My name is Barry Kusler. My day job is in the Assessor's Office as a certified real estate appraiser, but we are here to talk about fun things, not that. I did office equipment maintenance for 30 plus years. I have also done audio design and installations in churches and schools and live sound. My general background training was in electronics. I enjoy history and believe family history should be preserved.

There is that one "someone" in each family that can or should digitize the family's historic media before it is lost to time. Video tape is perhaps the most vulnerable, followed by analog audio tape. Pictures and film when properly stored, can be more stable over time. Once media has been successfully digitized, it becomes incredibly easy to share with the entire family. Everyone can have "Mom and Dad's" pictures, movies, audio recordings, without printing or copying negatives or photos, videos, and tapes commercially.

This is a great time to do this job. Legacy media can still be accessed, and devices exist to help with the transfer at a reasonable price. "There's a device for that" for just about any job you need to do.

If you have a cellphone, tablet or computer, you already have 50% of the equipment necessary to complete most tasks.

We will look at 3 basic common tasks:

Audio – perhaps easiest.

Video – also fairly easy in most cases.

Film – can be easy, but perhaps more labor intensive or monotonous.

Getting the proper connections between devices may be the most difficult part of the process, but very doable, do not panic.

We are not endorsing any particular products or software, just making you aware that there is quite a bit available.

Nuclear Option At The End

Audio: reel to reel, cassette, or any audio device with a line output.

Lots of cassettes from the 60's and 70's may need to be repaired first. Most common problem is the leader has separated from the tape. This is usually easy to repair, even cassettes that are glued together. Some cassette halves are joined with screws---Bonus!

Audio can be recorded with computer, cellphone, tablet, or even video camera with outboard mic input. Just about every device has a basic voice recorder function of some type already installed. For those that are more bold and need to do speed correction or other editing functions, there are free audio editors available to work with the recording once it is transferred to digital. (Audacity, for one)

May need to get (or perhaps already have) patch cable, breakout cable, or adapter to connect between devices. Older cellphones that have a wired headphone jack may be easiest to connect to player for recording. Does not require active cellphone service.

If using a digital video camera to digitize an audio recording, you could aim the camera at a photo of the person(s) in the recording and record the audio from the tape using the video camera or cellphone/tablet as a capture device.

Audio will generally be digitized as .wav or .jpg files. WAV is best quality, MP3 smallest file size. Video will generally be saved as .mpg4. Some cellphone/tablet video may be in a different format, but there are free converters and players (VLC player for one) available for download that can play or convert to MPG4.

Video: VCR, camcorder or other analog device with component video output (yellow RCA connector).

Equipment necessary would be a video capture card to input video to be copied to computer. A few computers may have such a card already, but most do not, so an outboard USB video capture card and video capture software would be needed. I would expect most devices on the market will come with a basic recorder/editor software package included with the device.

Reconditioned VCR's and VCR/DVD devices are still available online, as well as machines from Goodwill, garage sales or online at Ebay. Buyer beware. I know that some refurbished machines are available through Walmart and a couple of other specialty electronics shops online that appear to offer warranties on refurbs.

Remember that video tape is perhaps the most fragile as it gets older.

Video can only be input to a cellphone/tablet by its own camera, so no direct connection exists for that. You could however play the video to a TV and inject the audio while videoing the screen if you have no computer available. Not the best, but it would digitize it and at least have a recording to share that way.

Film: slide, negatives, photos, home movies

There is a large variety of devices/scanners that can digitize slides and negatives available. Easy to do but can be monotonous while doing the job.

If you have only the photos themselves there are a number of scanners available to digitize those great family photos. I have even had great success just propping a photo up against a backdrop and using my cellphone and/or tablet to merely snap a photo of the photo. Just mind the light reflections and you can do a lot of photos in one session. The pictures can then be cropped and edited with the basic photo editing software on most every device.

Regular 8 or Super 8 home movies can be transferred most inexpensively by setting a cellphone, tablet, or video camera on a tripod and recording video off the screen, assuming you still have a working projector and proper screen. You could even inject your own narration or soundtrack as you record the video!

There are some machines for the consumer market that will play and record your old movies automatically.

Nuclear Option:	
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If you have been dissuaded from even attempting such an operation as digitizing legacy media, have more money than time, or are nervous around technology there is still hope.

There are companies that will, for a price, take all your old photos, negatives, films, audio and video and do it all for you.

As appreciators of family history and recorded moments in time, it is most important that it be done sooner rather than later by someone, anyone. Just let that be you, however you chose.

Storage:
OK! You have digitized the last 100 years of your family's memories. Where to keep all those ones and zeros now?
SD Cards
USB thumb drives
CD/DVD
USB HDD and SSD
Computer HDD or SSD (D drive best)
Floppies? Well, you could. But why?
Digital storage is now both plentiful and cheap! Best practice for storing media in a failsafe mode is as follows:
3 copies of your data on 2 differing types of storage media with one copy being off site.

AUDIO

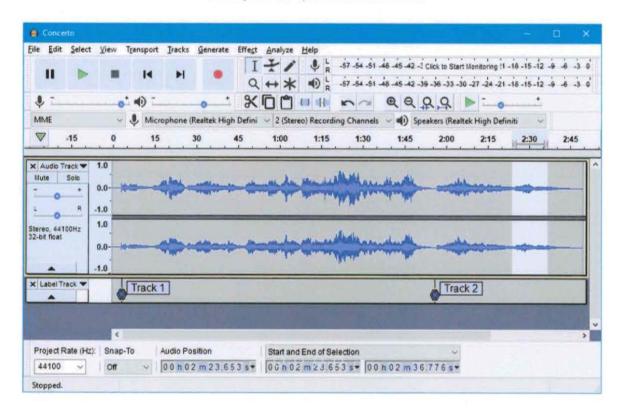


(https://www.audacityteam.org/)

