

# COMPUTER TIPS



## **FREE IRFANVIEW Image Viewing, Editing and Enhancing Program**

**by  
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**So many choices, so much to learn, so little time!**

**Digital cameras make taking photographs so easy. And, eventually we'd all like to enhance, edit and/or crop these photographs ... and that will get us involved with a computer.**

**To help us edit images, many times our camera comes with computer software on a CD. Perhaps its easy to install and easy to use (ha, ha!), and if it is and works for you that is just fine, count yourself among the lucky ones. If not, what are some of your alternatives?**

**The need to do photo editing and enhancing is so important that many of our photo experts have invested a lot of time and money in computer programs like the full version of Photoshop (in the \$600 price range) to take their already great pictures to even new heights.**

**On the other end of the spectrum are newbies and novices like us who are trying to learn and use Photoshop Elements. This program is truly a great value at less than \$100, but using it is not "intuitive" and it takes a lot of patience and practice before we can become proficient.**

**Why do I bring this up? Because there is yet another alternative. Regardless of whether you have been doing image editing and enhancing for quite some time, or you have just opened the box of your first digital camera and soon will be struggling with getting those pictures into your computer, have I got a deal for you (PC users only).**

**A small, fast, easy to learn, easy to use, image editing and viewer program for Windows 9x/ME/NT/2000/XP/2003, and its FREE. Even if you have other programs, I'd also recommend that you have this one as well.**

**What can this program do for you? The list is much too long for this article but here are some of the highlights:**

- **image viewing to include zooming, and fit images to the window (for all of those giant images that people email to you),**
- **view images in a folder as a slide show for all the non XP folks out there,**
- **image cropping, resizing, rotating, flipping,**
- **enhancing brightness, contrast, and color balance,**
- **acquire images directly from your scanner and "save as" – your choice,**
- **visually see image properties such as width, height, size, date last modified,**
- **add text to images and,**
- **easily create slide shows, batch rename images and batch resize images.**

**In addition, there is also a wonderful "Help" manual included with the software that explains the various features in more detail. Wow, that was a mouthful.**

**The simplicity of this program can be seen from the screen shot on the following page.**

**What next? For more information I'd recommend an excellent slide presentation at [http://www.hhicc.org/irfan/irfan\\_files/frame.htm](http://www.hhicc.org/irfan/irfan_files/frame.htm) You can also visit <http://www.irfanview.com/> for details and information and downloading options. Its only about 800 kilobytes, so it downloads quickly, even for those with dialup Internet access.**

**While I am a long way from being an expert with this software, I do use it almost every day. So if you have any questions feel free to contact me at [jwilfore@hargray.com](mailto:jwilfore@hargray.com)**



