

Techniques for scanning water-damaged photos

Photo albums with plastic sleeves and the photos are water-fast.

- disassemble the album. Usually discard the outer cover due to smell and molding
- slit open the plastic sleeve and remove the picture
- rinse and dry each photo vertically
- see selection of videos on quick scanning techniques below
- about 1.5 photos per minute to remove from plastic, about 4 per minute to scan

Photo albums with plastic sleeves and the photos are not water-fast.

- disassemble album. Usually discard the outer cover due to smell and molding
- rinse/wipe the dirt off the sheets
- place a small piece of paper as a spacer in between the sheets to let the air and hang them to dry.
- [watch video from selection below on drying photos while they are in the photo album](#)
- scan the pictures while still in the sleeve. There will probably be water blops
- about 3 photos per minute

Loose pictures that are water-fast:

- rinse, and then dry them vertically
- scan those when they have dried. See selection of videos on quick scanning techniques below
- about 4 pictures per minute

Pictures in glass frames:

- [watch this video on rinsing and drying an 8x10 photo with mud on it](#)
- [watch this video on recovering a birth certificate in a glass frame](#)
- [watch this video on removing a photo from the frame](#)
- rinse/wipe to remove as much debris as possible
- disassemble the frame, remove the picture, and discard the frame while it is wet
- further rinse/wipe the picture and then dry vertically
- scan original larger than 4x6" in sections and use the Flip-Pal EasyStitch software to reassemble. 8"x10" photos can be done with 6 scans.
[Watch this video on stitching.](#)
- about 1 picture per three minutes

These [Quick scanning tips](#) can be found under the Learn More menu on [flip-pal.com](#)

- scanning 5x5 inch photos
- scanning a loose stack of photos with the Flip-Pal face down with the photo facing up on a mat
- scanning a box of photos with the Flip-Pal face up with the photo placed under the lid
- scanning photos that have dried and are now curled
- scanning photos in an album without having to remove the pictures from the sleeves.

Equipment you may need:

- drying racks with clothes pins, or some of the DIY techniques [found on this blog](#).
[Watch this video on the collapsible drying racks.](#)
- 2 large wash and rinse tubs.
- bucket to fill and empty tubs
- brushes to wipe off dry debris
- drop cloth with tape for the floor
- rubber gloves and respiratory masks
- fan
- towels