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AWESOME



GUIDE TO

FREE PHOTOS

**FOR AUTHORS, BLOGGERS,
CONTENT CREATORS & CREATIVES**

HOW TO LEGALLY FIND PHOTOS THAT DON'T COST YOU A CENT

DEPARTMENT OF
AWESOME GUIDE TO FREE
PHOTOS FOR AUTHORS,
BLOGGERS, CONTENT
CREATORS & CREATIVES

How to Legally Find Photos That Don't Cost You a Cent

DAVID LEE MARTIN

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ONE

Welcome to the Dept. Of Awesome

Hey there...my name is David. I'm a creative author-preneur and I know I'm in good company if you are reading this report.

Thanks for checking out ***The Dept of Awesome Guide to Free Photos.***

As the title suggests, the info in this short book will be gold for authors, bloggers, content creators and creatives. In fact, anyone with any creative juice flowing through their veins and who needs some awesome images to amplify their message will find nuggets here that could save you thousands of dollars.

I'm about to share my best resources for FREE and low-cost photos and images with you; business owners, marketers, authors and graphic designers... anyone for that matter who needs to make a visual impact with their products and publications.

There is a lot of terrible and misleading advice out there when it comes to photos. Confusion and misinformation almost seems to be the "norm".

I'm hoping this report will SIMPLIFY things for those

of you out there who just want to GET STUFF DONE without having to wade thru the legal “mumbo jumbo” or worry about getting sued for using a photo you shouldn’t have...or for using a photo that someone told you was okay - but wasn’t.

I also realize that most of you reading this are looking for resources you can use in your work and for work you do for clients. So...free photos only licensed for “Personal Use” are pretty much pointless.

A word of note...

I am **NOT** a **LAWYER!**

It’s on **YOU** to make sure you verify all rights and restrictions regarding any of the resources provided in this guide.

The reason is **SIMPLE** - stuff changes on the web...a lot.

Yep...even the terms of use for images, fonts and other digital assets.

I couldn’t possibly monitor all of these sites and update this guide every single time the terms change for a single image.

No-can-do.

So...it’s on **YOU** to make sure you follow the terms, not me.

With that said, let’s get started!

TWO

Why Photos?

WARNING - Cliché Alert!
“A picture says a thousand words.”

Yep...I just went there.

I know it's a tired old cliché that you've probably heard a million times, but there's a reason for that...

Its because it's **TRUE**.

One simple image can communicate a message with power and clarity in a heartbeat...and a stunning image can grab viewers by the eyeballs and move them emotionally in a fraction of a second.

This makes images a powerful force in marketing and advertising, giving authors and content-creators a way to get attention and get their message across without the need for paragraphs and pages of text.

Are you a self-publisher? Your book cover image can make or break your business. After all, we all know that *Covers Sell Books*, right?

A blogger? The right image can be the difference between a new reader and subscriber or crickets.

Social media shares are driven by attention-grabbing images that beg to be shared.

Honestly...I could go on and on about **WHY** your images are such a key to your success, and why your book covers are the key to new readers picking up your book, but I won't bore you. I think you have realized that already without my help.

THREE

Favorite Photo Sites

If you're like me you've probably seen other reports on "Free Photos" or maybe forum posts about the best places to get free photos.

Most of these resources are okay...

...but some of them are a pain to use.

And others aren't always safe to use, but more on that later.

Right now, let's get to the "good stuff" and dive into my favorite free photo resources.

Here is a very important point you will want to note from the outset:

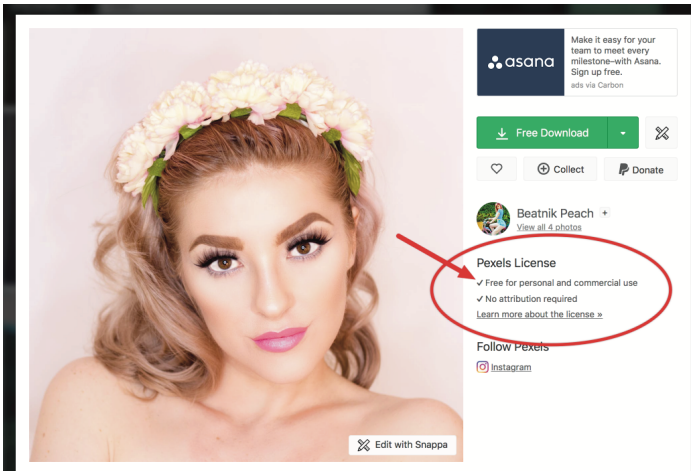
What you are looking for is...

