

## Photographic software for your computer

Helen Lewis ~ October 2012

Program	Platform(s)	Full price	Upgrade price	Student and teacher discount available?	RAW support	Image management	Online sharing integration	Tethered shooting	Video support	Photobook creation	3D imaging	Intelligent selection and masking	HDR imaging	Layers	Panoramas	Reasons to buy/notes
Adobe Lightroom 4	Mac & Windows	£106.48	£59.09	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Integration with Photoshop Non-destructive editing Great noise reduction
Adobe Photoshop Elements 11	Mac & Windows	£79.10	£64.81	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	One-click fault correction Visual tags Powerful search feature Choice of three editing modes: quick, guided or expert Photomerge style match analyses a photo's stylistic qualities and applies them to another photo
Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6	Mac & Windows	£660.51	£188.19	Yes	Yes	Using Adobe Bridge	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Content aware fill Full HDR 3D imaging It's possible to do ANYTHING with Photoshop (if you know how!)
Apple Aperture	Mac	£54.99	Free(?)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Fully integrated with iPhoto (a unified photo library) Fully integrated with all the programs in iLife & iWork Fully integrated with Photo Stream (iPad and iPhone) Face detection and recognition
Canon Zoombrowser (PC) and ImageBrowser (Mac)	Mac and Windows	Free	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Using PhotoStitch	Works with Canon cameras only. It does quite a lot for a free program.
Corel Paintshop Pro X5	Windows	£59.99	£44.98	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Graphic design as well as photo editing
Gimp	Mac, Windows & Unix	Free	N/A	N/A	Import only	No	?	?	Via a plug-in	No	?	Yes	Via a plug-in	Yes	?	Graphic design as well as photo editing, including animation tools Reputation for not being very user friendly, but aims to be a high-end tool

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Google Picasa	Mac & Windows	Free	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Non-destructive editing
Microsoft Office Picture Manager	Windows	Included in Microsoft Office Suite versions 2003 to 2010	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Full integration with other Office programs
Windows Live Photo Gallery	Windows	Free	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Limited	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	It's free.
Nikon Capture NX2	Mac & Windows	£129	£79	No	Yes	via Nikon View NX	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Works with Nikon cameras only. Selection points and colour control points - intelligent masking and colour control Worth investigating if you've got a Nikon camera.
Nikon View NX2	Mac & Windows	Free	Free	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Works with Nikon cameras only. This is an image management program with basic photo editing features (cropping and straightening, white balance adjustment, auto red eye correction, auto lateral colour aberration, exposure compensation, batch conversion and batch resizing)
Olympus Viewer 2	Mac & Windows	Free	Free	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Works with Olympus cameras only. Has a range of art filter effects.

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Panasonic Lumix PHOTOFunStudio	Mac & Windows	Free	Free	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Works with Panasonic Lumix cameras only; comes bundled with the camera. There seem to be lots of different current versions of the software with varying functionality, for various Panasonic cameras, and for different platforms; it's confusing!
PicturesToExe Deluxe 7.0	Mac & Windows	US\$75	US\$34	No	?	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	This is a tool for creating slideshows.
Serif PhotoPlus Essentials	Windows	£22.97	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Has a good range of basic photo editing tools, and includes how to guides and video tutorials.
Serif PhotoPlus X5	Windows	£53.61	Upgrade version available, but price not given	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Graphic design as well as photo editing
Snapseed Desktop	Mac & Windows	€ 15.95	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Offers a wide range of easy to apply and easy to control image filters and adjustments.
Sony Cybershot Picture Motion Browser	Windows	Free	Free	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Free with Sony cameras. Portable version also built into recent Cybershot models.