resources

Expanding your possibilities

Want to do more with your favourite app? Check out these essential resources

Sarah Howell
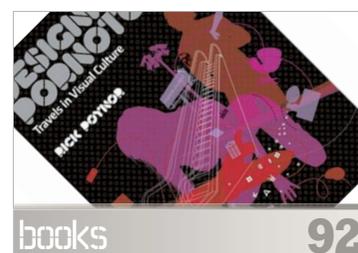
Advanced Photoshop Recommends

There's more to Photoshop work than simply toiling with troublesome layers and worrying about colour casts. To really enjoy the whole process it's worth venturing out and investigating some of the more exciting possibilities for your images.

If you're looking to expand your knowledge of Photoshop or want to browse through a selection of inspirational images then check out our round-up of some new publications hitting the shelves. We always give our honest opinion and hope to help you pick only the best for your personal collection. It's always a shame to think that after hours creating your masterpieces they're left to gather dust on your hard-drive and never see the light of day. If you turn to page 90 you can take a look at some of the best online printing services around at the moment. We think you'll be astounded at what you can do with your designs, you can turn them into simple prints or make a fashion statement with a unique bag or lamp for your home. Finally, we've included a directory of some useful plug-ins you can download to boost the potential of your favourite app.
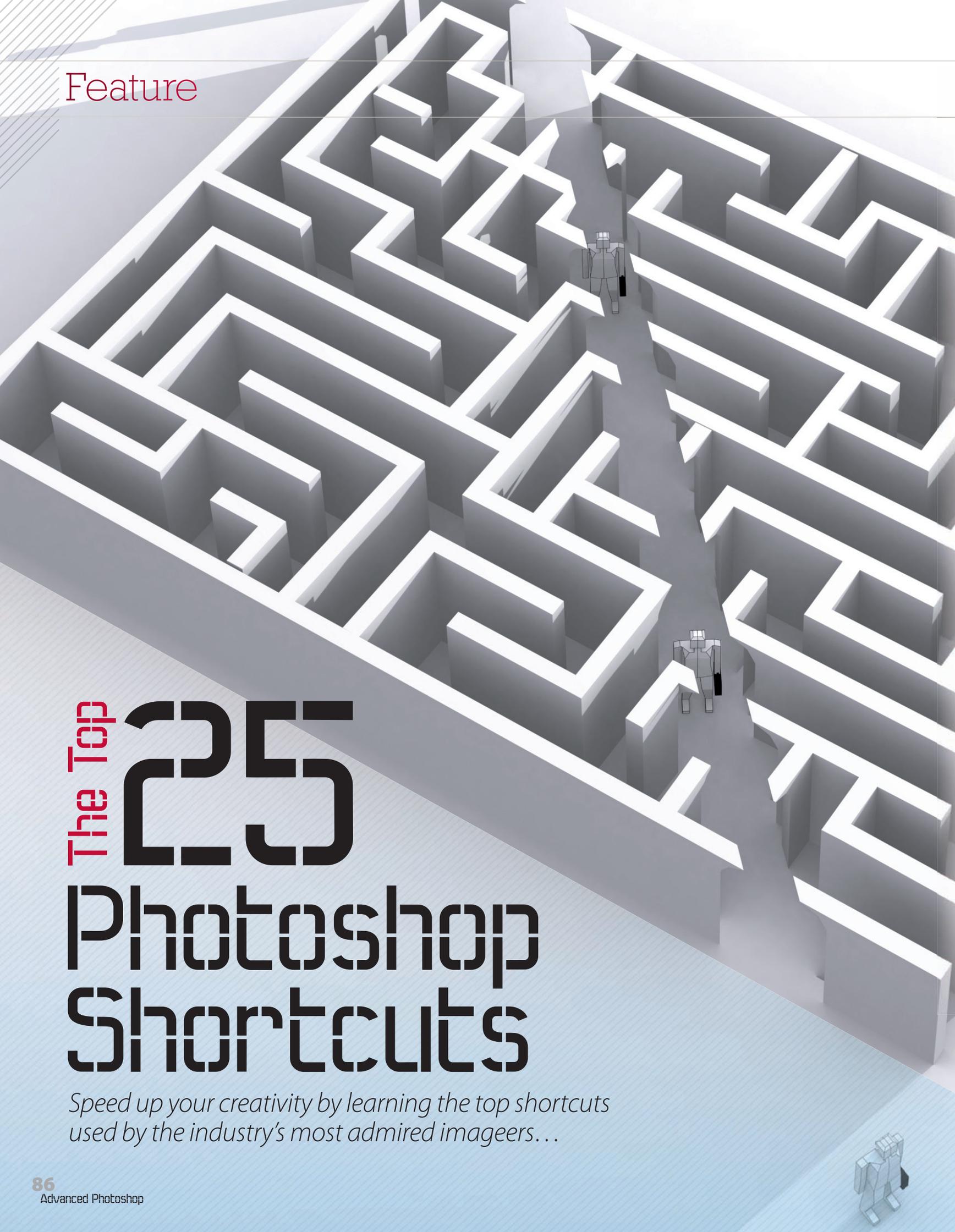
The Top 25 Photoshop Shortcuts