Free, open source, cross-platform audio software

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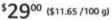
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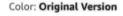
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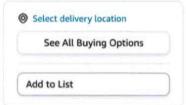
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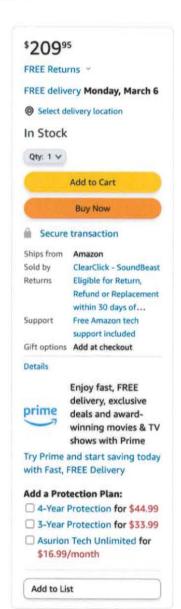
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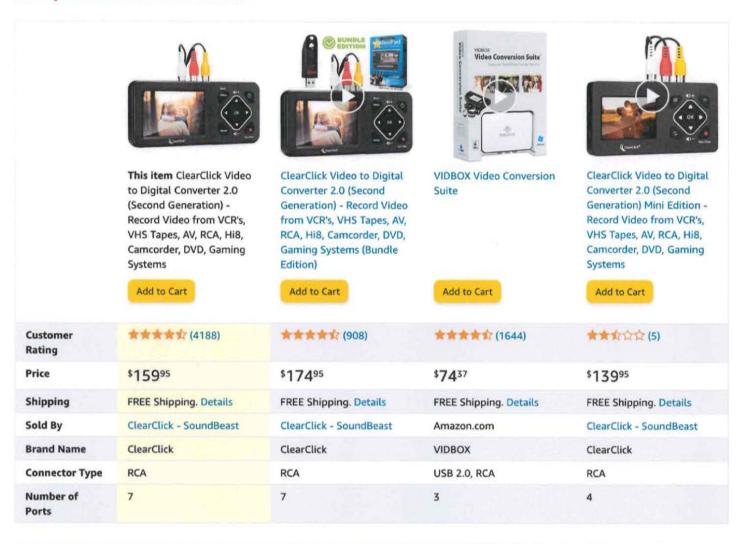
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Please see my post on digitizing vinyl records for more information on this product.

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This product plugs into your VCR and connects with your computer via a USB interface so that you can convert your VHS tapes into a digital format which can be copied onto DVDs. It comes with simple video editing software and is easy to use.

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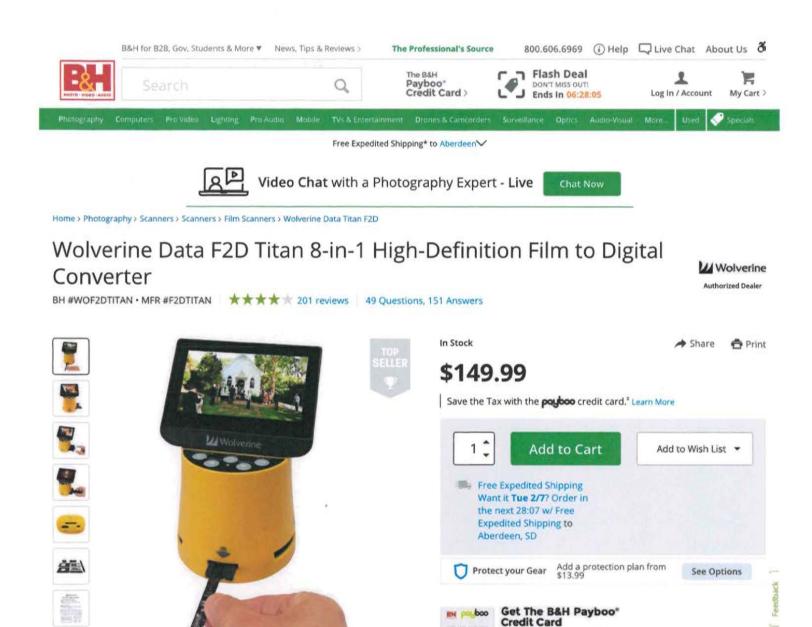
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- Scan 35mm, 110, 127, 126, and APS
 Works with 8mm & Super 8 Movies
- 20MP Scan Resolution: 5472 x 3648
 Scan Speed: 3 Seconds Show More

Rapidly digitize your negatives, slides, and 8mm movies with this F2D Titan 8-in-1 High-Definition Film to Digital Converter from Wolverine Data. Able to work with 35mm, 110, 127, 126 and APS format films as well as 8mm and Super 8 movies, this scanner can help More Details

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Wolverine 8mm & Super 8 Reels to Digital MovieMaker Pro Film Digitizer, Film Scanner, 8mm Film Scanner, Black (MM100PRO)

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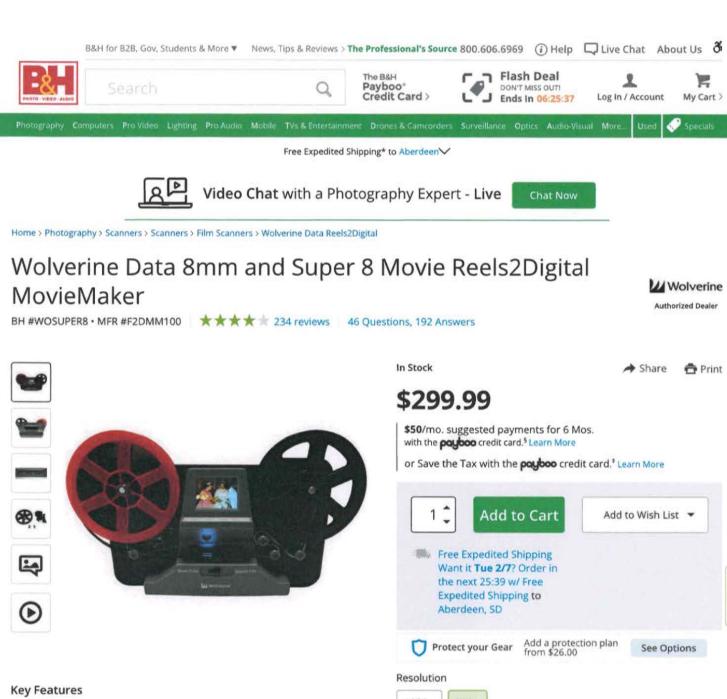
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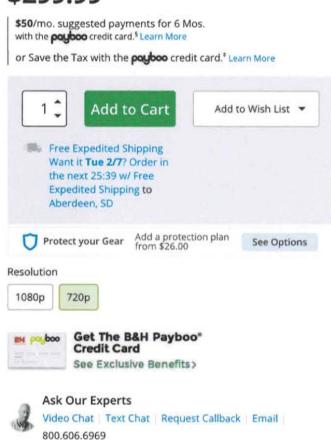
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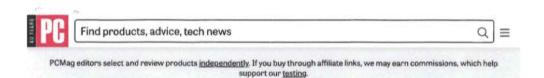
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Save your 8mm and Super 8 films by converting them to digital with the 8mm and Super 8 Movie Reels2Digital MovieMaker from Wolverine Data. Using a 3.53MP 1/3" CMOS sensor, this device can create HD 960 x 720 footage at 30 fps. It can work with More Details



