Digitize Your Memories

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Marshall District Library
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What is Digitizing?

Converting information into a digital format that can be processed by a computer.
Why Digitize?

- Physical media gets lost, damaged, and wears over time.
- Physical media takes up a lot of space
- Can create extra backups, including physical and cloud storage
- They can be edited and cleaned up
- Much easier to share with your friends and family
- Easier to organize
- Affordable
What Can I Digitize?

PHOTOS

FILM & SLIDES

VHS TAPES

CASSETTE TAPES

DVDS & CDS

VINYL
Flatbed Scanner

+ Best quality
+ Capable of scanning large documents
+ Adapters can be used to scan negatives and slides
+ Software can automatically fix colors, remove dust, dirt, and scratches, and fix tears and creases

- Time consuming
- Good scanners can be pricey
- May have to crop photos a bit
Google Photoscan App

+ Available on iOS and Android
+ Fast and easy
+ Photos are cropped automatically
+ Files can be immediately backed up to Google Photos

- Photo quality depends on devices camera and lighting
- Photos can look a bit blurry compared to a flatbed scanner
- Colors aren’t quite as accurate as a flatbed scanner
Quality Comparison

Flatbed Scanner

Google Photoscan App
KODAK SCANZA

+ Can preview pictures before scanning
+ Automatic picture adjustment
+ Scans directly to an SD card
+ Very fast/easy

- Photos can look slightly out of focus/soft
- Colors can be a bit off

KODAK SCANZA
Digital Film Scanner

110 Slide 126 Slide 35mm Slide
Super 8 Film 35mm Film 110 Film 126 Film
Scanning Services

+ Typically higher quality
+ Convenient/Time saving
+ Some offer photo restoration

- Expensive
- Risk losing photos in the mail
VHS to DVD

+ Fairly simple to use
+ DVDs can be played on any DVD player
+ Menus/Chapters can be added

- Slow/Records in real time
- Equipment harder to find
- DVD may not be able to hold entire VHS
VHS to Computer

- DVDs not needed; Files stored directly to computer
- Option to save to DVD, flash drive or cloud based storage
- Slow/Records in real time
- More equipment required
- Learning curve

VHS Player

Capture Device

Computer + VHS to Digital Software

Composite/RCA Cable

USB Cable
DVD to Computer

+ Stored right to computer
+ Easy to create backups and store in a cloud based service

- Slow/Records in real time
- Additional equipment needed for Blu-ray
CD to Computer

+ Can easily be added to a phone/tablet or MP3 player
+ Can create your own mix CD
+ Easy

- Can be time consuming
- Potential legal restrictions
Cassette Tape
Cassette to Digital

+ Stored right to the computer
+ Easy to create backups and store in a cloud based service

- Slow/Records in real time
- Won’t fix warped tape
Vinyl
Vinyl to Digital

+ Stored right to the computer
+ Easy to create backups and store in a cloud based service

- Slow/Records in real time
- Won’t fix damaged records
Organizing Your Content
How Do You Want to Store/Backup Your Media

- Flash Drive
- Internal Hard Drive
- External Hard Drive
- Cloud
Local Storage

Hard Drive, Flash Drive, External Drive

+ You’re in control
+ No 3rd party access to your digital media

- Not online so it’s safe from cyber attacks/hacks
  - Have to make sure to do backups of your media yourself
  - Have to make an initial purchase of large storage container depending on how much you want to digitize
  - Harder to share with friends and family
  - If the device fails, you media could be gone
Organizing Local Storage

Hard Drive, Flash Drive, External Drive
Organizing Local Storage

Hard Drive, Flash Drive, External Drive
Organizing Local Storage

Hard Drive, Flash Drive, External Drive
Organizing Local Storage

Hard Drive, Flash Drive, External Drive
Cloud Storage

Google Photos & iCloud

+ Accessible anywhere you need it from any device
+ Does not take up space on your local device once backed up
☐ Easier to share with family and friends
☐ In some cases it can be automatically sorted using AI (Face Grouping, Location, Events)
  - May be a monthly fee depending on what backup company you choose
  - 3rd party vendor has these stored
  - Open to possible cyber attacks
# Google Cloud Storage Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 GB</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$1.99 / month</td>
<td>Or prepay annually (save 16%): $19.99 / year</td>
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<td>Includes: 15 GB storage</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 GB</td>
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<td>$2.99 / month</td>
<td>Or prepay annually (save 16%): $29.99 / year</td>
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<td>Includes: 100 GB storage, Access to Google experts, Option to add your family, Extra member benefits</td>
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<td>Or prepay annually (save 17%): $99.99 / year</td>
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<td>Includes: 2 TB storage, Access to Google experts, Option to add your family, Extra member benefits</td>
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<td>10 TB</td>
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<td>$99.99 / month</td>
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Apple iCloud Storage Plans

United States (USD)
50 GB: $0.99
200 GB: $2.99
1 TB: $9.99
Questions?