



## Scanning and Labeling Family Photos

If you're interested in family history, chances are you have old photographs or know of family members with pictures to preserve. Maybe they're in a shoebox or a dusty album. Regardless of where they are now, it's time to breathe new life into them. With today's tools and technology, we can easily safeguard these memories and share them across generations.

Preserving the visual legacy of our ancestors is a responsibility to enjoy. This moment could be the nudge you need to start small and begin a scanning project. Let the faces of the past inspire conversations and connections in the present that will be valuable to your family in the future.



## Four Steps to a Successful Scanning Project

### ● Create a Plan:

Outline how you'd like to organize photos and write notes as you make decisions and progress. This documentation will ensure continuity and clarity and make it easier to take a break and return to the project.

### ● Get Organized:

Set up a system for organizing photos that works for you. It isn't 'one size fits all.' Adapt and make adjustments when needed. What's important is to get started! Check out the resources on the next page for tailored advice.

### ● Decide How to Label:

Part of organization is deciding how to label and group images. Your method could be by individuals, families, places, or dates. Unsure of faces in photos? Ask and engage with family, rekindle memories, and perhaps capture new stories.

### ● Start Scanning:

Scanning is the best way to preserve and share photos. Whether you scan as you go or after all your organization is complete, digitally tag and label each image. It may be a bit time-consuming, but the reward lies in effortlessly revisiting people and moments when you want and ensuring others can do so in the future.



## Resources to Guide Your Photo Preservation Endeavors

- **Genealogy 101: Labeling Your Family Photos**  
[blog.genealogybank.com/genealogy-101-labeling-your-family-photos.html](https://blog.genealogybank.com/genealogy-101-labeling-your-family-photos.html)
- **Scanners for Genealogy Research**  
[sassyjanegenealogy.com/scanners-for-genealogy-research/](https://sassyjanegenealogy.com/scanners-for-genealogy-research/)
- **How to Scan Photos on an iPhone**  
[petapixel.com/how-to-scan-photos-on-iphone/](https://petapixel.com/how-to-scan-photos-on-iphone/)
- **How to Label Your Digital Photographs**  
[thoughtco.com/how-to-label-your-digital-photographs-1422277](https://thoughtco.com/how-to-label-your-digital-photographs-1422277)
- **Maureen Taylor, The Photo Detective**  
[youtube.com/user/photodetective](https://youtube.com/user/photodetective)

For more, consider services from these NGS sponsors:

- **Artifcts**  
[artifcts.com](https://artifcts.com)
- **Forever, Inc.**  
[forever.com](https://forever.com)
- **Myllo Photos**  
[mylio.com](https://mylio.com)
- **MyHeritage**  
[myheritage.com/incolor](https://myheritage.com/incolor)
- **Related Faces**  
[relatedfaces.com](https://relatedfaces.com)
- **The New York Film Shop**  
[newyorkfilmshop.com/legacy-videos](https://newyorkfilmshop.com/legacy-videos)
- **Vivid-Pix**  
[vivid-pix.com](https://vivid-pix.com)



NATIONAL  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY®

Contributed by Kathryn Doyle  
© 2023 National Genealogical Society