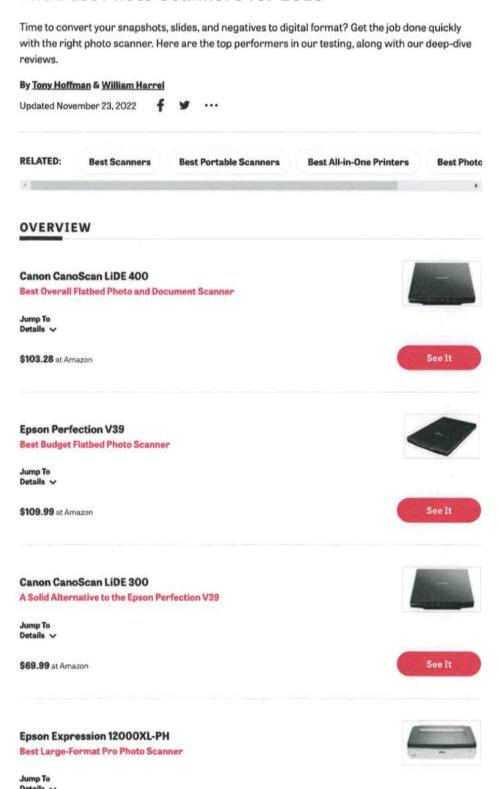
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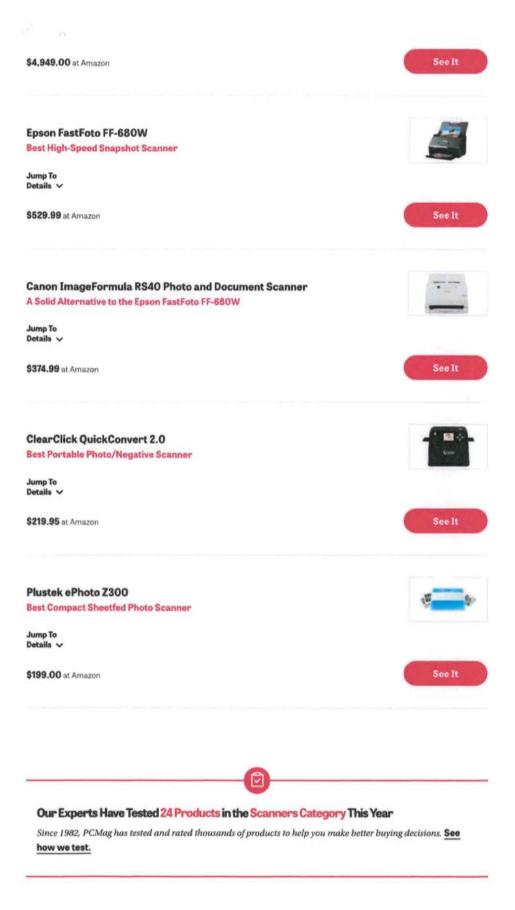
Home > Best Products > Scanners

The Best Photo Scanners for 2023





D



Both photo buffs and family archivists often turn to photo scanners to digitize their prints and film. Photo scanners are set apart by features such as a high sensor resolution and the ability to scan

Photographs and Film

Photomyne is an app for your phone that lets you easily scan and save photographs. There are automatic cropping and enhancing features as well as a facility to allow the addition of dates, locations etc.



Epson Perfection V600 Photo Scanner

This is the best selling photo scanner on Amazon. It allows for high quality enlargements and can scan slides, negatives and medium format panoramic film. You can also remove the appearance of tears and creases as well as restoring faded colour pictures.





Click here to see it on Amazon

All In One Film Scanner

This scanner can convert 35mm, 126PK, 110 and Super 8 (cine) negatives to jpegs which can be saved onto your computer. The device comes with holders for the different film formats, a USB lead, a TV connection cable, a mains plug, a lens cleaning brush and an instruction manual. It is a stand alone device and has a built in memory that can store up to 50 images. There is a slot for an SD card, but it does not come with one. I do recommend that you use an SD card as you will be able to store a lot more pictures.



Archives

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Please see my post on digitizing film for more information on this type of product.



8mm Home Movie Film

I've seen a number of videos on YouTube showing how it's possible to convert 8mm home movie film to a digital format using a projector and a camcorder. This is one of the best I've seen: How to transfer older 8mm home movie film to DVD



Wolverine 8mm and Super8 Reels Movie Digitizer with 2.4" LCD, Black (Film2Digital MovieMaker)

However, if you want better quality and have a fair number of 8mm or Super 8 films to convert, you may like to consider this product. It is fully automated and converts film to MPEG MP4 digital movie files at 720P 30 fps. Files are directly saved on to SDSDHC cards (not included). Playback is also possible directly to your TV with the included cable.

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HP Sprocket Photo Printer X7NO7A.

Incidentally, a useful tool for printing pictures on the go is the HP Sprocket Photo Printer X7NO7A. This device is the same size as a smart phone and prints 2"x 3" photos on sticky-backed paper. You download the HP app and can download and print images from your social media accounts including Facebook, Instagram and flickr.



