



# DIY PHOTOBOOK FOR BEGINNERS

I made this **DIY Photobook for beginners** for a friend of mine who was struggling to make a photobook because he was not feeling very confident with using the computer software. I have made it available to everyone now in case you need a little assistance to make a Photo Memory Book during COVID-19 lockdown.

Visit The [Photo Book Shop](https://www.bronhogan.com/photo-book-shop) to see the range of different photobooks available, and to take advantage of special offers.



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## DIY Photobook Beginners Guide

This guide is for my friends who have said they love my photobooks but found it too confusing when they tried to make their own.

Do not be concerned if you do not have great 'computer skills' as this guide is especially for people who struggle to find their way around computer software.

Follow these easy steps and begin creating magical memory books for your family and friends.

Think of 'riding a bicycle', and how easy it became after you knew how.

Making photobooks is easy when you know how.

### WARNING:

Making photo memory books is addictive

## Step 1:

Decide on the type of photo memory book you want to make. As in ~ What will your book be about?

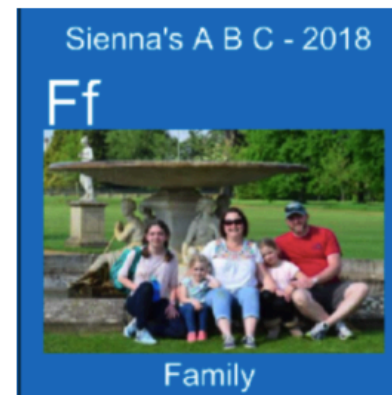
Begin with a small 20 pages 20 x 20 cm book. This is the perfect size to begin with and will not require too many photos to compile.

## Ideas:

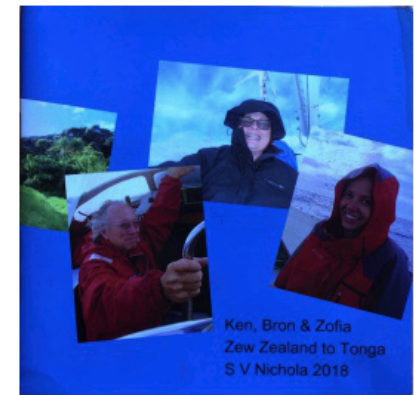
First year of baby ~ A special event such as a wedding or significant birthday party ~ a holiday or trip ~ Family Favourite recipe book ~ Time capsule ~ ABC Photobook for a young child learning to read ~ ~School Holiday activities ~ A day at the beach or park ~ Your new home or garden ~ My Family ~ ~ Pets ~ A weekend at the beach or mountains ~ etc



Family Cookbook



Personal ABC Book



Holiday or Trip



Anniversary Gift

Step 2:

## Select your images

Go through all your photos and select the ones you wish to use. Save them into a separate folder on your computer/laptop/device. Name the folder with the same name as your photobook to make it easy to find when you wish to upload them.

Select only photos that are in focus and clearly tell the story you are wanting for your photobook.

Deciding how many photos you need will depend upon the number of images you place on each page.

You will need photos for the cover and 20 pages. Some pages will only need one image and others more. Upload more than you think you will need as you don't have to use them all in your book.

Step 3:

## Download the software

Go to <https://www.thephotobookclub.com.au/> to download and install the FREE software required to make photobooks.

The screenshot shows the website's design options and a sign-up form. The design options are categorized into three columns: Desktop Designer, Online Designer, and Tablet Designer. Each column lists features and has a 'START CREATING' button. The sign-up form on the right is titled 'FREE 20pg 20x20cm Photo Book when you join today!' and includes fields for First Name, Last Name, Email Address, Password, and Birthday. It also has a checkbox for 'I agree to Terms and Conditions' and a 'SIGN ME UP' button. A link for 'Already have an account? Sign in here' is at the bottom.

