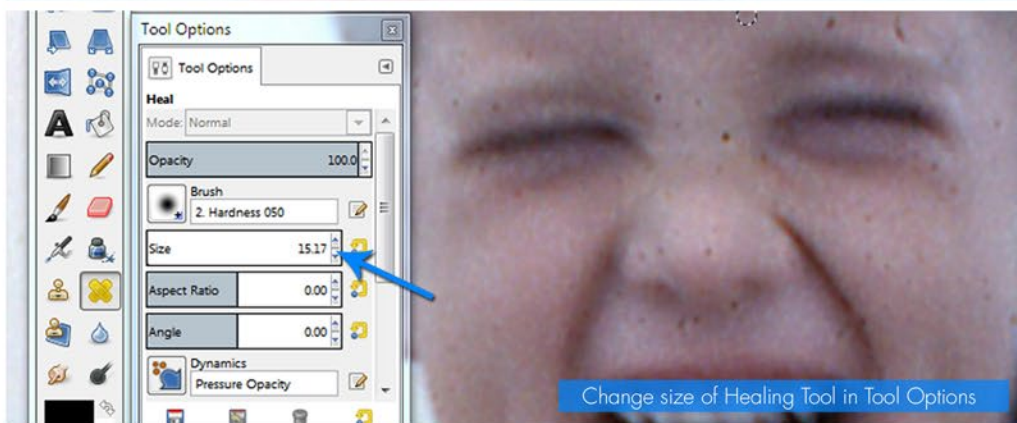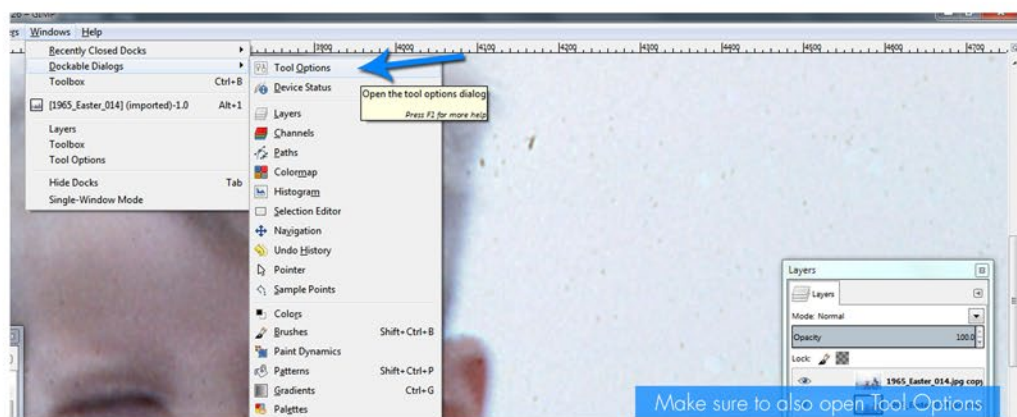☑ But in most cases you'll use the GRAY arrow the most

Next, you'll fix dust...


GIMP > Colors > Levels


Move gray arrow... right to darken, left to lighten


In my case I moved gray arrow or right to darken

Let the Heal Tool do all the work for you

# Step 3: How To Fix Dust Specks Easily With Healing Tool

## GIMP Healing Tool

Here's exactly how to use the Healing Tool...

☑ GIMP > H

☑ Also, GIMP > Windows > Dockable Dialogs > **Tool Options**

☑ Find a clean area on your image, and Ctrl or Cmd click to set healing source

☑ Once your heal source is set, start clicking on dust

☑ When you move to a new area of dust, set the heal source again

☑ Dust too big, too small? Change Healing Tool size in Tool Options


Make sure to also open Tool Options


2. Click dust
1. Ctrl or Cmd click
Ctrl or Cmd Click on clean area, then click on dust


Change size of Healing Tool in Tool Options

# 3 Step Scanning System

**Your Action Steps To Take RIGHT NOW...**

Ok... no more reading, no more browsing!

It's important to take ACTION right now.  You've learned a lot.  But if you don't act on that knowledge, you'll forget everything.

So load up your scans, and follow these 3 easy steps.  They're easy to remember.  And the improvements you'll have made on your scans will be 10 to 100 better than what your scanner software can do.

Oh, remember to get a natural scan.  And make a copy.  Only edit the copy.  Don't touch your original scan.