Documents

Fujitsu ScanSnap iX500 Color Duplex Desk Scanner for Mac or PC



This is the best selling document scanner on Amazon. Up to 50 sheets of paper can be inserted into the advanced, automatic feeding system which allows for double sided scanning. Its features include auto color detection, auto rotation for upside down documents, and blank page removal. The scanner comes with easy

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Brother Mobile Color Page Scanner DS-620



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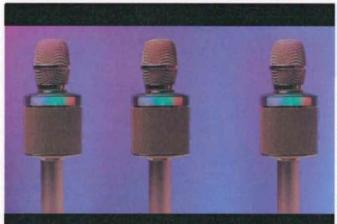
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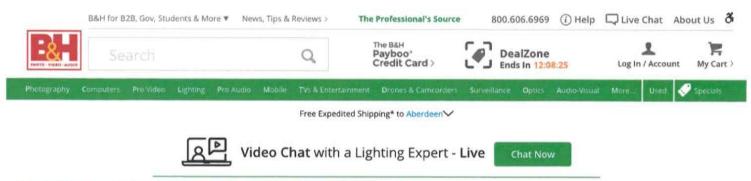
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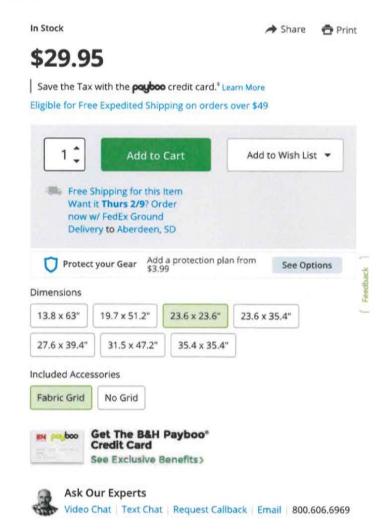
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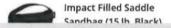
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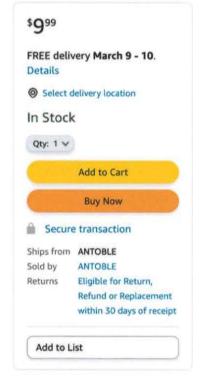
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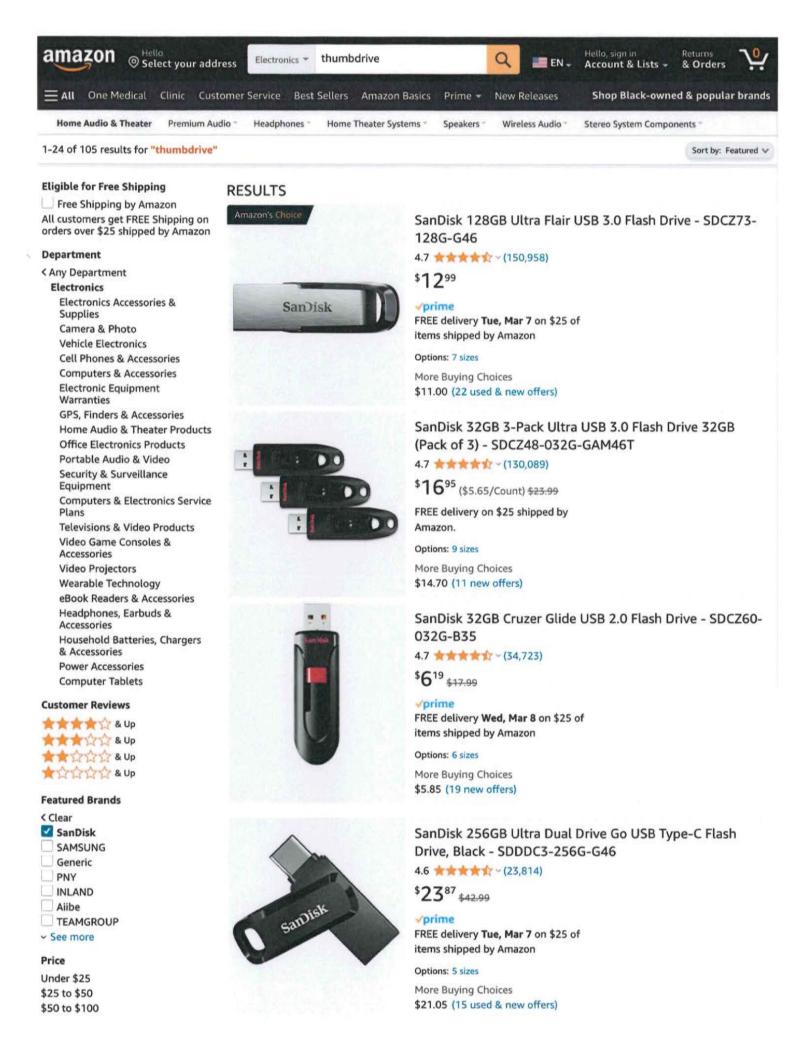
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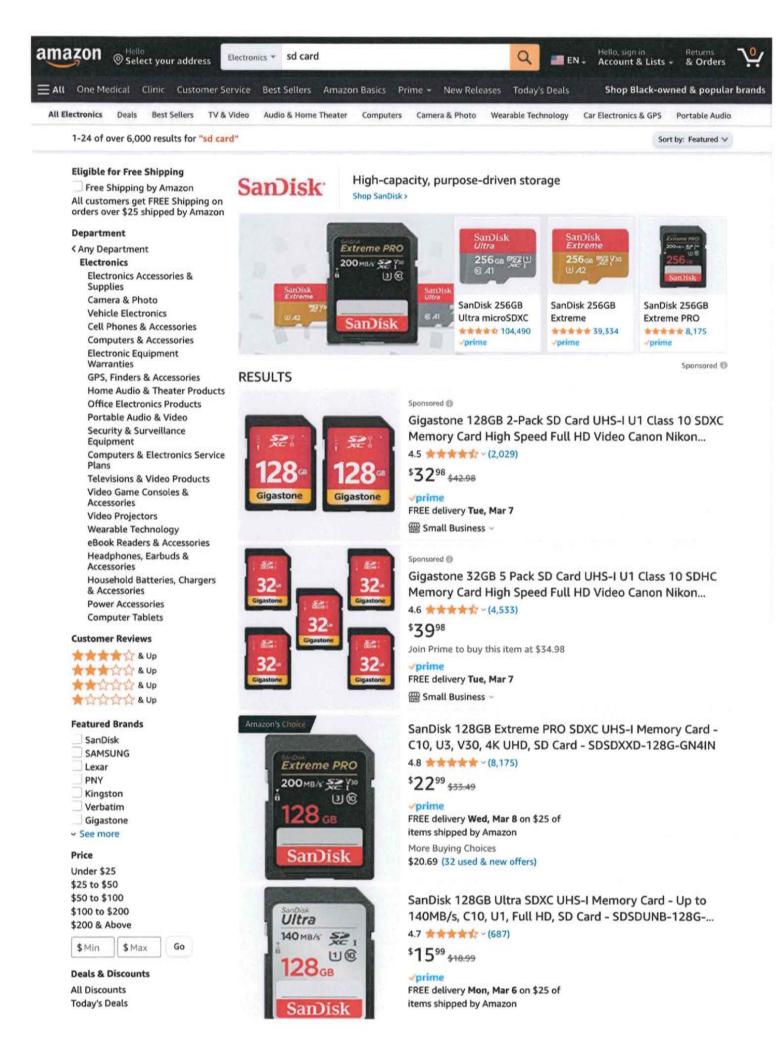