IT'S SO SIMPLE!	1 2 3	Design your product	Enjoy with your family
<b>Desktop Designer</b>	<b>Online Designer</b>	<b>Tablet Designer</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Create advanced photobooks</li><li>✓ All products available</li><li>✓ Download and use all templates</li><li>✓ Design offline at your place</li><li>✓ Work with 100's of pictures</li><li>✓ Works on PC and Mac</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Great for first time photobookers</li><li>✓ Perfect for Canvas and Posters</li><li>✓ Perfect for Photo Gifts</li><li>✓ Quick and easy to use</li><li>✓ Work on multiple computers</li><li>✓ Works on PC and Mac</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Same benefits as Online Designer</li><li>✓ Quick and easy to use</li><li>✓ Use photos from your device</li><li>✓ Design on the go</li><li>✓ Apple and Android Compatible</li></ul>	<p><b>FREE 20pg 20x20cm Photo Book</b> when you join today!</p> <p>* First Name</p> <p>* Last Name</p> <p>* Email Address</p> <p>* Password</p> <p>Birthday: [01-Jan-1984]</p> <p>Get free stuff and email offers</p> <p>I agree to Terms and Conditions</p> <p><b>SIGN ME UP</b></p> <p>Already have an account? Sign in here</p>

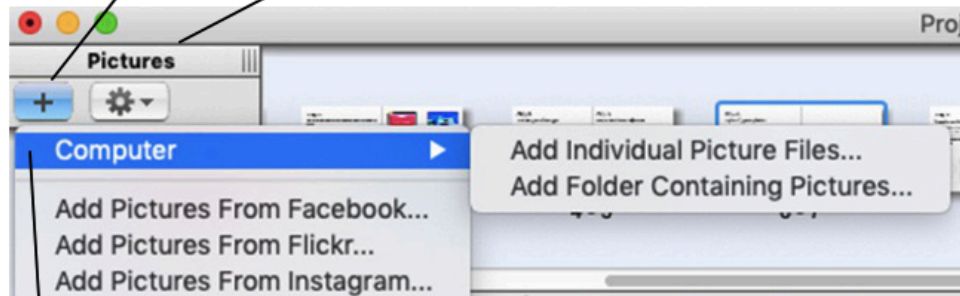
Currently they are offering a free 20 page 20x20cm photobook. Ideal to begin your first photobook



Step 4:

upload your photos:

Select the **+** under **Pictures**



Select **Computer**

Select **Add Folder Containing pictures** and select the folder with your photos

Note: you can add individual photos later if required.

Step 5:

Plan the order of the photos:

The type of book you make determines the order in which you place your photo images..

Chronological, or Date Order will suit a book created to celebrate the first year of your baby's life.

The order of places visited may be good for a travel book.

If you are making an photo ABC Book for a child learning to read, the order is obviously alphabetical.

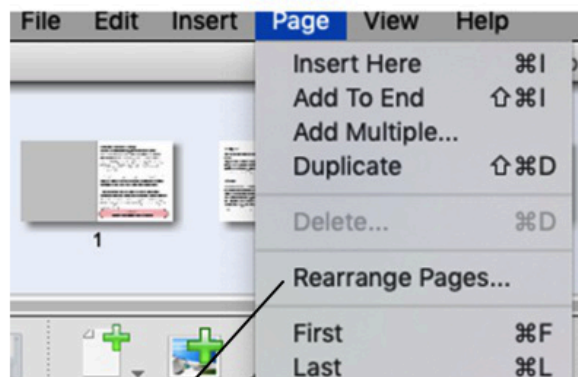
Ideally, make a list of the photos you wish to use and decide which ones to go on which page before you begin creating.

Step 6:

