

#### FACEBOOK'S JUST A START

We're all for sharing photos online, but now it's easy to make gorgeous albums. You gotta "Like" that!



## How to...

# Make the Most of Your Favorite Photos

*It's never been faster—or more fun—to rescue your zillions of shots from digital oblivion. Here's how*

**FAMILY VACATIONS**, your sister's wedding, your dog's cute mug: No wonder it's so easy to get snap-happy, then wind up with an avalanche of digital images you never do anything with. "Photos capture some of life's happiest moments. But they aren't any good if you're not showing them off," says Bonnie Dewkett, founder of The Joyful Organizer, who shares her tips for getting your shots off your computer and into your life. Start by picking your favorite photographs from your smartphone, camera, or digital library. These user-friendly apps and services will do the rest. —*Rachel Bowie*

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## By the Book

*Design digital albums, then print*

### Let Technology Do the Work for You

First things first: Before you start uploading your snaps, select your photo service so you can consolidate everything in one place.

**Shutterfly** (a GHRI pick) lets you upload photos (including images from social media sites) in record time; click on your faves, then watch as the images auto-populate your book. PS: It's easy to edit before you print (\$30 for a 20-page hardcover album).

### Capture Highlights of a Trip or Birthday

**Mixbook**, another GHRI fave, is also designed for non-techies. Simply drag and drop images into ready-made celebration-specific templates (e.g., new baby, wedding) and add witty captions (\$30 for a 20-page hardcover book).

### The Shape of Things to Come

Digital snapshots are no longer one-size-fits-all. If panoramic shots are your thing, the purse-size, wide-angle albums from **Pinhole Press** have bindings that lie flat so photos stretch seamlessly from edge to edge (\$60 for a 60-page hardcover book). **Blurb**, below, lets you pull from photos in your Instagram feed to make a ready-to-print album in less than an hour (\$32 for a 60-page hardcover book).



Photographs courtesy of manufacturers



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## On the Wall

Turn amazing photos into decor for your home

Paper Culture's dotty wall decals (\$50 per set)

### Think Outside the Box

Don't feel like confining your photos to a book—or even a frame? Transform them into colorful (and removable) art with **Paper Culture's** fabric wall decals. A practical and fun idea: Create a photo calendar to liven up a blank kitchen wall (\$50 for 20 squares, each 5" by 5"). Or, dress up a bedroom with a supersize portrait of your kid (\$25).



### Get Framed

Elevate your photographs to mantelpiece status by framing them. Go to **Framed and Matted**, click Build Frame, and follow the prompts (you'll plug in size, etc.). Your frame will be at your door in about two weeks (\$76 to \$250 depending on

size, shipping included). Use **Fotobar** (polaroidfotobar.com), above left, to give photos the Polaroid treatment. Your images come in a shadow box for instant eye candy (\$11 for 3 1/2" by 4 1/4"; other sizes available).

### Fridge-Worthy Postcards

Capture your peak travel moments and send snail mail greetings to family and friends with **Postagram**, a free, GHRI-approved app. Download the app to your smartphone, and for \$1 to \$2, you can type in an address and zap off picture-perfect postcards complete with a note (*Wish you were here!*).



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## Nifty Gifts

Presents are even nicer when they're personal

### Bring the Party to Life

These favors are so cute, guests will clamor to take them home. GHRI select **Personal Wine**, right, lets you make a wine label for any bottle; just choose a template and photo, then design it (\$18 for 12). **Pinhole Press's** labels have a mod look (\$10 for nine). Sweet tooth?

Photo cupcakes from **Eleni's** (\$47.40 for 12; elenis.com) or photo cookies from **Veronica's Treats** (\$33 for 12; veronicastreats.com) are yummy.



### Design a Journal

Swap an everyday notebook for a sleek, photo-covered journal from **Minted** (\$16). Each book contains 40 lined (or unlined) sheets, and you can add a custom interior photo and message.

### Puzzle Over It

Help your kids—or nieces and nephews—bone up on the names of extended family with photo memory cards (\$20 for 24 tiles), also from **Pinhole Press**. And you can use snapshots to create educational games like photo flash cards and even puzzles, all made from your favorite memories.