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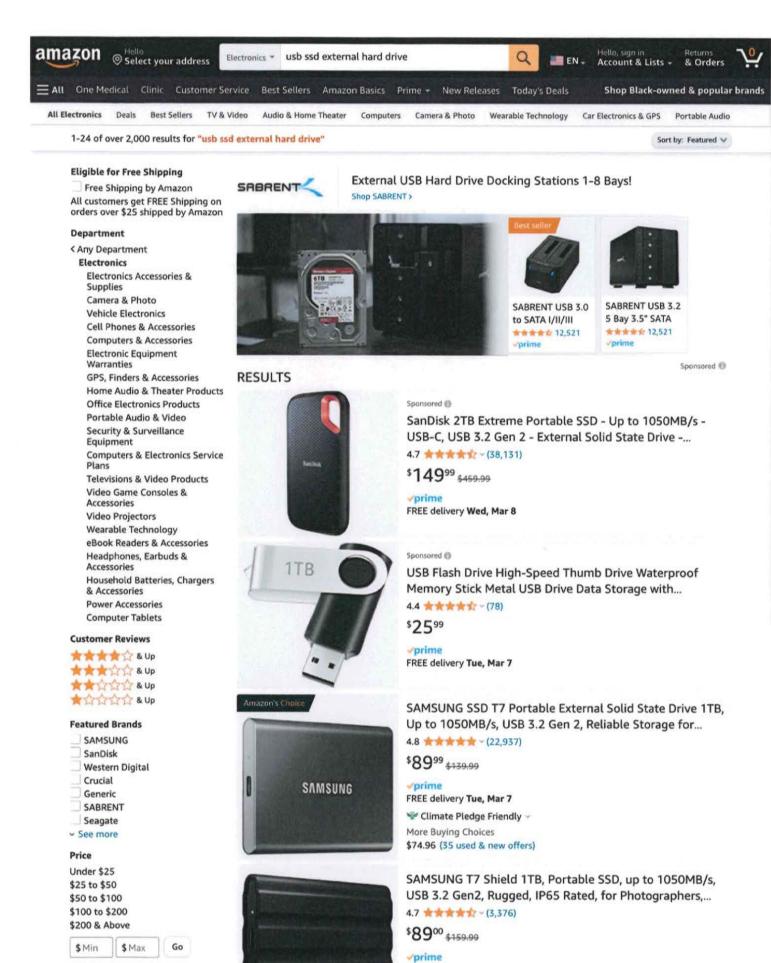


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- 3 copies of your data on
- 2 types of storage media and
- 1 copy should be offsite

Having 1 copy offsite protects your data from local risks like theft, lab fires, flooding, or natural disasters.

Using 2 storage media improves the likelihood that at least one version will be readable in the future should one media type become obsolete or degrade unexpectedly.

Having 3 copies helps ensure that your data will exist somewhere without being overly redundant.



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Cloud Storage

While working on your data you'll likely be using and saving your files on your desktop computer or laptop. Make sure to save often but also keep master copies in another location in case your computer crashes, is stolen, or falls victim to other unfortunate events.

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How To Connect An External Microphone To A Smartphone





The cameras on smartphones are continuously improving while the microphones remain functional but low-quality. When recording a video with your phone, it's nice to have excellent audio to go with the amazing picture, which is where external microphones come into play.

So how do we connect an external microphone to a smartphone? **Connecting an external mic to a smartphone must be down wirelessly** (Bluetooth) or through one of the connectors (typically the headphone jack or the charger port). Additionally, some drivers/software may be required to complete the connection.

In this article, we'll go through the various methods of connecting external microphones to smartphones and some recommended smartphone microphones.

Note that this article features links to products on Amazon that will help you connect your external microphone to your smartphone. Buying any product through the following links will give me a commission (and help support this blog) at no extra cost to you!

Related My New Microphone articles:

- Why Do Cell Phone/Telephone Microphones Sound So Bad?
- Top 4 Best External Microphones For Android Smartphones

- Top 4 Best External (Lightning) Microphones For iPhone
- · How Do Microphones Work? (The Ultimate Illustrated Guide)

Connecting An External Microphone To A Smartphone

So we've decided that the internal smartphone microphone just won't cut it, and we'll require an external mic for our phone's audio recording. Let's get into the details of connecting.

For more information on internal smartphone microphones, check out my article What Kind Of Microphones Are Used In Cell Phones?

First, it's important to note that smartphones, like computers, are digital devices and work with digital audio. Whether internal or external, microphones produce analog signals that require analog-to-digital conversion to properly connect and send information to a smartphone.

These analog-to-digital converters (ADCs), as we'll discuss later, are found within the smartphone (just inside the TRRS headphone jack or within the Bluetooth chip) or, alternatively, in adapters that allow us to digitally connect our mics directly to the phone (often via the charging port).

To read about analog and digital signals and microphones in more detail, check out my article <u>Are Microphones Analog Or Digital</u>
<u>Devices? (Mic Output Designs).</u>

Now that we've established the need for digital audio let's look at the methods of connecting external mics to smartphones.

