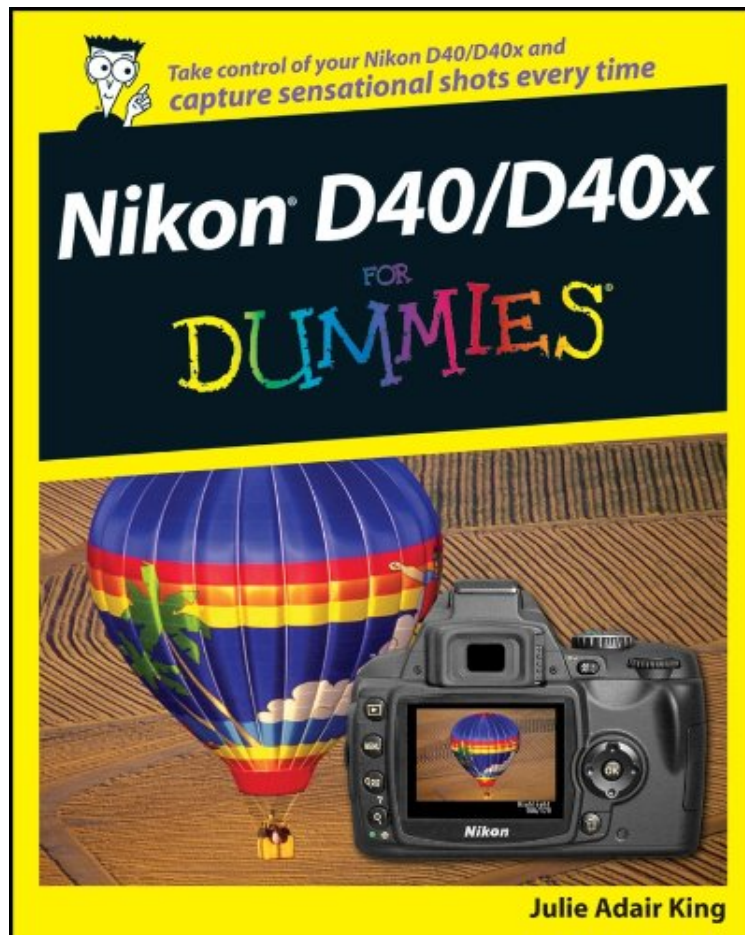


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Nikon D40/D40x For Dummies

Julie Adair King

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Julie Adair King : Nikon D40/D40x For Dummies before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nikon D40/D40x For Dummies:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This should be the XSi Instruction ManualBy VinylManIf you are new to photography, or digital photography, you absolutely need this book.Even if you have experience with digital point shoot, you need this book.Experienced DSLR owners will find that they already know most of the theory in this book, but the pay off will come in the details of how each button and menu is programmed.Canon's little book that is packaged with the camera is a great reference manual. But you will waste a lot of time trying to figure out all the buttons and menus, when certain features are available and when they are not, and general workflow if you do not have this Dummies book.The Dummies book also reviews the software and gives you a feel for its pluses (free) and minuses.Do yourself a favor. Regardless of your level of camera knowledge, include this book with your camera order. You will thank me.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great book for new DSLR OwnersBy H. S. PopeI highly recommend this book for anyone who recently purchased the Canon Rebel XSi, especially if this is your first DSLR camera. I finally purchased the XSi after getting frustrated with my 8.0 megapixel point-and-shoot

camera that took poor quality pictures. After a few weeks of research, I settled on the XSi as my first DSLR camera. With this being my first DSLR camera, I knew very little about the advanced functions and I vowed to get away from the automatic modes as much as possible. Even though this camera takes excellent pictures in the automatic modes, I could not justify such a big ticket purchase if I wasn't going to take the extra time needed to learn how to use the camera like a pro (or at least as close to a pro as I could get doing this part-time). I've made it more than half way through this book and I'm extremely satisfied with how it has helped me take much better pictures without relying on the automatic modes most of the time. The book takes a very logical approach to teaching a novice the basic terminology associated with this camera (and photography, in general) and clearly demonstrates how some of the key functions work. One of the best features of this book is the comparison photos provided by the author. When the author is discussing, for the example, how to adjust aperture settings and how these adjustments affect the image, she provides multiple photographs taken using different settings to demonstrate how each adjustment affects the picture. This was extremely helpful for someone like me, who is just starting out, because I could then practice taking different photographs and comparing those to the ones in the book to confirm that I was understanding the instructions properly. Another great feature of the book was the description of how aperture, shutter speed and ISO settings all work together. After a little practice, I have been able to capture pictures with my new camera that would typically not come out properly using the automatic settings or that I couldn't capture at all with my previous camera. For example, I wanted to take pictures of my daughter playing in the living room. In the auto modes, the camera forced me to use a flash, which made the picture too bright and washed out in some areas. Based on the instructions from the book on aperture and ISO, I was able to take the picture without a flash and at a high-enough shutter speed that the photograph came out great, even with the indoor lighting. The image was much more natural compared to what you would see with the naked eye.

