

5 Easy-to-Use Tools to Repair, Enhance and Animate Your Old Photos on MyHeritage

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Since 2020, MyHeritage has added several features that use AI technology to colorize, enhance, repair and animate photos. Tools for working with photos are available on MyHeritage.com and through the MyHeritage Mobile app and the Reimagine app. Once you have improved a photo, you can download it as a JPG file, attach it to your family tree and share it via social media.

MyHeritage.com

To access the photo features, go to MyHeritage.com and click on the Photos tab or use the links, below, to jump to specific tools.

- **MyPhotos**
 - Click this option to access all your photos.
 - **Photo Repair**
 - This tool improves the image by erasing scratches, creases, holes, stains and other damage.
 - Select a photo and click on the band-aid icon above it.
 - If damage isn't detected, the band-aid won't appear automatically above the photo. To find Photo Repair, click on the 3-dot "more" menu above the photo.
- **Photo Tagger**
 - Tag multiple photos of the same person at once.
 - This tool uses facial recognition technology to identify faces in photos.
- **Colorize Photos**
 - <https://www.myheritage.com/incolor>
 - Select a photo and click on the colorize icon above it.
 - It can restore the colors in faded photos and colorize black-and-white photos.
 - This tool is especially useful for color photos taken in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, whose colors have often faded.
- **Enhance Photos**
 - <https://www.myheritage.com/photo-enhancer>
 - Select a photo and click on the magic wand icon above it to bring blurry faces into focus.
 - After enhancing a photo, click on a face below it to see a close-up of the person.

- **Deep Nostalgia**
 - <https://www.myheritage.com/deep-nostalgia>
 - Or go to My Photos, select a photo and click on the moving ball icon above it.
 - This tool animates the faces. It selects gestures appropriate for the photo, but you can try other animations from the drop-down menu. Paying subscribers can choose from more options.
 - It automatically applies Photo Enhancer to increase the photo's resolution.
- **LiveMemory**
 - It turns a still photo into a 5-second video clip (an MP4 movie).
 - If the photo has multiple people, they will interact and make gestures in the video.
 - It also works on photos with pets and vehicles.
 - **TWO OPTIONS**
 - Custom animation. (Choose an emotional gesture or an effect, such as laughing or dancing.)
 - Relive the memory. (Reenact the scene realistically.)
 - **COST:** You can create 20 videos with an annual Photo plan and 30 videos with an annual Omni plan.
- **AI Time Machine**
 - This tool transforms a modern-day photo of someone into a historical portrait.
 - It analyzes 10 to 15 photos of the person taken from different angles and in different settings.
 - Then it creates a portrait showing how the person might have looked based on one of many predefined themes set in different historical eras.
- **Digitization Services**
 - ScanCafe, a partner of MyHeritage, can digitize your old photos, slides, negatives and video tapes. Then the digital files will be uploaded to your MyHeritage account.

MyHeritage Mobile App

Click the four boxes in the upper left corner and then on the down arrow to the right of Photos to access the photo tools.

- All photos
- Add Photos
- Photo Scanner
- Photo Tagger
- AI Time Machine

LiveMemory

- Click the four boxes in the upper left corner and then on Live Memory or select it from the options under Photos.

Scroll down to access these options under Photos.

- **Deep Nostalgia**
- **LiveMemory**
- **Scan Photos**
 - Scan an entire album page or multiple separate photos in a single tap. The app automatically detects individual photos, crops them and saves them as separate files.
- **Enhance**
- **Colorize**
- **Restore colors**
- **Repair**
- **AI Time Machine**

Photo Storyteller

- This tool lets you add an audio narrative to a photo.
- Open the MyHeritage mobile app and tap the Photos icon on the home page.
- Select a photo and tap the microphone icon on the upper right.
- Tap the red button start recording and the Stop button to end recording.
- You can record up to an hour of audio that will remain attached to a photo in your albums.
- Once a story is attached to a photo, a Play icon will appear on the lower right corner. Tap the button to hear the recording.

Reimagine

This is a mobile app for scanning entire album pages quickly and improving old photos.