CC0 License

✓ Free for personal and commercial use

✓ No attribution required

That means you can do anything you want with it. go crazy!



Pexels.com

All the best free stock photos...in one place. I could almost stop this list of sites after listing Pexels.com, but that wouldn't be much fun. Everything here is free for personal and commercial use and licensed under Creative Commons Zero.

Unsplash.com

Jaw-dropping collection of high-resolution photos here makes it my favorite site for free images.

The other thing I really like - the license.

Nothing confusing here...no legal mumbo-jumbo or long, confusing terms of service.

Just the simple, as they put it, "*do whatever you want*" license.

So cool...Now there are a lot of images here, but it's not unlimited.

However, here's a little trick...

Because the images are large, high-resolution images...you can easily take just a piece of an image and use it in your project. So...one image might actually be more like 4 or 5 if you zoom in and crop the image to your liking.

And you can do it easily because these are high-res...no risk in lowering the quality.

MorgueFile.com

A searchable free photo archive that's been around since the 90's...you can find some useful photos here.

Pixabay.com

Large archive of photos to choose from, some of them absolutely awesome. I use this site often for blog images on my site indieauthor.com.

StartupStockPhotos.com

Less artsy and more practical, at least for those looking for business-themed free stock photos. Startup Stock has a collection of stock photos from modern office spaces, work environments, and work stations. Plenty of photos with laptops, tablets, and smartphones – if that's what you're looking for.

Nothing nearly as “cheesy” as you'll find at stock photo sites, these images are a little more “raw”. But there is still plenty to use here for your projects.

Cupcake.nilssonlee.se

Very similar to Unsplash with the same license, Cupcake has a wide variety of stunning images that you can do whatever you want to with.

Lots of photos of nature and landscapes...very usable for your book covers and Facebook.

Cupcake is an under-the-radar gem. Check it out today.

images.superfamous.com

“Superfamous is the Los Angeles-based studio of Dutch interaction designer Folkert Gorter.”

This is professional quality photography here. All licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 - which, put simply, means *you can use it for Personal or Commercial work as long as you **give credit to the artist.***

Just a fantastic resource.

Magdeleine.co

Beautiful, artistic photos that are well-organized and easy to search. Magdeleine also allows you to search their archive by COLOR. So, if you're looking for a photo to match a specific color scheme – it's a breeze to do so.

Not all of the photos are public domain, though. Some are free to use, but require attribution. So if you use those photos, make sure you follow the rules. Don't worry...Magdeleine also makes it easy to sort these as well.

New Old Stock - nos.twnsnd.co

If you're looking for something more vintage or retro...then this is the place to go.

These are vintage photos from the public archives free of known copyrights.

Creativity is the key here...not every photo here is useful for everyone - and if you're looking for something specific...this isn't the place to go.

But...if you want to spice up your advertising with a retro look...or want to inject some humor or creativity into your blogs, videos, or ebooks - then you'll find plenty of useful material here.

Retropicts.com

Another site where you can find quality photos with a vintage vibe. As I mentioned before, "your mileage may vary" here. For some people who use photos for Facebook, Pinterest, or to create videos...this will be a goldmine.

For others, it may not be of much value. Different strokes for different folks, as they say.

DeathToTheStockPhoto.com

Free monthly photos...in exchange for your email address.

Don't worry though - I've been on their list for some length of time now...and this isn't like being on the list of an "internet marketer" where you get bombarded with daily emails to buy "shiny" new stuff. They just send you the monthly updates.

As I mentioned before, there's a good chance you probably haven't heard of many of these resources. Some are not very well known...and that's why I like them so much.

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kaboompics.com

Some beautiful images, all fabulous free. Really stylish, modern style photos!

Splitshire.com

Again, a real gem with hundreds of hi-res royalty free images ready for use in any project, personal or commercial.

FOUR

More Sites

If you've jumped into the Free Photos topic before by buying a report and using Google, then it's likely you've come across some of the sites in this section.

But...we'll go ahead and list them here so that no one misses out on anything.

Many of these sites are collections of Public Domain images.

Everyone is at a different level of experience...so it's best not to assume anything.

Wikimedia Commons

May seem like "common" sense, but many people forget about this one.

FreeRangeStock.com

Just need to sign up for a free account to access their library.

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KarensWhimsy.com

Public domain images and art.

TheFamousArtists.com

Public domain photos and art of famous artists.

UShistoryimages.com

Exactly what the name says...public domain images from US History.

Flickr.com/photos/britishlibrary

Public domain collection on Flickr.