There are 4 basic methods of connecting an external microphone to a smartphone:

- Connecting wirelessly via Bluetooth
- · Connecting directly via the TRRS headphone jack
- · Connecting wirelessly via the TRRS headphone jack
- · Connecting via the charger port

Connecting An External Microphone To A Smartphone Via Bluetooth

Bluetooth technology has been available in mobile devices since 2001 and has since seen a massive increase in popularity. Now, all smartphone comes with Bluetooth capability.

Bluetooth is simply a wireless data protocol that uses short-wavelength UHF radio waves (in the 2.400 to 2.485 GHz range) to transfer data and signals over short distances.

Bluetooth mics work like any other wireless mic system: with a transmitter (either within a Bluetooth microphone or externally connected to a microphone) and a receiver (a "Bluetooth chip" found inside Bluetooth devices/receivers).

Connecting a Bluetooth mic to a smartphone is easy. Take the following steps:

- Turn the Bluetooth microphone or Bluetooth mic transmitter on
- Open the Bluetooth menu of your smartphone and ensure the phone is discoverable
- · If the devices are within range of one another, the mic should show up as a device

· Click the microphone in the Bluetooth devices list to connect the mic to the smartphone

With Bluetooth connections, there are two main ways to connect microphones to smartphones:

- · With a Bluetooth microphone (with the Bluetooth technology designed into it).
- · With a Bluetooth microphone transmitter (which allows a regular wired mic to transmit wirelessly via Bluetooth).

Bluetooth Microphones

Bluetooth microphones are relatively new on the market. These mics have built-in Bluetooth transmitters and are often inexpensive mics with electret mic capsules.

Bluetooth mics make it easy to connect wirelessly via Bluetooth to smartphones and other Bluetooth devices.

At a Buskers festival I had recently attended, I noticed that every performer was using a Bluetooth clip-on mic or headset.

Bluetooth microphone example: Hey Mic!



Hey Mic! Bluetooth Microphone

You can purchase the Hey Mic! directly from their online store at a 10% discount by using the promo code mynewmicrophone

The Hey Mic! (pictured above) is one example of a Bluetooth microphone. This miniature microphone is compatible with any Bluetooth device and offers up to 65 feet of range.

Note that, while Bluetooth microphones are an excellent idea, the technology isn't quite perfect just yet (the audio industry is always behind on technology). That being said, the Hey Mic has decent reviews and works largely how we'd expect a Bluetooth mic to work.

XLR-Bluetooth Transmitter

If we want to use a professional microphone via Bluetooth, there are XLR-Bluetooth adapters/transmitters on the market.

With these transmitters, we can combine the high-quality mic capsules of our favourite mics with the simplicity of a Bluetooth wireless connection. Connect your XLR microphone to the Bluetooth transmitter and then link the transmitter and the smartphone.

We must assume that these transmitters do not supply any DC bias voltage or phantom power to our microphones unless noted so (I have not found any on the market that do). Therefore, using passive dynamic mics is the safest bet when connecting an XLR mic to a Bluetooth microphone transmitter.

XLR-Bluetooth adapter/transmitter example: JK Audio BlueDriver-F3 (link to check the price on Amazon).



JK Audio BlueDriver-F3 XLR Bluetooth Transmitter

The JK Audio BlueDriver-F3 is a simple XLR-Bluetooth adapter/transmitter. We connect our mic to it; turn it on; adjust the connection settings (to phone), and make the Bluetooth connection.

The BlueDriver-F3, as I alluded to earlier, does not supply DC bias or phantom power, so it should only be used with passive microphones (think dynamic mics).

For information on connecting Bluetooth mics and other wireless mics to computers, check out my article <u>How To Connect A</u>
Wireless Microphone To A Computer (+ Bluetooth Mics).

Connecting An External Microphone To A Smartphone Directly Via TRRS Headphone Jack

Using the jack of a smartphone is perhaps the most obvious method of connecting an external microphone.

But wait, the headphone jack outputs signal while a microphone inputs signal. Let's take a closer look at the wiring.

Smartphone headphone jacks are typically designed as 3.5mm (1/8") TRRS (Tip-Ring-Ring-Sleeve) female phone connections.

Though there are two wiring standards (CTIA and OMTP), these 4 connections (TRRS) are typically wired as CTIA. Apple was a major player in developing the CTIA standard (with CTIA, the wireless industry association), and now the vast majority of smartphones follow the CTIA standard.

The CTIA standard has the TRRS connection configured as follows:

- · Tip: Audio (left)
- · Ring: Audio (right)
- · Ring: Ground
- · Sleeve: Microphone

The OMTP has the microphone and ground switched, and so it's important to know the difference. That being said, the vast majority of devices with TRRS designed to work with smartphones follow CTIA.

All this is to say that if we want to connect a microphone to a smartphone headphone jack, we need to use a 3.5mm (1/8*) TRRS male phone connector. Because the microphone signal is carried on the sleeve, 3.5mm (1/8*) TS and TRS cable will not work (though they will physically fit into the jack). This is because TS and TRS cables are wired with S (sleeve) as ground.

To convert a 1/8" TS or TRS mic connection to a 1/8" TRRS connection, I'd recommend a headsets splitter adapter, like this one from <u>DuKabel</u> (link to check the price on Amazon).



DuKabel 2x TRS Female – 1x TRRS Male Adapter

The Dukabel headphone splitter is wired as CTIA and has a microphone and headphone input that adapts to a TRRS for connecting to the smartphone.

The 1/8" TRS microphone jack will accept mics with TS and TRS connections. The 1/8" TRS headphone jack will allow you to monitor the microphone (the smartphone will likely use the TRRS connection as the audio input and output).

But there are TRRS microphones on the market that will easily bypass all the adapters require in connecting a regular mic to a smartphone via the headphone jack.

For more information on the different headphone jack sizes and wiring standards, check out the following My New Microphone articles:

- Differences Between 2.5mm, 3.5mm & 6.35mm Headphone Jacks
- · How Do Headphone Jacks And Plugs Work? (+ Wiring Diagrams)

TRRS Microphones

TRRS microphones are designed to plug into and send audio through headphone jacks. These mics, therefore, work wonderfully with smartphones.

TRRS microphone example: Rode smartLav+ (link to check the price on Amazon).



