

StoryBook Creator 2.0

Stepping you through the process

Ready to share your memories through a digital StoryBook? Follow these easy steps to create a beautiful, long-lasting digital book!

Step 1: Register at the Creative Memories Photo Center.

StoryBooks are printed through the Creative Memories Photo Center, so you need to be registered to access these services. If you're already a photo center customer, you may proceed to Step 2. If you are not yet registered, click on the link to the Creative Memories Photo Center on this site. OR you can go directly to the photo center at www.cmphotocenter.com, click on Join Now and sign up. You'll need your Consultant's CM ID number to finish your registration. Now you're all set to start the fun!

Step 2: Download the free software.

Make sure your computer is connected to the Internet so you can download the free StoryBook Creator 2.0 Software. Since this is a desktop application, you only need to be connected to the Internet when you download the software and when you order your StoryBook. Your free software comes with two free themes installed – Basic Black and Basic White. If you want more themes, you can choose from our other free themes or purchase fixed templates with our latest artwork styles. You can mix and match pages from different themes in your StoryBook. To access the free themes and the purchasable templates, just click on the Check for Pricing and New CM Content link on the StoryBook Creator 2.0 home page. StoryBook Creator 2.0 is updated on a regular basis. Whenever an update is available, you will automatically be notified the next time you open the software. Just follow the easy instructions to install the updates to be sure your software is current.

Step 3: Get started by creating a new project.

There are two ways to begin creating your book. If you have Creative Memories Memory Manager™ Software, you can choose the photos you want to use in your StoryBook within Memory Manager. You can either import everything from an existing album within Memory Manager, or you can drag the images you want to use onto the clipboard. Once you have selected your photos, just select Share from the menu bar and select StoryBook from the drop-down menu. StoryBook Creator 2.0 will open automatically. If you want to add more images after you start your StoryBook, go back to Memory Manager and drag the new photos onto the clipboard. Click on Share at the top of the clipboard and then choose Export from the drop-down menu. Select a file to hold your images. Return to StoryBook Creator 2.0 and click on Get Photos. Browse to the location of the file to import your selected photos into your StoryBook.

If you don't have Memory Manager, simply open the StoryBook Creator 2.0 Software and select Create a New Project.

your life | your story | your way

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Step 4: Choose your book size and theme.

Choose which book size you'd like to create – 8 x 8, 11 x 8.5 or 12 x 12. Then select your theme from the available options.

Step 5: Name your StoryBook and choose where to save your project.

Choose a name for your project and enter it in the Name the Project space. You can also choose where you would like to store this project. It can be stored anywhere on your computer, including an external hard drive. When you are ready to begin, click on Create and you're ready to go!

Step 6: Add and enhance your photos.

If you imported your photos from Memory Manager, they will appear in the Photos panel at the bottom of your screen. If you did not import from Memory Manager, just click on Get Photos at the very bottom left corner of your screen. You can then browse to the location of your photos and import them into StoryBook Creator 2.0. Your photos are not moved from their original location – the software automatically makes a copy for you to use to create your StoryBook.

On the right side of your screen, you'll see the Pages panel that shows thumbnail presentations of each page of your StoryBook. Click on a page and it will appear enlarged on your screen. To add a photo to the page, simply click on a photo and drag and drop it into a photo box. It's that simple!

If you want to zoom in on your photo, just click on it and move your mouse over the blue circle that appears to the right of the photo until it turns into a magnifying glass. Simply hold down the left-click on your mouse and move it up or down to zoom in or out. Once you've zoomed in, you can also reposition the photo by placing your mouse over the yellow four-pointed arrow in the middle of the photo (the mouse pointer will turn into a hand). Hold down the left-click on your mouse and move the photo to your desired position.

When you click on the Edit tab at the top of your page, you'll find many wonderful editing tools. Here you can rotate, zoom, apply quick fixes (including red-eye), convert to black and white or sepia, and enhance the light, color or focus of your photo.

Make sure you fill in all of the photo boxes within your book. If you don't, you'll be reminded when you try to place your order that you have some boxes that are not filled. If a box isn't filled, a gray box will be printed on your page, which you'll see during the preview.

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Step 9: Add journaling.

Click on any Enter Text Here area and type your journaling in the box that appears. To format your text, just click on the Edit tab at the top of your screen and choose your font, size, color and placement within the text box. You can use any TrueType font you have on your computer. And you can match your font color to an object on your page by clicking on the drop-down arrow next to the color choice and choosing Sample Color from the box that appears. Then simply click once more anywhere on your page to set the color – even on your photo!

Unlike image boxes, you don't have to fill every text box. If you choose not to enter any text, "Enter text here" will not be printed on the page.

Step 10: Create your cover.

If you want your book to have a personalized cover, you'll create the cover by clicking on the Cover button in the View area of the top menu bar. You can either use a default cover or choose any cover from any theme you have installed on your computer. To change the cover, simply click on Cover and then choose Select a Different Cover Template.

Step 11: Add and rearrange pages.

Your StoryBook automatically loaded with 20 pages. But there are even more page choices in this theme, and you can mix and match templates throughout your StoryBook! Use the Pages panel on the right side of the screen to add, delete or rearrange pages as you desire. Just click and drag pages into place or choose Add Page or Change This Page from the top menu.

Step 12: Play until it's perfect.

You don't have to create your StoryBook all in one sitting. Create a few pages, save them and then come back later to create more. All you have to do is go to the StoryBook Creator home page, select Open a Project and choose your project from the list that appears. You can also browse to other locations to choose projects you haven't worked on for awhile that no longer appear in the Recently Used Projects list.

When your book is complete, make sure you check your images and proof your journaling carefully. You can use the Zoom tool at the bottom left of your working area to look at your journaling up close. Be sure to delete any unused pages from your Pages panel so they won't be printed with your book. To delete a page, click on the down arrow next to the thumbnail of that page and choose Remove Page.

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Step 13: Order your StoryBook.

Click on Order in the upper toolbar when you're ready to purchase your StoryBook. A preview box will automatically open and let you view your cover and each two-page spread within your book. When you are sure your book is perfect, click the box indicating you agree to have the book printed as shown.

Click on Continue and your StoryBook will be prepared for ordering. Once the book has been generated, the software will automatically connect you to the Creative Memories Photo Center. Sign into your account or create a new account if you don't already have one. Be sure to enter your Creative Memories Consultant's CM ID number in the space provided.

You will need to indicate what type of cover you prefer. Our 8 x 8 and 12 x 12 books are only available with a customized cover, but 11 x 8.5 books are available with a personalized linen or leatherette cover. With the linen and leatherette options you have the choice of having a window in the cover that lets your first page show through. You will also choose the color of your linen or leatherette cover at this time.

Need additional help with your StoryBook? The help menu within the software contains the entire User's Guide!