Speed up your creativity by learning the top shortcuts used by the industry's most admired imageers…

01 "I think the transform (Apple+T) shortcut is great, especially now it incorporates warp with CS2. A lot of my images are multi-layered and multi-imaged and I'm always playing with perspective and sizing images up or down."
Robin Preston (www.nw-5.com)

02 "I like the group layer shortcut (Command+G) or to ungroup (Command+Shift+G) in Photoshop because it allows you to link multiple layers together and move them all at the same time, which is very useful when an element needs to be aligned, for example, in an illustration."
Vincent Fraser (www.lemonadeillustration.com)

03 "I'd have to say the shortcut I use the most is holding the space bar to temporarily activate the hand tool. It allows you to move swiftly round an image without having to toggle between tools making for faster editing."
Sam Williams, Magictorch (www.magictorch.com)

" FOR ME TO ACHIEVE MY TONY HART GALLERY DREAM, THE PALETTE SHORTCUTS ARE ESSENTIAL "

04 "I use the power of layer masks a lot. Sooner than filling a mask with black to conceal the associated image layer, try holding down the Alt key as you click the New layer mask icon in the palette… an instant Hide All mask!"
Tim Shelbourne (www.timshelbourne.com)

05 "I can't do an illustration without using the magnify shortcuts zoom in (Apple+ '+') and zoom out (Apple + '-'). Detail to me is everything, and when you pride your work on lines and detail that resembles perfection, you simply can't achieve that at a view of 12.5% or the screen with is sort 'fit to screen'. Getting in close to 200%, maybe sometimes 300% allows you to trace out your areas as closely as you desire for a professional finish."
Kev Speck (www.kevspeck.com)

»»
TRANSFORMERS: *Press 'Apple/Cmd+T' for Robin's quick access to all Photoshop's transform tools*

06 "My artwork can be very complex with a great multitude of layers. A quick method to locate the layer without using the layer palette is to hold the mouse button down over the layer while pressing the Control key. A drop down menu of layers will then be displayed under the cursor, ready for me to select the layer I want."
Paul Bateman (www.paulbateman.co.uk)

07 "I'm always working with complex selections so the various selection shortcuts are in use frequently. These include shift to add to a selection, Alt (option) to subtract, and Shift+Alt (Option) to intersect. Likewise loading selections from a channel, layer or mask often results in a selection that's the opposite way round to what you want so Cmd+Shift+I to invert a selection comes in handy."
Paul Bateman (www.paulbateman.co.uk)

08 "My favourite Photoshop keyboard shortcut, and the one I use most often, has to be Apple+0 (fit image to screen). As everything is hand drawn I'm constantly working close to the drawing, cleaning it up and then continually hitting Apple+0 to view the whole piece on screen."
Si Scott (www.siscottdesign.com)

LIKE A GLOVE: *Fit your work to your screen like Si Scott with the Apple+0 command*

09 "For me to achieve my Tony Hart gallery dream, the palette shortcuts are essential. The actions palette (F9), brushes (F5), colour swatches (F6) and layers (F7) are just a few of my definite must-knows."
Emma Cake (www.advancedphotoshop.co.uk)

SIZING UP: *Like Jerry Lofaro, Chintu's favourite shortcut is the bracket keys*

SELECT TO IMPRESS: *Jason Cook's shortcut could help transform the way you work*

10 "My favourite shortcut is the space bar. It allows me to navigate around my work to check the finer details whilst I'm zoomed in. This is especially helpful as a lot of my work is layered and very textured and the finer details can only be checked whilst zoomed in at a high level."
Kerry Roper (www.youarebeautiful.co.uk)

