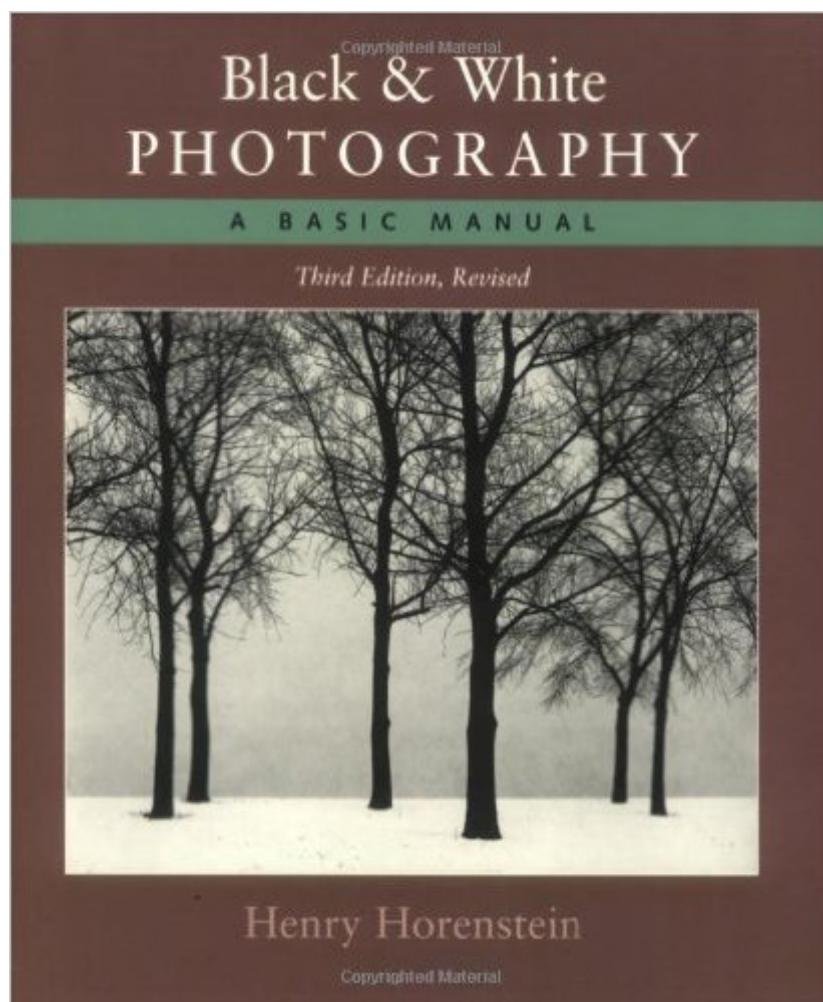


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# Black And White Photography: A Basic Manual Third Revised Edition



## **Synopsis**

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY is a comprehensive instructional book that covers every element of photography. Henry Horenstein's books have been widely used at leading universities, including Parsons School of Design, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and MIT as well as in continuing education programs. Horenstein is a professor at the Rhode Island School of Design. BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY is a real bargain among photographic how-to books.

## **Book Information**

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Best Sellers Rank: #16,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Black & White #6 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Handbooks & Manuals #8 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Equipment

## **Customer Reviews**

Quick! What f-stop should you use when you've got 400 film, 1/250 sec. shutter speed and it's a cloudy day? Stumped? Maybe you don't know the difference between an f-stop and a stop sign? Or maybe you just got a new camera and can't figure out why there are so many knobs and buttons. If any of the above apply to you, then this book must be in your collection. Horenstein's book is helpful for the beginning photographer or for those who want to experiment with black and white photography, a lost art making a comeback. It teaches you about photographic composition, film speed, aperture settings, and shutter speeds. You'll even learn how to develop your own film, if you're so inclined. Even if you just want great pictures that will last a lifetime (did you know that color photos are more likely to fade over time than black and white?), you'll enjoy experimenting with the techniques offered in this helpful manual.

I like this book because it's just what a beginner needs to get started on photography. It explains

techniques and methods regarding focus, exposure, film developing and printing in a clear and concise manner. Definitely a lot better than my camera manual!

Owning and understanding this text is the Learner's Permit for Black and White Photography. It offers all of the information that a beginning photographer needs to know to make black-and-white photographs. It is written for a neophyte -- someone who has the passion for photography, but does not yet understand the complexities involved. As such, if the reader is an experienced photographer, they will most likely find a better reference elsewhere. However, for someone breaking into the field it is invaluable, and is used as the textbook for a few local institutions offering classes in black-and-white photography. By its very nature, it realizes that not every aspect of professional photography will be covered. Hence, professional finishing techniques (among other things), while alluded to, are not explored in detail (nor should they be). If the text were meant to be a comprehensive volume covering all aspects of photography, the size and technical detail would be intimidating to someone new to the field. Since, however, it is meant as an introductory text, it succeeds quite well. All of the information that an inexperienced photographer needs is contained herein (camera design, film ratings, aperture, speed, processing, basic finishing, etc.). I recommend it to anyone interested in photography and the basics of photographic technique.

I picked this book on recommendation by my darkroom teacher and I loved it! Henry Horenstein covers everything you need to know in order to make good quality black and white pictures from start to finish and well beyond just pressing the button. He discusses how to use different cameras and films that you might come across as well as different types of lenses and their pros and cons. His discussion of exposures and apertures is very informative and beautifully illustrated with lots of examples. The sections on film and print developing are filled with numerous practical tips and step-by-step guides I found enormously useful - so much that after reading them I was able to set up a darkroom by myself on a minimum budget (and avoided buying a separate darkroom book altogether). The section on using multigrade filters was particularly good. The last few sections deal with toning and some creative effect and are just opening the door to unconventional photographic methods. (The goal of the author was definitely not to review all creative movements in photography which is another book by itself.) The book is printed on heavy paper and all illustrations (black and white of course) are of excellent quality. There are numerous examples of beautiful photographs with a short explanation of how they were made. Overall, I was enormously satisfied with the book and find it to be an excellent B&W photography textbook. The book is very complete

and full of important facts and tips of the "wish someone told me that" type. It is very exhaustive in covering the basics but goes well beyond the bare minimum. Despite my previous experience, I learned an awful lot by this book and now I am even more inspired by B&W photography and more confident in the darkroom. I would recommend this book to every beginner and slightly experienced aficionado of B&W photography. PS: This book does not address digital photography in any way. There are tons of other very good books which do that.

Took a photography course and our instructor (a photojournalist) recommended this as the "if you buy one book, buy this book" book. Very good value, includes recipes for mixing up the darkroom chemicals, tips on taking better pictures, explanations of terms, etc. Has some great photographs as examples.....

For 10 semesters I've taught a subject involving imaging and science. In their lab sessions, my students have to learn how to take, develop, and print B&W images. We use Horenstein each term as the recommended text. I can look at a print and tell if that student has worked with Horenstein - those who use this text produce much, much better prints than those who rely only upon what we teach in our lab sessions. Why? Because half of the art of great images lies in the darkroom, not the camera. (Or, for digital media, half of the art lies in Photoshop and not in the camera. The other half may lie in the printer.) To produce excellent images, you need to start with the basics (as laid out by Horenstein), and then spend lots of time in the darkroom learning these skills by using them. Once you know how the tools of the darkroom can transform a mediocre negative into a handsome print, you will be ready to learn how to capture excellent images on the negative and transform them into heart-stopping prints. Look through the table of contents - if you already know this, then move on. If they strike you as things you really should know, give Horenstein a chance!

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