## Rearranging your pages:

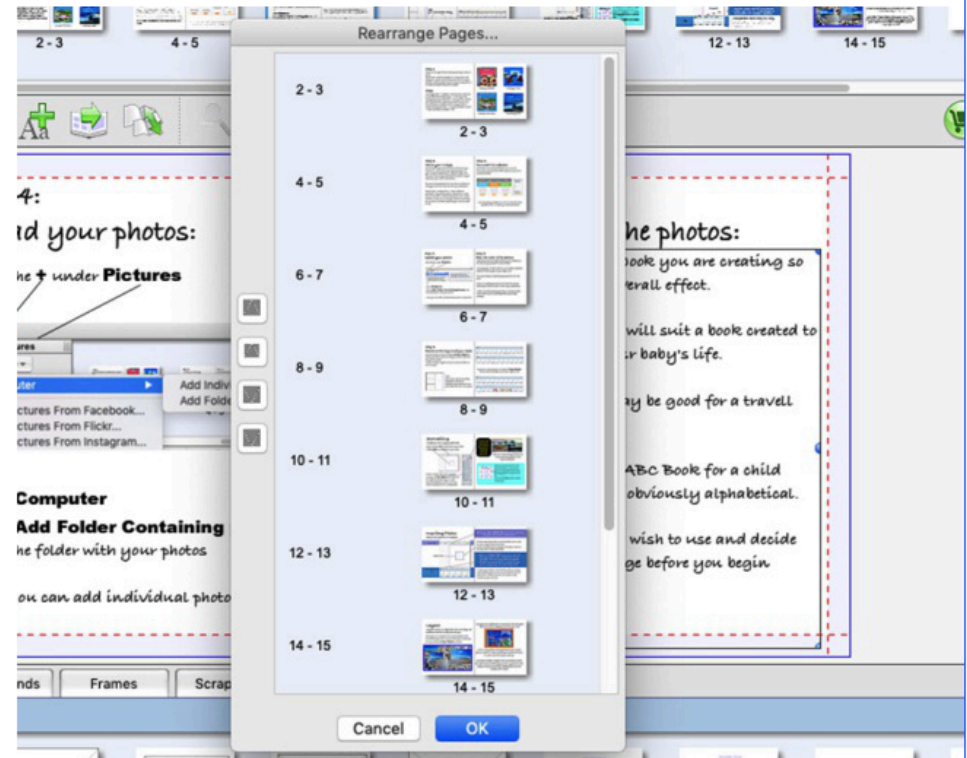
If you decide that you want to change the order of the pages you have created, it is a simple matter to rearrange them.

Click on **Page** to get the dropdown menu from the main toolbar.



Click on  
**Rearrange Pages**

Click on the page you wish to move and drag it in between the pages as required. Once you are happy with the order, select **OK**.

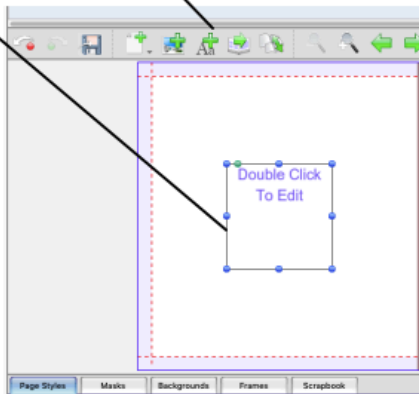


# Journalling

or adding TEXT to your photo-book

Select the icon **Aa+** to add text to your book.

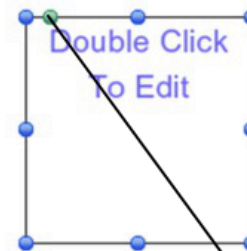
A **Text Box** will appear on your page.



Double click inside the box to begin writing. A **Text Menu** will appear on the right hand side of your screen. Select the dropdown arrow next to the **Font** to change how the writing looks.



click on the colour when you want to change the colour of your text

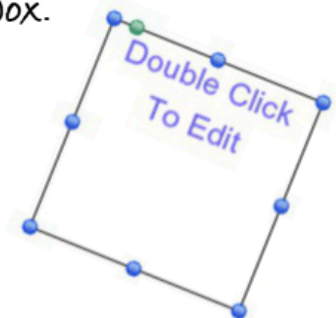


Click on the green dot to rotate the text box.