11 "I love the Image Adjustment, 'Match Color'. All of my images and paintings begin with a photo collage with sometimes very disparate source material and Match Color makes it so much easier to fit the different photos into the same colour space."
Micah Ganske (www.micahganske.com)

12 "The shortcut I use quite a lot is, having created a clipping path, say around an apple, to turn it in to a selection so I can edit it I click the image/document image with the appropriate layer selected and hold down the Control key (Mac). This brings up a window which lets you select 'make a selection' and saves pressing the make selection button on the paths palette."
Jason Cook (www.jasoncook.co.uk)

13 "One I use a lot is the CMYK preview (Apple+Y) – this lets you see how the image will reproduce in four colour litho. Colours can often shift when you convert from RGB to CMYK, so toggling between these preview modes gives you the chance to compensate for any changes."
Derek Bacon (www.derekbacon.com)

14. "My favourite shortcut is 'V' for the move tool (with the auto layer select ticked at the top tool bar) because I do so much collage and there are so many layers that I need to push around quickly to get the composition right."
Sarah Howell (www.debutart.com)

15 "I'm a complete layer junkie – I can never have enough of them. Maybe I should be more economical, but Apple+Shift+ N (New Layer) has probably saved me hours over the course of a year! Also it saves the heartache of realising too late that you've painted something onto an existing layer, and not a new one."
Derek Bacon (www.derekbacon.com)

16 "Using shortcuts in Photoshop makes things so much faster. My two favourite shortcuts in Photoshop are the 'H' and 'F7' Keys. When holding down the 'H' key you can track around a zoomed image using your mouse, to save you loads of time using those pesky scroll bars. Another simple shortcut to quickly get the Layers box up again is to just press the 'F7' key. It's so frustrating when the layers palette just disappears out of sight!"
Mark Brown The Jeremy Kyle Show, ITV Granada

17 "Seeing as I'm often painting with my Wacom in Photoshop my favourite shortcut has to be the letter 'B' for me. Unsurprisingly, that brings the Brush tool into focus, and it's straight to the digital canvas!"
Sam Gilbey (www.sam-gilbey.com)

CUSTOMISE YOUR KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

"I use Photoshop nearly every single day – both at work and home – to process tens, if not hundreds of files. So, to streamline my work, reduce monotony and minimise error, I use such things as Actions, Scripts and Batch processing. But, the one feature that probably makes the biggest difference in terms of expediting my workflow is keyboard shortcuts – and lots of 'em.
As of Photoshop CS2, you now have the ability to configure your own keyboard shortcuts via the Edit > Keyboard Shortcuts menu command. I've literally bound almost every available key to the commands, tools and features that I use most frequently, which allows me to work up to ten times faster in some situations.
For more a complete listing of Photoshop's keyboard shortcuts (for both Mac and Windows), as well as my extended keyset, visit: http://user.fundy.net/morris/photoshop01.shtml"
Trevor Morris

EditorsKeys
WWW.EDITORSKEYS.COM

18 "Hitting the tab key is a great one for quickly hiding your working palettes – especially if you're working in Screen Mode or Full Screen Mode. I don't have the luxury of running two monitors side by side so I use this one all the time."
Derek Bacon (www.derekbacon.com)

19 "I use the keyboard shortcuts to access all my main tools, but the ones I tend to use the most are the 'brackets'. Being able to constantly change the brush sizes as I work (left bracket to reduce brush size, right to enlarge) is invaluable!"
Jerry Lofaro (http://jerrylofaro.com)

20 "I use many of the most simple ones every day, such as Apple+A (select all). For a full screen view I press F twice then Tab to get rid of tools, Apple+R to remove the rulers, and Apple+; to get rid of guides. Then I can see my image without any distractions."
Angel D'Amico (www.angeldamico.com)

I LIKE TO MOVE IT: *Master movement with the 'V' Photoshop shortcut*

21 "Ctrl+J is amazing, Ctrl+F for repeating the last filter is great for difference clouds and when I use the tablet, I use the shortcut for the Eraser Tool (E) quite a lot."
Simon Rudd (www.pompeysworst.co.uk)

