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## HOW TO CHEAT IN ADOBE PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 7 A DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHER'S GUIDE

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AUTHORS DAVID ASCH AND STEVE CAPLIN PUBLISHER FOCAL PRESS

At 280 pages, this is the thinnest of the four books and the one best suited to those looking to have a bit of creative fun with their photos. That's because *How to Cheat* is dedicated to the art of montage – taking ordinary pictures, or elements within them, and twisting them to give a whole new appearance. If

you've ever wanted to give someone a comedy-sized head, or add snow to a beach image taken in mid-summer, *How to Cheat* is the perfect book for you.

Unlike *A Visual Introduction...* this book isn't so concerned with helping the reader understand any of the intricacies behind digital image capture, and as such dives straight into useful tricks and techniques from the off with just a brief introduction into the various methods of image selection and using layer masks.

Most of the book's individual 'cheats' are presented over the course of a spread (sometimes four pages), and cover topics as diverse as 'Turning Day to Night' to 'Ageing Your Subject'. This style of presentation makes it very much a dip-in, dip-out kind of book, with readers more likely to use it to tackle a task at a time, rather than become well-versed in the fundamentals of the software.

Overall, while it is both useful and fun, it is by no means comprehensive. A DVD containing QuickTime tutorials to some of the lessons is also supplied. **AJ 84%**