KEY FEATURES

- **Enhancements:** Colorize, restore and enhance the resolution of photos.
- **Scanning:** Scan an album page and the app detects individual photos and crops them.
- **Photo animation:** The “Deep Nostalgia” feature animates facial expressions.
- **Storage and Sharing:** The app backs up photos to the cloud.
- **Family Tree Integration:** Easily add enhanced photos to profiles in your trees on MyHeritage.

COST: \$49.99 per year or \$7.99 per month from the App Store or Google Play.

OPTIONS

- **Scan Photos**
- **Colorize**
- **Enhance**
- **Animate**
- **Repair**
- **Restore colors**

MyHeritage Mobile App vs. Reimagine

The MyHeritage mobile app and the Reimagine app offer the same features and the same pricing. According to Daniel Horowitz of MyHeritage, “The only difference is that Reimagine is a standalone app and isn't fully integrated with your family site. Photos you scan with Reimagine will be added to your photos on MyHeritage, but you can only tag people from your tree using the MyHeritage app (or website). Other than that, the photo features available on both apps are functionally identical.”

Reimagine is geared toward users who are mostly interested in the photo features, but not in genealogy. If you're a genealogist, the MyHeritage mobile app is more appropriate. Keep in mind that DeepStory is a separate feature accessible through the MyHeritage website and mobile app.

DeepStory

- DeepStory lets you create a video with a narrator telling his or her life story or speaking on another topic.
- The story can be based on details from your family tree. You can add text and photographs and customize the voice.
- Start by uploading a portrait of the person who will be the narrator. Then follow the guidelines to write the narrative and add more photos.
- New users can start by visiting <https://www.myheritage.com/deepstory>, uploading a photo, and following the prompts to set up an account and select their photo.
- Existing MyHeritage users can access DeepStory through the MyHeritage mobile app. Click on the photo icon in the bottom right corner and then on the DeepStory tab at the top of the screen.
 - If you have a family tree on MyHeritage, select an ancestor from the suggestions to automatically generate a DeepStory using information and photos already in your tree.
 - To create a DeepStory from scratch, scroll to the bottom and tap “Create DeepStory” to upload a photo and start building your story.
 - Then add details, a narrative and photos and customize the voice.

Free Features

PHOTODATER

- Display a photo on the MyHeritage website, the MyHeritage mobile app or the Reimagine app.
- Based on clothing, hairstyles, facial hair, furniture and other objects, PhotoDater gives an estimated date for photos taken between 1860 and 1990.
- If PhotoDater has estimated a date, it will appear above the photo on the upper left side.
- Click the date estimate to view more details and to add the estimate as an approximate date for the photo.
- It does not provide a date estimate if the photo already has a date in the metadata or it does not include people.

PHOTO TAGGER

- Tag multiple photos of the same person at once.

- Photo Tagger suggests people to tag in various locations on the MyHeritage website and app. After reviewing a suggestion, you can confirm it and tag multiple photos of the same person at once.

COST

- Some photo features, such as **Photo Tagger**, **PhotoDater** and a limited number of uses for other features, are **free for all users**. Photo colorization, enhancement, repair, and animation (Deep Nostalgia) have free trial periods, but require a paid subscription for unlimited use.
- The **MyHeritage Complete subscription** (US\$299 per year) offers unlimited use of all photo features, including colorization, enhancement, repair, and animation, as well as access to historical records and a large family tree.
- After a free trial, a **Complete subscription** is required to make an unlimited number of **DeepStories**.
- The **Photo plan**, an app-only subscription, provides unlimited photo scanning and access to other photo features for US\$49.90 per year (US\$37 per year for Complete subscribers).
- A **Reimagine App subscription** includes unlimited use of all its photo editing features, including scanning, colorization, enhancement, and repair, for US\$7.99 per month or US\$49.99 per year.
- After a free trial, a **Photo** or **Omni plan** is needed for unlimited use of **LiveMemory**.

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A contributing editor for *Family Tree Magazine*, Rick specializes in online research, genealogy software, DNA testing, and British genealogy. With years of expertise, he's dedicated to helping genealogists make groundbreaking discoveries. He created Inside Genealogy's United States Checklist, a new tool to help you organize your family history research and discover important record collections. For details, visit [InsideGenealogy.com](https://www.insidegenealogy.com).