22 "With the introduction of CS2 came two new fantastic shortcuts – the Image Size shortcut Alt+Apple+I and one for Canvas Size, Alt+Apple+C."
Debbi Allen (www.advancedphotoshop.co.uk)

23 "My favourite shortcut is using the Shift + or Shift - keys to change the blend modes in Photoshop. I make sure I am using the Marquee Tool, or another non-painting tool, and then use those keys to cycle through all the blend modes and see how they change the image."
Maggie Taylor   (www.maggietaylor.com)

24. "When changing the colour on the Foreground swatch quite a lot, although you can choose colours by simply double-clicking the swatch itself or choosing your colour from the Color palette, it's much easier here to sample existing colours from the image itself. Although the Eyedropper Tool exists in the Tool bar in its own right, sooner than changing tools while you're using the Brush Tool, you can simply hold down the

BRUSH UP: *Quickly change the size of your brushes by means of the bracket keys like Jerry Lofaro*

Alt key to temporarily access the Eyedropper Tool. Click in the image to choose your new colour and release the Alt key to return to the Brush Tool."
Tim Shelbourne (www.timshelbourne.com)

25 "For a full list of Photoshop shortcuts, see the website www.adobeevangelists.com/ pdfs/pscs2/power_shortcuts. pdf and get creative!"
Adobe Evangelists (www.adobeevangelists.com)

ZOOM ZOOM ZOOM: *Kev's favourite shortcut gets him up close to his intricate work*

printing services

If you're proud of your images then why not show them off? Mugs, chairs, wallpaper, the list is endless

PhotoBox

Web: www.photobox.co.uk

Sometimes showcasing your work on an online portfolio site, forum or in a photo frame isn't enough. If you've spent hours producing an image you're proud of, then displaying your talents should be top of your 'To do' list.

PhotoBox is here to help. From simple services like printing your photos or enlarging them, to showcasing your artwork on canvas or in photobooks, the site is a must visit when you're after printing services.

Adorn your office or home walls with artwork created by you and professionally presented by Photobox. If you want something less run-of-the-mill then PhotoBox isn't for you, but for economic printing, this should be your first stop. The deliveries are fast and reliable too.

Rating: **4/5**

Shutterfly

Web: www.shutterfly.com

If you're like us and can never think of the gift to buy a loved one, then why not make something for them?

As well as providing photo printing services to your door, Shutterfly produces a wealth of gifts; from a calendar, mug or photobook, to something more extravagant like personalised playing cards, puzzles or even a child's reading book with your child's image in, there are plenty of options. Here at *Advanced Photoshop* we're loving the mouse mats – great for displaying that latest masterpiece, as well as the keepsake box – the perfect gift to store those scraps of paper with handy hints in.

Straight photo printing starts at just $0.19/10p, although for those not based in the US you might be looking at a shipping charge for larger items.

Rating: **4/5**

Fluid Images

Web: www.fluid-images.co.uk

Although displaying images on mugs, in calendars and on T-shirts is fun, nothing beats seeing something you created on a huge canvas. And if this is the route you're taking with your images, then make sure it is done right.

When getting a picture printed on canvas remember sunlight causes fading. Just like your paintwork, curtains or sofa, your canvas print will fade quickly under the sun's stare unless it is treated properly. At Fluid Images, all canvasses are treated with a fade-resistant varnish then stretched around a 12mm board to ensure presentation and longevity are preserved.

Run by Tim Scott, Fluid Images also allows you to choose images from its own gallery to print, or you can commission Tim to create something for you.

Rating: **5/5**
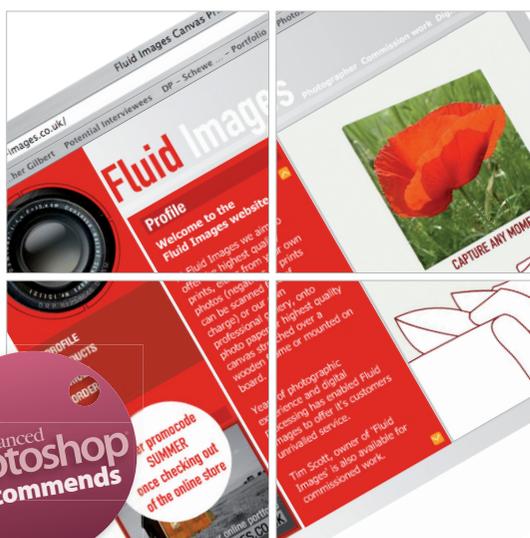
Print it

Digitally Yours
Web: www.digitally-yoursonline.com

Digitally Yours can transform all your digital images, photos, films, memory cards, memory sticks etc onto canvas. Whether it's your wedding photos, family portraits, holiday snaps or abstract art you want to print – it's prepared.