Rode smartLav+ Lavalier Mic

The Rode smartLav+ is a relatively high-quality lavalier microphone for use with smartphones. It follows the CTIA standard, powers itself from the smartphone's TRRS jack (2.7V), and works well with any recording software.

The Rode smartLav+ is featured in My New Microphone's Top 4 Best External Microphones For Android Smartphones.

Rode is featured in the following My New Microphone articles:

- Top 11 Best Microphone Brands You Should Know And Use
- Top 11 Best Microphone Boom Pole Brands On The Market

XLR-TRRS Adapter

If we want to use our professional XLR microphones with our smartphones, we'll need an XLR-TRRS adapter.

XLR-TRRS adapter example: Saramonic XLR 19.5' XLR-TRRS Adapter Cable (link to check the price on Amazon).



Saramonic XLR-TRRS Adapter Cable

This simple adapter does exactly what it's supposed to do: adapt a 3-pin XLR signal to a 4-pin TRRS signal.

It's critical to note that this adapter cable does not pass power (DC bias or phantom), so it will not work with active microphones (think condensers). Therefore, it's imperative that we use passive (think dynamic) mics with this adapter.

For an XLR-TRRS adapter with a phantom power supply option, check out the <u>Saramonic Smartrig II XLR (link to check the price on Amazon)</u>. With this relatively inexpensive adapter, we can supply our active microphones with the full +48V phantom power. This is possible with just one 9V battery.



Saramonic Smartrig II
XLR-TRRS Adapter Cable With Phantom
Power

Connecting An External Microphone To A Smartphone Wirelessly Via TRRS Headphone Jack

It's also possible to connect a wireless external microphone to a computer without Bluetooth, so long as the wireless receiver can make the proper physical connection with the phone's headphone jack (or charger port, which we'll discuss shortly).

Wireless microphone systems, including the aforementioned Bluetooth systems, use radio waves to transmit audio information wirelessly.

A microphone transmitter embeds the microphone audio into a radio signal at a specified frequency (VHF or UHF). The transmitter then sends the radio wave wirelessly for the receiver to pick up. Once received, the receiver decodes the radio signal, taking the audio signal and outputting it.

For a detailed read on the inner workings of wireless microphone systems, check out my article <u>How Do Wireless Microphones</u> <u>Work?</u>

So as long as the receiver can plug into the smartphone via the TRRS headphone jack, we can effectively connect any microphone to a smartphone.

Wireless Microphone Systems With TRRS Connections

Let's take a look at a popular example of a wireless mic system with a TRRS connector:

Wireless mic system with TRRS example: Movo WMIC50 (link to check the price at Movo Photo).



Movo WMIC50 Wireless Mic System With TRRS Phone Connection

The Movo WMIC50 system comes with a wireless transmitter and receiver that work on the popular 2.4GHz radio frequency band. On top of the headphones, this pack comes with a lavalier mic and a TRRS connector to connect the receiver to the smartphone.

Note that the lav mic also has a TRRS connector and may be connected directly to the smartphone if that's preferred!

XLR-Wireless Transmitter

Note that any professional wireless mic system could connect to a smartphone if the receiver's output signal can be adapted to connect to the smartphone jack.

Connecting An External Microphone To A Smartphone Via Charging Port

Lastly, some microphones can connect to a smartphone via the charging port of the smartphone.

USB microphones have become very common for their ease of use with computers. Smartphone "charger port" microphones work in similar ways.

For more information on USB and digital microphones, check out the following My New Microphone articles:

- · How To Connect A Microphone To A Computer (A Detailed Guide)
- Do Microphones Need Drivers To Work Properly With Computers?
- Are Microphones Analog Or Digital Devices? (Mic Output Designs)

To properly connect to a smartphone's charging port, the microphone's signal must be converted to digital audio. This is done via an ADC between the mic capsule and the charger port connector.

Let's look at some microphone examples:

USB-C And Lightning Connection Microphones

The two most common smartphone charger ports are the USB-C (Android and others) and the Lightning (Apple). There are digital microphones on the market that connect to both.

An example is the Boya BY-DM2 (link to check the price on Amazon).



Boya BY-DM2 Lavalier Microphone With USB-C Connection

The Boya BY-DM2 is a lavalier mic that connects directly to a smartphone via USB-C (Android and others).

The BY-DM2 has an ADC built within the cable (the relatively large box between the mic and the connector).

Another example: Shure MV5 (link to check the price on Amazon).



Shure MV5 Microphone With USB-C & Lightning Cable Adapter

The Shure MV5 is more flexible with its ADC built into the mic body and its female micro-USB output. In the case of the MV5, any male micro-USB to male (insert charger port type here) will effectively connect the mic to your smartphone (or another digital device).

The Shure MV5 comes with both a micro-USB to Lightning and a micro-USB to USB cable, though micro-USB to USB-C adapters are available on the market (link to Amazon).

Shure is featured in the following My New Microphone articles:

- Top 11 Best Microphone Brands You Should Know And Use
- Top 13 Best Headphone Brands In The World
- Top 14 Best Earphone/Earbud Brands In The World

As mentioned earlier, it's sometimes desirable to connect our XLR microphones to our smartphones. We can connect XLR mics to our smartphone charger ports with the following adapters:

XLR-USBC Adapter

Saramonic UTC-XLR (link to check the price on Amazon),



Saramonic UTC-XLR Adapter Cable

A simple XLR to USB-C adapter with a built-in analog-to-digital converter. Note that this cable does not provide or pass phantom power.

XLR-Lightning Adapter

Saramonic LC-XLR (link to check the price on Amazon),



Saramonic LC-XLR Adapter Cable

A simple XLR to Lightning adapter with a built-in analog-to-digital converter. Note that this cable does not provide or pass phantom power.

Phantom Power Supply

If you want to use your active condenser mics (that require phantom power) with the above adapters, you'll need to power them properly. This is where in-line phantom power supplies come into play.

Although I don't typically recommend Neewer products, their in-line phantom power supplies do work well:

Neewer 1-Channel Phantom Power Supply (link to check the price on Amazon).



Neewer 1-Channel Phantom Power Supply

This simple 1-channel phantom power supply will effectively power your condenser microphones if they need the +48V.

