



TOOLS

DIGITAL INNOVATIONS

Scanning Your Photos



Courtesy of ScanMyPhotos.com

Scanning prints isn't all that hard and most of us have some kind of desktop scanner, even if it's just an all-in-one. The problem is that the scanning process, while relatively simple, becomes mind-numbing when you have to scan lots of pictures. So why not let somebody else do it? "Too expensive," you say? For the person with shoeboxes full of photos I found the answer: ScanMyPhotos.com's Prepaid Photo Scanning Box. For \$159 they will scan as many photos as you can fit into the box as 300dpi JPEG files and put the resulting files on a DVD for viewing or editing on

your computer. Need high-res? They will upgrade the scans to 600dpi for \$247 per box! How many photos can you expect to fit in the box? ScanMyPhotos tells me most orders are about 1800 photos but you can expect variations due to packing and

size of photos. This deal is for prints only but ScanMyPhotos offers other services for scanning negatives and slides, too. Mary and I are stuffing a box full of photos this weekend and shipping it next week. I'll give you an update next month. ■



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Follow-Up: ScanMyPhotos.com

Last month, I told you about ScanMyPhotos.com and how you can stuff a prepaid box full of photos and have them scanned at 300dpi (\$159) or 600dpi (\$247). I put 605 prints into the box, resulting in almost 3GB of 600dpi flawless and clean image files. ScanMyPhotos.com says 1800 prints, depending on size, will fit in the box. It took only a week from when I handed over the box at the post office until everything was returned, even though I added a few options. A DVD is included in the price but I ordered a thumb drive (\$12.95) because Mary's MacBook Air lacks an optical drive. And while it's not cheap, I also ordered a Photo Index Book (\$175) that includes thumbnails of the files, making finding a specific photograph and its file name a snap. The book option includes image rotation, which is normally a \$70 option. ScanMyPhotos.com offers a wonderfully seamless process for digitizing images that have been dormant for many years and bringing them back to life. ■