Offering print canvasses up to 44" wide and as long as you like (they've printed 8ft long images before!) Digitally Yours is the perfect resource for office walls and large lounges.

Also offering picture framing services it can offer customers the choice of mounting their work, framing their work in the traditional way and also the more popular canvas printing and stretching service.

Rating: **5/5**

Print2Wallpaper
Web: www.print2wallpaper.com

Now you can really show off your art – by making it cover your whole wall! Not content with a canvas or poster print, Print2Wallpaper can produce wall coverings for your home – however big your wall happens to be.

Although it's quite pricey – £70 ($120) per square foot, you can 'try before you buy'. Simply send a photograph of the area you would like to cover, along with the images you have in mind, and you'll be sent a digitally produced example of what your feature wall could look like. The Try Before You Buy service is available for wallpapers, blinds and canvases and costs £39.00 for up to three different images, and is fully refundable against your first order.

Rating: **4/5**

Buyking
Web: www.promo-mugs.net

We say it time and time again but to get people's attention in this industry, you have to stand out from the crowd. By producing memorable posters, flyers and the like you'll stay in people's minds until they have a desk tidy. Send them a mug and they'll think of you every time they have a cuppa!

Buyking offers an extensive range of mugs – ceramic, plastic, glass, travel and even recycled – suiting all requirements and budgets and all delivered in under a month.

As a promotional gift it might be a little tacky but for producing personalised family tankards – it might just be perfect.

Rating: **3/5**

Print it

Designer Print

Web: www.designerprint.co.uk

In this digital age we accumulate hundreds of digital images on our computers and yet often never see them in print. So if you really want to show off your favourite images, and keep up with the latest interior lifestyle trends, having them reproduced onto stretched canvas will turn them into amazing works of art that will last a lifetime.

Designer Print offers canvas prints, block mounts, poster prints and designer prints – allowing you to turn your favourite images into artwork.

Although its range of services is somewhat limited when compared to those offered by some other sites and the website is rather basic, its prices are perhaps a little more realistic than some of its counterparts. ▦

Rating: **3/5**

Transform Your Images

Web: www.transformyourimages.co.uk

This is one for those who are less confident about their imaging skills, but are a keen photographer – Transform Your Images offers a service where you provide the image and they enhance it to produce some bespoke artwork.

Giving you the opportunity to use their team of designers to vamp up your photo, there's nothing here that you couldn't achieve at home with a little help from Photoshop.

The Iconic Images are worth a look if you want a *Dirty Harry*, *Breakfast At Tiffany's* or Beatles image, as they start from just £35 and look pretty cool. ▦

Rating: **2/5**

Spreadshirt

Web: www.spreadshirt.net

Founded in 2002, the Leipzig-based Spreadshirt offers online merchandising at no cost. The online shop system lets every website owner create a branded shop of customised textiles without set-up costs or minimum sales.

Nearly 120,000 shop partners take advantage of this with users ranging from large companies and organisations to private artists and individuals. Whilst the large companies make use of the extensive, customised merchandise services those with a more unique need can design and order individualised textiles "on demand" online via the site.

For lesser-known digital artists, choose between ordering a one-off design for yourselves or investing some more of your money and allowing the world to start wearing your designs. ▦

Rating: **3/5**

Polystudios

Web: www.polystudios.com

Canvas art is great, although if you produce something a little different – abstract, industrial – then a different medium might work better.

Polystudios provides printing services for canvas art – both wrapped and with white edges – as well as for printing on perspex. Delivering a modern feel to your images, there's also the option of splitting or tiling your image. Dividing the image into two, three or even four parts, this technique will get you noticed.