Connect your XLR to the PS input and your XLR-charger port adapter to the PS output, connecting the adapted end of the cable to your smartphone.

Note that these power supplies are relatively bulky and require external powering to function.

Neewer 1-Channel Phantom Power Supply - USB Powered (link to check the price on Amazon).



Neewer 1-Channel Phantom Power Supply (USB Powered)

This phantom PS works the same as the one above, except it is powered via USB rather than from a wall plug.

Note that the USB acts only to power the PS and that this device is not a digital audio interface! The USB does not send any digital audio.

To learn more about phantom power, check out my article What Is Phantom Power And How Does It Work With Microphones?

Smartphone Audio Software For External Microphones

In general, a smartphone will automatically switch its audio input over to a plugged-in microphone when a connection is made (just like it switches from its built-in speakers to headphones once those headphones are plugged in).

Once this connection is made, the external microphone can be used with any audio recording software and as the primary microphone of the smartphone.

Recap On Connecting External Mics To Smartphones

So we've gone through many methods of connecting external microphones to smartphones. Some of these methods are clean and simple, while others are complicated and require in-line devices and adapters.

Let's quickly recap the methods provided in this article, dividing them up by microphone type:

Bluetooth Microphones

Turn the Bluetooth microphone transmitter on and pair the devices within the smartphone settings.

1/8" TRRS Microphones

Assuming the microphone follows the CTIA standard, connect the male TRRS microphone connector into the headphone port of the microphone.

1/8" TRRS Wireless Microphones

If the receiver of a wireless mic system has a 1/8" TRRS (CTIA) connection, set up the wireless system properly and connect the receiver directly to the smartphone.

USB-C And Lightning Connection Microphones

For these microphones, plug the compatible connector into the smartphone's charger port.

XLR (And Other Connection Type Microphones)

There are plenty of methods to connect XLR microphones to smartphones.

Ensure you have the proper adapters and, if needed, the proper power supplies and/or analog-to-digital converters.

Related Questions

Can you use a microphone in a headphone jack? **Headphone jacks are wired to output signals by default, so microphones typically do not** work with them. However, some microphones (like external smartphone mics) are wired to properly input signals through a headphone jack. So yes, in some cases, mics can be used with headphone jacks.

For more information on headphone jacks, check out the following My New Microphone articles:

- · How Do Headphone Jacks And Plugs Work? (+ Wiring Diagrams)
- Are AUX (Auxiliary) Connectors & Headphone Jacks The Same?
- Differences Between 2.5mm, 3.5mm & 6.35mm Headphone Jacks

Where is the microphone in a smartphone? Smartphones typically have several built-in microphones. They are generally found at the ends of the smartphone (near the top and bottom) though they may be found elsewhere.

Related article: What Kind Of Microphones Are Used In Cell Phones?

Choosing the right microphone(s) for your applications and budget can be a challenging task. For this reason, I've created My New Microphone's Comprehensive Microphone Buyer's Guide. Check it out for help in determining your next microphone purchase.

This article has been approved in accordance with the My New Microphone Editorial Policy.

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Arthur

Arthur is the owner of Fox Media Tech and author of My New Microphone. He's an audio engineer by trade and works on contract in his home country of Canada. When not blogging on MNM, he's likely hiking outdoors and blogging at **Hikers' Movement (hikersmovement.com)** or producing music. Check out his music here.

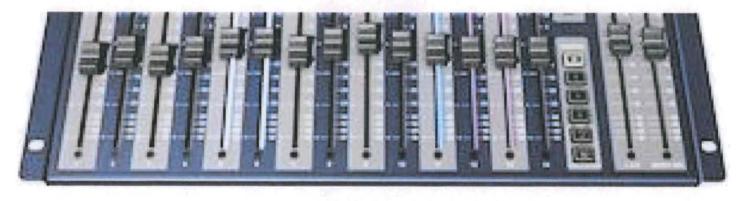
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My New Microphone is an online resource for everything you need to know about microphones.

Whether you're an audio technician/engineer, musician, audiophile, or simply want to know more about microphones, this website is for you!

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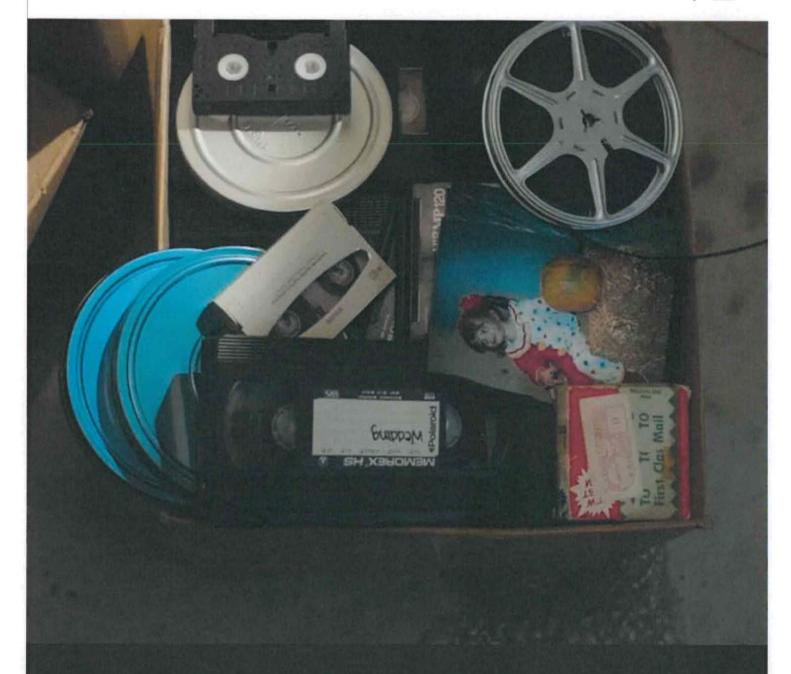
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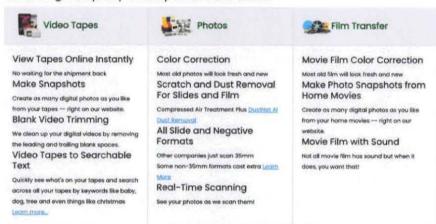
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