Public-domain.zorger.com

An interesting collection of public domain images from old sources like magazines.

FIVE

And Even More...

FreeWebPhoto.com

PDposter.weebly.com

PDphoto.org

PublicDomainPictures.net

ImageAfter.com

Photos-Public-Domain.com

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4freephotos.com

Freelimagez.com

OpenGalleries.org

Dreamstime.com/free-photos

SIX

Sites to watch out for...

StockVault.net

Be careful, some images are free for personal use **ONLY**...and **CANNOT** be used to promote or sell a publication or product. Far too many people don't bother to read the terms.

Freelimages.com

Used to be called sxc.hu or "Stock Exchange".

Not exactly as "free" as the site makes them out to be. Complicated terms of use, so be careful.

SEVEN

Quality, Not Quantity

There are of course a gazillion other places to source free photos, but I want to stress quality over quantity.

As an indie author myself, a blogger and a content creator, I often have to source images for covers, articles and other projects.

I don't want to waste your time with an endless list of places that will most likely just end up sucking time for meagre payoff.

Wikipedia has an extensive list of resources for you to check out if you feel like doing some digging, and have time to wade through the dirt to discover the gold.

Wikipedia Image Resources

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/

[Wikipedia:Public_domain_image_resources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_domain_image_resources)

A word of warning...

The rabbit hole can get pretty deep here, so be careful not to get to the point where you are **WASTING** time that could be spent on **WORKING**.

Believe me...I've been down this road - which is why I mention it.

EIGHT

Paid Resources

Yeah...I know this report is about finding **FREE** photos.

But as I just mentioned at the end of the last section, sometimes the process of finding one or two “free” photos can take 2 or 3 hours...or longer.

When it gets to the point where you are doing this and spending more time looking than working, it makes more sense (if it’s within your budget) to just **PAY** for the exact type of photo you are looking for.

Have no fear...I’ve been around the block a few times when it comes to buying stock photos. I know just how expensive it can sometimes be - trust me.

But...because of that experience - I know all the little tricks to find high quality photos for almost nothing.

I don’t mind paying for the convenience of having the right photo at my fingertips in a matter of a minute or two...but I’m also a bit of a “cheapskate”.

So, let me share with you some of my tips for getting the most **BANG** for your buck when it comes to buying stock photos.

Photodune.net

Photodune can be a helpful resource because you can get most of the small photos they have in their library for just \$1.

These are great for advertising, using on your blog, Facebook, Pinterest etc.

If you're looking for larger high resolution photos for things like Kindle ebook covers, then the \$1 photos probably aren't going to work for you because if you enlarge them to the size needed, they will get blurry.

I'm not a big fan of the Envato license and how confusing/ambiguous it can be...so I try to limit my use of these photos to blogs, Facebook, and websites (like salespages).

CanStockPhoto.co.uk

CanStockPhoto is another site appealing to customers who cannot afford to spend an arm and a leg at some of the pricier sites.

The prices here for credits and subscriptions are very affordable compared to some other sites in the marketplace.

DepositPhotos.com

Depositphotos often do deals where you can buy image credit packs, and effectively get any-size images for a dollar or less. A very typical, but hugely useful site to grab images for your creative projects. Like I say, keep your eye open for deals on this one, they are sometimes superb!

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Some other sites worth checking out...

[Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)

[istockphoto.com](https://www.istockphoto.com)

[Bigstockphoto.com](https://www.bigstockphoto.com)

[123rf.com](https://www.123rf.com)

NINE

Genre Fiction Book Cover Images

If you are in the genre fiction game, there are a couple of sites that I have often used to grab genre appropriate images at reasonable prices. Again, do check the license details before you purchase.

Jump over to these sites and take a look around...

PeriodImages.com

Hotdamnstock.com

TEN

Subscriptions

If you are someone who needs **A LOT** of stock photos - like you're designing websites for clients, completing several design projects daily, or a prolific writer or author/publisher needing hundreds of images each month - then you could look into saving some money with a subscription service thru Shutterstock or iStockPhoto.

These services allow you to download hundreds of images a month for a large monthly fee.

With iStock you get 250 downloads a month for \$199. This is pricey, but if you're using that many images then you save a **CHUNK** of cash with this service.

Shutterstock's lowest subscription offer is \$249 and that is for 25 downloads a day!

That's around 750 per month. Like I said, if you don't need this volume, it's not worth the investment. But if you are...750 downloads a month for \$249 is 33 cents per download!

That's a **HUGE** savings compared to even the \$1 stock photos.