You can get an instant quote online for your image – just type in the dimensions and select the medium you'd like your image displayed in. Delivery charges may apply but all wrapping and lamination are included. It's easy to use, though examples are slightly lacking on the site. ▦

Rating: **4/5**
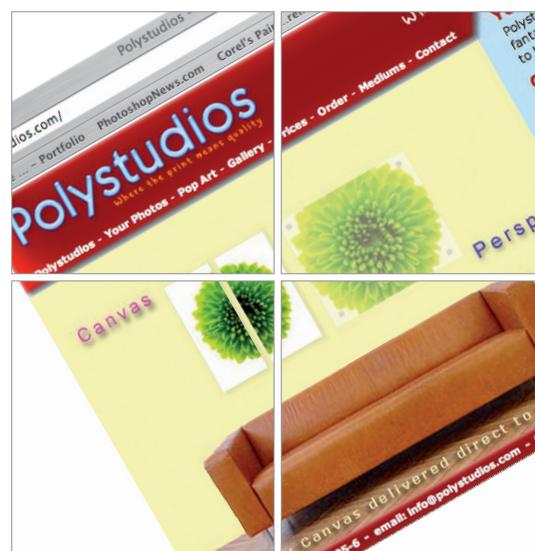
Bags Of Love

Web: www.bagsoflove.co.uk

Want choice? Then look no further than Bags Of Love. Offering perhaps the most comprehensive selection of products to print your images on, Bags Of Love is a one-stop printing shop.

Show off your imaging talents by creating your own book. Alternatively why not have your images printed on folding screens, roller blinds or on wallpaper? Want something more subtle? Then go for their mugs, cushions or calendar. Then there's the perfect gift for any girl – a personalised handbag or make-up pouch – complete with your image on the front.

Also on the menu are traditional canvasses, lamps and diaries. The choice is endless. If you're looking just to print your images on 4x6 however, you will be disappointed. ▦

Rating: **4/5**
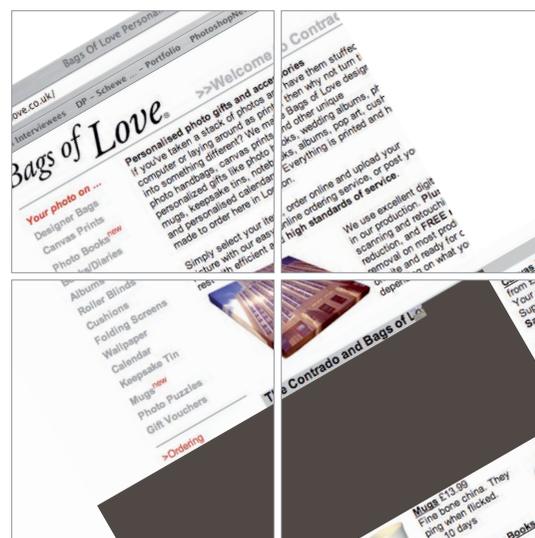
My Bigger Picture

Web: www.mybiggerpicture.com

From a personalised DAB radio to a director's chair, My Bigger Picture has you covered.

My Bigger Picture uses digital printing equipment to reproduce photographic images onto textiles and wallpaper. Textiles for bags, cushions, canvases and deckchairs are printed using dye sublimation printing meaning your image is embedded into the fabric (not just printed onto the surface) and is extremely durable, so it can be washed without fear of dyes or inks running.

Prior to printing, the photographs are scanned and artworked by a team of designers to get the maximum from your image. Your product is then individually made by craftsman in the UK.

If you can't find what you're after on the site, contact them as they produce a number of bespoke items to order! ▦

Advanced **Photoshop**
Recommends

Rating: **5/5**

books

Not all books are made equal, so we sort the wheat from the chaff in the digitally obsessed literary world

Designing Pornotopia

Author: Rick Poyner
Publisher: Laurence King
Price: £17.95 / $33.50
ISBN: 1856694895
Web: www.laurenceking.co.uk

Designing Pornotopia **is not a book specifically focused on Photoshop, but it is an essential read if you're interested in art, the media and the role of sexuality in these areas. Written by Rick Poyner (author of** Design Without Boundaries **and** No More Rules**, among others)** Designing Pornotopia **examines visual culture, looking at brands, billboards, magazines, architecture, tattoos and trends in cosmetic surgery.**

This is really a collection of essays and, unfortunately, we found that it lacked the visuals to make it great. If you can get over this omission, the content is first class. Looking at the persuasiveness of sexual imagery and the media's symbiotic relationship with porn, the book raises some key questions, showing how sexual imagery is invading everyday life.