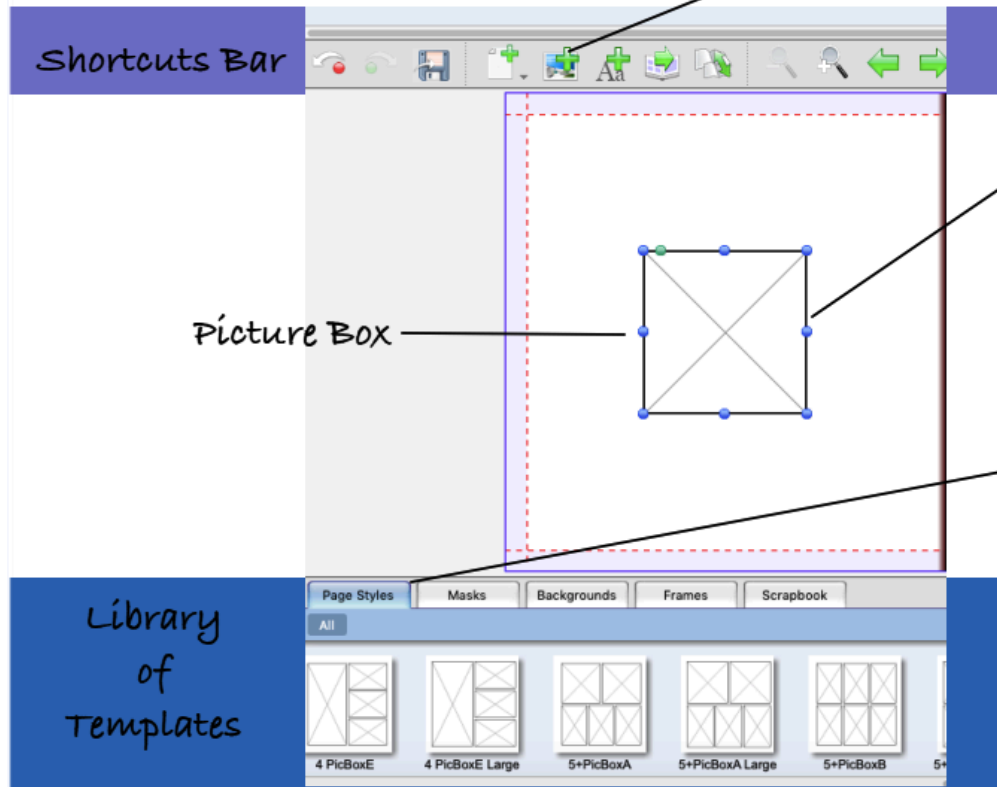
Position the text box by clicking on it once and dragging it to the required position.

One click on the text box will show blue dots at each corner and in the middle of the lines. Use these dots to resize the text box.



# Inserting Photos

Manipulating photos on the pages



Click on the **Add Picture Box** icon in the shortcuts menu bar when you want to add a single picture.

The blue and green dots around the Picture box work the same way as the text box does.

Click on the blue dots to change the shape or click on the green dot to rotate the image.

Click on the **Page Styles** icon in the Shortcuts bar below your page to select a format that will suit your page. There are many different templates available. Don't forget that the more pictures you put on a single page, the smaller they will be.

To place your photos into the Picture Boxes, simply drag the photo you want to use and drop it into the picture box. A small number will appear on the images as you use them.

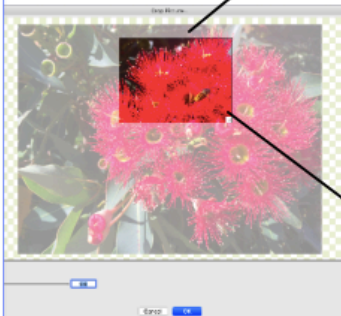


# Cropping



When you place an image it may not fill the Picture Box as you would like it to. Double click on the image to get into the Crop function.

Slide the clear image to cover the area of the photo that you wish to appear in your image box.



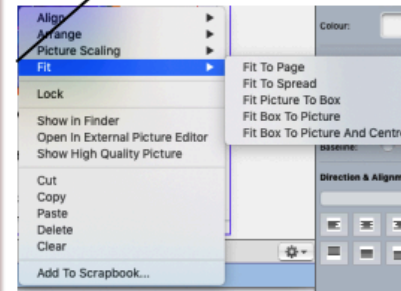
Move the bottom right hand corner bar to crop the image



click **OK** to save

# Placement of images

Drop the photo onto the page, right click and select **Fit**.