**1 Step 1: Fix Colour**
   Simply go... GIMP > Color > Auto > White Balance

**2 Step 2: Fix Lighting**
   Next, go... GIMP > Color > Levels.
   Move the GRAY arrow to the right to darken.  Or left to brighten.
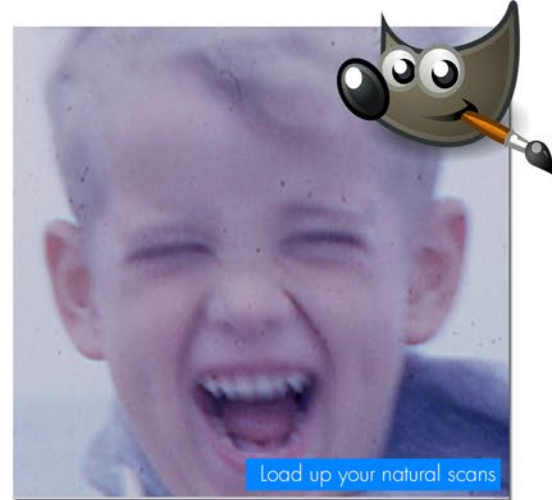
**3 Step 3: Fix Dust**
   Press H to open Healing Tool.  Find a clean area.  Press Ctrl or Cmd click to set a healing source.  And then simply start clicking on dust.  Remember to re-set a healing source when you move to a new area of dust.

That's it my friend!  You have learned what took me 10 years to discover.  Of course, I've boiled it down to 3 easy steps.

But in my experience, that's all you need is those 3 steps.  And the results you get are so much better than if you just clicked a bunch of buttons on your scanner software.
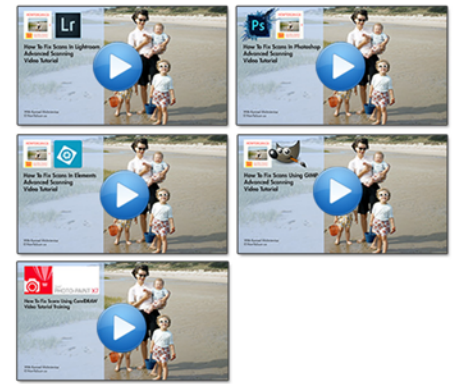
Want more? Keep reading...

Load up your natural scans

1. Color > Auto > White Balance

2. Color > Levels, move gray arrow

3. Set Healing Tool, and click dust

## If You Want Higher Quality Scans And Improve Your Productivity So You're Not Wasting Your Free Time Scanning All Day, Then This Training Program Is Designed For You...

Here's what you'll discover in this scanning training program...

• Insights showing you how to improve your scanning workflow

• If you implement these insights, you will improve your productivity

• You won't spend all day scanning and editing because these strategies are designed to cut scanning time by 50%

• You get 5 ebooks and 5 video tutorials showing you advanced scanning techniques in an easy to follow, step-by-step system

• Discover how to use Lightroom, Elements, Photoshop, GIMP, or CorelDRAW to quickly fix your scans and improve how the scans look

• Get scans that look 10 to 100 better quality than if you used any other method

• The training program is broken down into 3 parts

• Each part will show you, step-by-step, what to do, where to start, what to click, what to open, and how to use what you've learned so you see results in real time

• The program is designed so you jump in right away, no fluff, no wasting time

• Use the scan training program along side with you when you scan

• You don't have to be a pro at scanning... and you don't have to buy the most expensive software

• That's why you also get GIMP – it's a free image editing software that does what Photoshop can do

• The training program is designed by somebody who has been scanning almost every day for 10 years

• My scan training works – I've helped thousands of people with their scan project since 2005

• And I charge $2.50 per scan – that's how valuable this scan training program is

• It's not technical and you don't have to be a professional graphic designer to understand what's going on

• The training program is specifically designed to fix slide, negative, photo scans – and the problems that come along with scanning those formats

• There is no other program like it that shows you how to fix scan using Lightroom, Elements, Photoshop, GIMP, or CorelDRAW

So if you want to learn how to get higher quality scans, and improve your productivity so you're not wasting time scanning all day, click here to check out "Scanshop System".

Konrad
December 1. 2015
Brantford ON Canada

✉ Email Me Anytime...
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