Poyner shows how commerce can exploit the blurring of art and advertising and argues that the personal makeover in the form of cosmetic surgery has become our most fundamental design task.

As well as essays and the occasional image, the book is also scattered with interviews with the likes of architect Rem
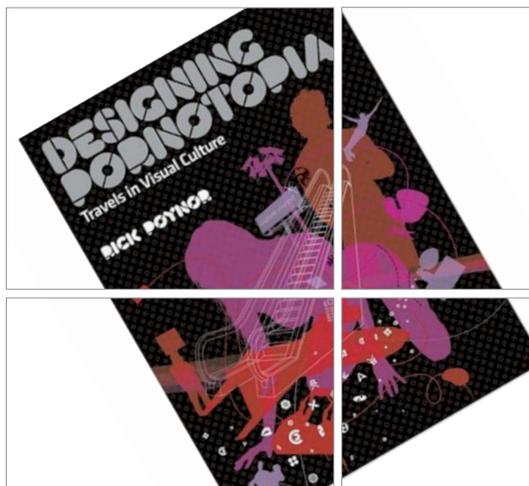
Koolhaas, satirical illustrator Paul Davis and performance artist Elliott Earls.

Looking at the design world from a standpoint based on the consumers growing desire to design themselves, this is "a vivid, not always comfortable picture of where 21st Century design culture is heading." ▥

Rating: **4/5**

Digital Collage And Painting

Author: Susan Ruddick Bloom
Publisher: Focal Press
Price: £26.99 / $39.95
ISBN: 9780240807058
Web: www.focalpress.com

Digital Collage And Painting Using Photoshop And Painter To Create Fine Art **is a meaty read with a website to complement it.**

Describing how the computer can be used to paint on photographs and incorporate other visual material into images, this is one for the beginner to intermediate Photoshop user.

With plenty of step-by-steps to help you create collages (like our tutorial on page 56), paintings and panoramics, the book and the associated website give you the techniques and the resources to practice.

Although readers will be able to do most of the techniques here easily, the Painter aspects might give you a different view to your work. Using the two programs you will be able to create fine artworks, with a photograph as the foundation.

Ideal for both Mac and Windows users you'll find some useful resources on the website and the book provides a great reference section for essential Painter and Photoshop techniques. However, a basic working knowledge of Painter will stand you in good shape for this book and the Photoshop

elements might seem too simple for the more advanced users. On the whole, unless you're contemplating the switch to Painter, or thinking about incorporating more Painter elements into your art, then there are better books out there for you. ▥

Rating: **3/5**

Reinventing Music Video
Author: Matt Hanson
Publisher: Rotovision
Price: £25 / $46
ISBN: 2940361258
Web: www.rotovision.com

It is a common mistake to make: assuming that Photoshop is out of its depths in mediums other than photo manipulation is a sin many of us are guilty of. Not many people truly experiment with the app's wide variety of uses, especially not in the medium of music video.

Showing how versatile Adobe's image editing suite really is, we have Reinventing Music Video – a great read if you're into knowing the behind-the-scenes details of some of the video greats, as well as highlighting the use of Photoshop where you might not notice.

Emphasising the use of Photoshop to colour-enhance some music videos, for people who might like to go in this direction with their career, it's a useful read. ▥

Rating: **4/5**

Adobe Photoshop For Underwater Photographers
Author: Sue and Jack Drafahl
Publisher: Amherst Media
Price: £21 / $39.95
ISBN: 1584281898
Web: www.amherstmedia.com

Although this book is aimed more at the photographer, than the digital artist, it's still a great read.

In just a few years the underwater digital camera has gone from novelty item to the predominant method of capturing first class underwater images. Adobe Photoshop For Underwater Photographers shows imageers how to use the app alongside several plug-ins to solve a range of problems that the underwater photographer often has to face.

