

iPhoto' 11, The Macintosh iLife Guide to using iPhoto with Mac OS X Lion and iCloud

By Jim Heid, Dennis R. Cohen and Michael E. Cohen.

iPhoto' 11, The Macintosh iLife Guide to using iPhoto with Mac OS X Lion and iCloud, by Jim Heid, Dennis R. Cohen and Michael E. Cohen is a book filled with tips on how to get the most out of iPhoto. It predates Mountain Lion and the iPhone 5, so, although it came out in 2012, the material is now dated. That said, it is a pretty handy reference book for iPhoto '11—it isn't meant to be read cover-to-cover and it is meant for people already using iPhoto, non-professional photographers and people who like themes and templates for photos and layout.

There are 72 concise chapters, all corresponding to the three main functions of iPhoto—importing and organizing, enhancing and improving, and on-screen, on-line, and in-print sharing of photos. The importing and organizing chapters give brief descriptions of digital imaging terms and descriptions of importing photos from a camera, from iCloud Photo Stream and importing from a media reader. There are also tips on browsing the iPhoto library by faces and places. There are tips on creating albums and smart albums to organize photos. The photo editing chapters go into iPhoto's basic photo editing functions—red eye reduction, enhancing and retouching, effects such as sepia and vignette, color correction, shadow and highlight recovery, increasing or decreasing saturation, and noise reduction. There is a section on working with photos in raw format as well. In the sharing chapters, there are several chapters devoted to creating slide shows. There are also chapters devoted to sharing photos via email, Facebook and Flickr and sharing photos on a network. Finally, there are chapters on printing, ordering photos through iPhoto, creating photo books, creating travel maps, creating a photo calendar and greeting cards and post cards. The remaining chapters go into burning photos to CDs and DVDs, getting old photos into iPhoto and more iPhoto tips for better photography.

iPhoto will never do what Photoshop does. The main focus is on organizing the photos into events with a few photo editing techniques and photo sharing ideas thrown in. But for people already using iPhoto, this book is well written and organized and can be a handy reference guide for the program. It isn't written for designers. Also, there isn't a lot on iCloud or Lion as the title suggests.

Reviewed by Casandra Calo