Pros: - Good, clear descriptions in layman's terms - Great examples of the camera functions (with pictures) and how adjustments affect the images - Well organized; increases complexity as you progress through the book - Good combined discussion of how the functions work together (i.e. how aperture and ISO can compensate for a higher shutter speed in low lighting, etc.)

Cons: - It's still just a book; you can't ask it questions if something is not working as described - All discussions focus on the kit lens (EF-S 18-55mm), so if you have additional lenses (i.e. macro, wide-angle, prime, etc.) this book may fall short of what you need to learn to shoot with those lenses - Some discussions jump around and the author may mention functions that you will not learn to use fully until a later chapter. - Some example photographs show minimal differences, so the point of the example is somewhat lost. This is likely because the quality of the images in the book was clearly degraded during printing. [I determined this when I viewed my own full-size images on my PC.]

- This is just the beginning; this book is only good enough to help you learn basic functionality and some photography terminology. Additional books or classes will be necessary for more advanced skills. [not a problem for me at this point]

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One smart book!

By Mike If you've just purchased the Canon SXi/450 and are stepping up from a simple point and shoot, buy this book! Even if you've owned this camera awhile and find yourself still unsure of all that it does, buy this book. I've owned my SXi for almost a year, bought this book to improve my technique in the programmable modes, and still learned a good deal about this amazing camera's basic and advanced capabilities. Every aspect of every function on the Rebel is thoughtfully and clearly explained; beautiful examples of full-color photographs under various conditions and camera settings illustrate every essential setting for the amateur and advanced amateur photographer alike. And the author's friendly but clear and informative prose make for an easy, enjoyable read, one that will please and enlighten the SXi owner. The only weak point in the book are the somewhat dated sections on computer software for tweaking photos once downloaded to the computer. But, given the rest of the book's helpful techniques, detailed photographic examples, and its price, you couldn't find a better introduction to a digital SLR.

The Nikon D40 and the D40x offer exciting new features that will enable you to take amazing digital photos. These compact cameras pack a big punch at a great price! With Nikon D40/D40x For Dummies, you'll discover what each bell and whistle on your camera does so that you can confidently know when, where, why and how to put each feature to its best use. This friendly full-color guide translates all of those techie words in your Nikon manual into plain English. You'll learn what terms like SLR, resolution, aperture, white balance, and file format really mean and how they effect picture quality. You'll also find out what happens when you press, jiggle, or twist all those serious-looking controls and how to use them to capture the great shots you imagined taking when you became a Nikon owner. Discover how to: Install batteries and memory card Adjust viewfinder to your eyesight Take great pictures automatically Get creative with exposure and lighting Manipulate focus and color Control picture quality and size Download, organize, and archive your photos Print and share your photos Use fast photo-retouching tricks Packed with more than 200 beautiful color photos throughout, Nikon D40/D40x For Dummies is more than an easy-to-use handbook, it's the paperback version of an in-depth photography workshop tailored specifically to help you make the absolute most of your Nikon picture-taking powerhouse.

From the Back Cover Packed with tips on using your Nikon D40/D40x Get the information you need to capture the

photos you want The Nikon D40/D40x comes equipped with features that enable you to take amazing digital photos. If you're not familiar with the controls of a digital SLR camera, this book will get you up to speed and shooting like a pro in no time. Illustrated with over 200 full-color images, this book demonstrates when, where, why, and how to put each feature to its best use. Discover how to: Get creative with exposure and lighting Manipulate focus and color Control picture quality and size Download, organize, and archive your photos Print and share your photos Use photo-retouching tricks

About the Author Julie Adair King is the author of many books about digital photography and imaging, including the best-selling *Digital Photography For Dummies*. Her most recent titles include *Digital Photography Before After Makeovers*, *Digital Photo Projects For Dummies*, *Julie King's Everyday Photoshop For Photographers*, *Julie King's Everyday Photoshop Elements*, and *Shoot Like a Pro!: Digital Photography Techniques*. When not writing, King teaches digital photography at such locations as the Palm Beach Photographic Center. A graduate of Purdue University, she resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.