An interesting read although if you don't often take your own underwater images, a possible waste of money. ▥

Rating: **3/5**

Basics Illustration: Thinking Visually
Author: Mark Williams
Publisher: Ava Publishing
Price: £16.95 / $30
ISBN: 2940373159
Web: www.avabooks.ch

The first book in the Basics Illustration **series,** Thinking Visually **features the work of more than 100 illustrators, educators and students demonstrating diverse ideas, techniques and skills.**

The handbook's aim is to introduce fundamental techniques to new designers, and to inspire, inform and act as a useful resource to them. Looking at how illustrators develop their own personal visual language by learning the basics, being open-minded, imaginative and hardworking Thinking Visually is a great read for any aspiring imageer. ▥

Rating: **5/5**

Advanced Photoshop Recommends

plug-ins

Find the plug-ins, both free and for a fee, that can enhance your Photoshop package

Icon Plugin

Developer: SibCode
Price: £21 / $39.95
Web: http://sibcode.com

Create icons directly in Adobe Photoshop with the new plug-in from SibCode. Enhancing Photoshop with an ability to export and import Windows icons (.ico) users can use the creative tools and design environment of Photoshop and make icons for use on web pages or software.

Icon Plugin for Photoshop supports multi-format icons, transparency and semi-transparency and creates icons compatible with Microsoft Windows XP and Vista.

Icon Plugin for Photoshop is compatible with all versions of Microsoft Windows and all versions of Adobe Photoshop and is popular with independent software designers. ▦

Rating: **4/5**

Photoshop FITS Liberator

Developer: ESA/ESO/NASA
Price: Free
Web: www.spacetelescope.org/projects/fits_liberator/

For years astronomical images were reserved for elite groups of astronomers. But with the latest version of FITS Liberator, anyone with a computer running Photoshop can craft astronomical images as beautiful as those from the Hubble Space Telescope. This plug-in is a cache of archival astronomical and spectra from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope, the European Space Agency's XMM-Newton X-Ray observatory and other telescopes accessible to home astronomy. ▦

Advanced Photoshop Recommends

Rating: **5/5**

SiteGrinder 1.0

Developer: MediaLab
Price: £70 / $130
Web: www.adobe.com/products/plugins/photoshop/

If you're looking to expand your portfolio into web design but don't have any experience in that area then this plug-in could be the perfect partner for you.

SiteGringer converts Photoshop documents into interactive web pages and it does so in a way that is both more intuitive and more powerful than other web tools or plug-ins.

The intuitive plug-in generates the sliced and compressed graphic files and HTML files necessary to create everything from a basic text menu to an entire multi-page web site with navigation links, pop-up menus, and graphical buttons all programmed for you – leaving you more time to be creative. ▦

Advanced Photoshop Recommends

Rating: **5/5**

Panopticum Alpha Srip 1.1

Developer: Panopticum
Price: £21 / $40
Web: www.panopticum.com/ps/alphastrip/alphastrip.shtml

Panopticum Alpha Strip is a unique set of procedures for making alpha-channel image cuttings. The new filters of this upgraded set will help you process your images using different geometrical effects (thin lines, circles, rectangles, etc) with little effort.

Use the images created with these filters as backgrounds for your Internet pages, or for creation of emblems or logotypes. Although you can probably create images just as inspiring yourself, there are some handy actions to save you time and effort. ▦

Rating: **3/5**

ShadowFixer

Developer: Fixer Labs
Price: £33 / $61
Web: www.fixerlabs.com

Available as a single 'fixer' plug-in, or as part of a bundle with NoiseFixer and FocusFixer, ShadowFixer is a lifeline for when you need to save shadowy photos.

ShadowFixer has been developed to correct the problem of different exposure requirements within one photograph. A dark corridor in the foreground leading to a light garden in the background or shadows across a face, are just two of the problems photographers face daily.

Corrects under exposure in images easily with this plug-in and never again will you have to worry unduly about the quality of your source imagery.

PC and Mac OS X compatible. ▦

Rating: **4/5**

Puzzle Pro 2.0

Developer: AV Bros
Price: £26 / $49.95
Web: www.avbros.com/

For a bit of fun we have also taken a look at AV Bros Puzzle Pro, a plug-in which will allow you to create a jig-saw puzzle effect, as well as a plethora of other looks to treat your images with.

Puzzle Pro provides you with plenty of freedom in the creation of a puzzle's shapes, a large number of built-in effects for modifying the content of a puzzle's pieces, the possibility of not only being able to split an image into pieces but being able to draw the splitter's shape too.

Puzzle Pro 2.0 is a fun tool but it may well be one that you'd not get much use out of. We did enjoy having a play around with the jig-saw effect though. ▦

Rating: **2/5**