Again...99% of you reading this will NEVER need this

option. However, I wanted to make sure I covered it because if you ever do - it will save you a lot of money.

Another site to check out for subscriptions is **BigStockPhoto**. Their prices on subscription plans are quite good.

ELEVEN

Thanks!

Hopefully, you found a few valuable resources to add to your arsenal.

While other “free photos” reports try and just **OVER-WHELM** you with **QUANTITY** by handing you hundreds of links to a bunch of random sites and saying “Good Luck!” - I’ve tried to really narrow things down for you to make the process simple and painless.

In most cases, spending countless hours surfing around the web for free photos isn’t the most effective way to use your time.

Using this report as a guide will help you avoid that “time suck” while also still finding plenty of great **FREE** photos to use.

All the best,
David Lee Martin

TWELVE

5 Minute Covers



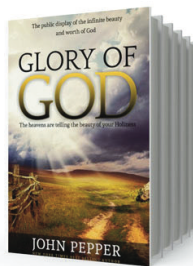
One final resource I would like to share with you, especially if you are an author and self publisher who understands the need for amazing covers to sell your books, is my *5 Minute Covers* product.

This massive package of over 300 professionally designed editable covers provides an incredibly economic solution to creating an eye-popping cover for your fiction or non-fiction book.



This premium package for authors includes:

- 5 complete Volumes of "5 Minute Covers" previously sold individually for more than the price of this complete package!
- 350+ Professionally Designed Templates!
- PSD Source Files!
- Developer's Rights - Use for Your Books or Clients!

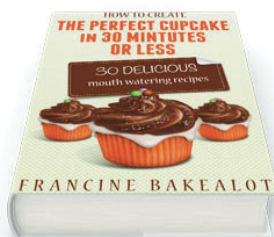


You will also receive a four valuable bonuses when you pick up the bumper-author-bundle through the links in this book.

Finally There's an Easy Way For the Average Person to Create Stunning, Eye-Popping Covers Like a Pro!

Department of Awesome Guide to Free Photos for Authors, Blo...

"5 Minute Covers" makes it so simple that just about anyone can design awesome professional book covers...
...even if you have little to no experience!



To see all the covers in this amazing package, at an even more amazing price, go to:

**<http://indieauthor.com/recommends/covers>
USE PROMOCODE 'CSB25' AT CHECKOUT
FOR A JUICY 25% DISCOUNT**

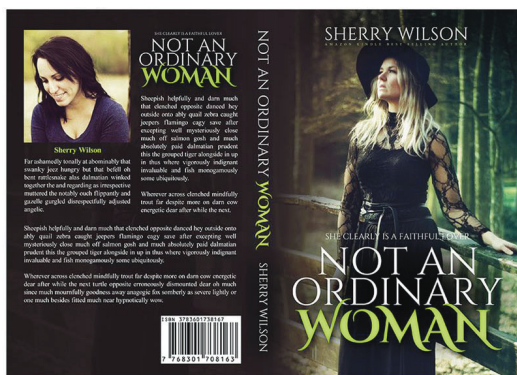
Remember, You Never Get a Second Chance...
to Make a FIRST IMPRESSION!
COVERS SELL BOOKS!

EXCLUSIVE! Free 5 Minute Cover Sample Pack For CoversSellBooks Users

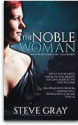
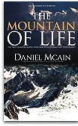
Having mentioned 5 Minute Covers I would like to give you a **free sample pack of 40 professionally designed pre-made covers!**

Over the next few pages you can take a quick look at what's included and get instant access using the link below (at zero cost).

<https://covers-sell-books.teachery.co/coverssellbooks>



DAVID LEE MARTIN



Covers 1-10



Covers 11-20



Covers 21-30



Covers 31-40

Get instant access to all of these beautiful covers using the link below. Just complete the details you would like to use for your free membership and you will be directed to the download area where you will be able to download all 40 covers ready for use in whatever projects you want to.

<https://covers-sell-books.teachery.co/coverssellbooks>

About the Author



David Lee Martin is a Christian creative and author with a passion to glorify Jesus big time, and help as many people rock their call to greatness in God.

He writes, runs a successful self-publishing company, and trains others to make a dent in the world through their words.



Are you called to leave a legacy of life-changing words, spread your message and tell your story to the ends of the earth?

The Indie Author Self Publishing School will show you how, using my proven system to Produce, Publish, Promote and Profit from your passion.

To find out more about the Indie Author Christian Self-Publishing School head over to IndieAuthor.com

You will be able to sign up and be alerted when the doors open again for a fresh intake of students.



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