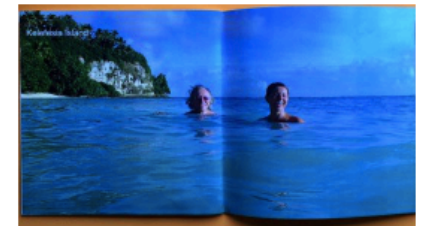
Note:

If your image does not appear in the Picture box as you expected it to, Double click on the image and move the cropped area

Selecting Fit to Page will make you image fill only one page.

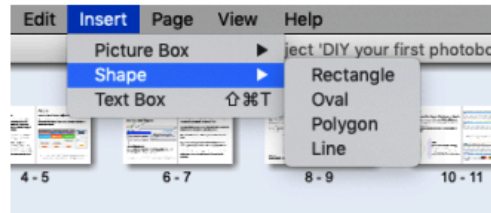


Selecting Fit to spread will fill two pages.



# Editing Shapes or Picture boxes

click on **Insert** in the tool bar and selecting the shape or line you require



change the colour

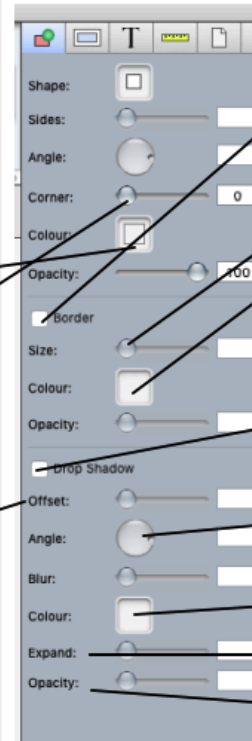


change the corner shape

change the opacity

Note:

I have used a rectangle to demonstrate but these edits can be applied to your photos too.



Add a border

Change the size and colour of the border

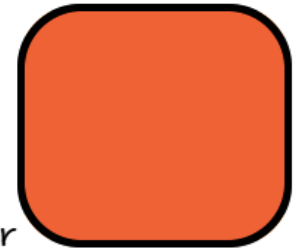
Add a drop shadow

Change shadow angle

Change shadow colour

Expand or change shadow size

Change opacity of shadow



Save Save Save

Every time you place an image or piece of text that you are happy with, **SAVE**.



If you 'mess things up', don't panic, simply use the **UNDO** shortcut button.



or

close the program **WITHOUT SAVING**.

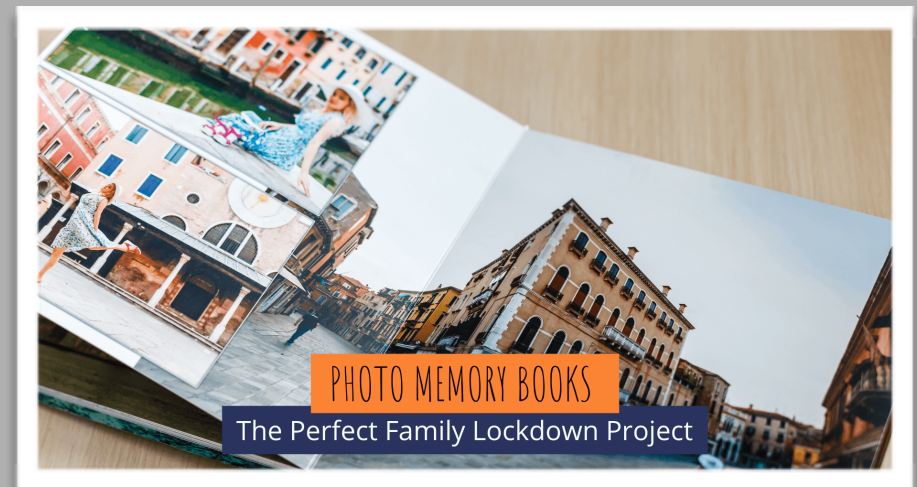
When you open the program up again you will go back to where you last saved.

Once you have mastered the basics I encourage you to explore the PhotobookClub's comprehensive 'Getting Started Guide' which is available on their web page.

VISIT MY [BLOG](#) FOR FREE DOWNLOADABLE GUIDES & TIPS TO

MAKE

GREAT PHOTO MEMORY BOOKS



[FOR MORE IDEAS ON MAKING GREAT  
PHOTO MEMORY BOOKS CLICK HERE](#)

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