

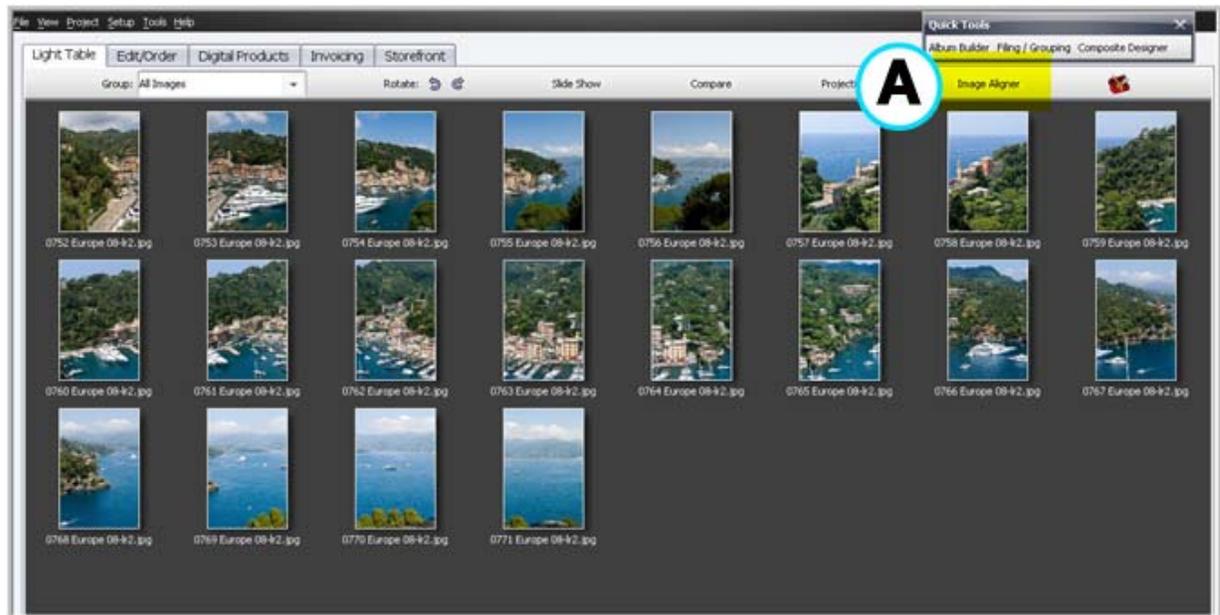
## GUIDE TO LP IMAGE ALIGNER

Introducing LP Image Aligner, a software add-on for LP Digital Studio which allows you to merge/stitch multiple images into a single, print ready image! LP Image Aligner utilizes advanced technology for accurate output. It's the same technology utilized by the US military and NASA.

What does LP Image Aligner mean for you? You no longer need expensive panoramic ball-heads, to do a lot of planning, or worry about exposing six images closely. This is also a wonderful feature for album designers who are looking for images for 20x10" and 28x11" flush album "panoramic" pages.

### USAGE:

At your event or session, take overlapping images. No tripod is needed and there is no need to lock the exposure. Then input your images into LP Digital Studio. Select the images you want to merge on the light table and then select 'Image Aligner' button in the upper right-hand corner (see 'A') or right-click and select 'Image Aligner'. This will move your images into LP Image Aligner. Select your specifications and then click 'start.' At the end of the process you can review the image, name and save a high resolution JPG to any location, and the image is automatically added to the Light Table.



## ADVANCED OPTIONS:

Here is a guide to some of the options available to you in LP Image Aligner. Please refer to the graphic below for the corresponding feature.



### A--LAYOUT OPTIONS

- **Auto** (default) LP Image Aligner automatically chooses or combines the three options below. You may want to experiment with each of the settings individually depending on your taste and the exact usage of the final image.
- **Cylindrical** is most appropriate when the images are taken by sweeping the camera left-to-right or right-to-left, or even using multiple levels of sweeps.
- **Planer** is most appropriate when taking pictures of something flat, such as the facade of a building or a painting.
- **Reposition** is a simplified version of both of these and may be used when the main subject is far from the photographer, and there is little of specific interest near the top or bottom of the photos (e.g. sky in the top third and water in the bottom third).

### B--DYNAMIC RANGE AND TARGET

LP Image Aligner will automatically correct exposure differences, vignettes caused by lenses or filters, and even white balance corrections. You can use the TARGET feature to select the image with the density and color you like best. When the TARGET option is selected, you will need to specify

the target image in the pull down menu (C) immediately below the selection box. You can also have the tool output 4 variations to choose from.

## **D--MAX IMAGE SIZE**

When combining several high resolution images into one you can end up with very large files. In general an image with pixel dimensions of 3000x2000 can be printed up to 40x30".

There is a general mathematical equation you can use to determine the ideal pixel dimensions. Mileage varies, and always consult with your lab to determine the best size image to print from. Your final image can have higher or lower final pixel dimensions due to the variable merging taking place. Here is the Equation:

Longest Edge Measurement in inches multiply by 2, and then multiply by 100 =  
Longest Pixel Dimension

For a 20x10" flush album background: 20" x 2 x 100 = 4,000 pixels.

## **E--DISTORTION CORRECTION**

We recommend that distortion correction is used in most cases, however if you intentionally want to maintain fish-eye or perspective distortion you can turn this feature off. Have fun and experiment!

## **F--AUTO CROP**

When LP Image Aligner aligns the photos to form the montage, the outlines of the photos will usually form irregular shapes, especially when many photos are being combined. LP Image Aligner automatically crops this montage, finding the largest possible rectangle that fits inside the irregular montage boundaries. Advanced Photoshop users may want to leave this feature off and clone in additional image information such as skies and grass to enlarge the final print size and resolution.

## **GENERAL SUGGESTIONS:**

**Viewpoint:** Take the pictures from a single viewpoint, by turning your head and body more or less in place. There is no need to be too precise about this; just do what is easy and comfortable. A tripod is not needed. The further you are away from you subject and the flatter the subject is, the looser the viewpoint requirements are.

**Pattern:** Take images in a pattern to ensure you cover a rectangular area (i.e. take 2 up and 2 down, or take 3 or 4 across). For the latter, switching to portrait mode can help ensure enough coverage. Note that LP Image Aligner itself requires no pattern - it figures out the pattern for itself.

**Overlap:** There are no strict rules or requirements here. A good target is 20-40%, but less is needed if there are visually-interesting objects in the overlap (e.g. not just blue sky).

**Light:** Try to take the images under roughly the same lighting conditions, but also don't worry about it too much. Extreme variations of bright sunlight and shadow may lead to less pleasing results.

**Movement:** LP Image Aligner adjusts for movement of people and cars and other objects in the scene, avoiding "ghosting" and cutting out one or both instances of the movement. If there is a lot of movement, it is best to have a bit more overlap to your photos and take them without much time delay in between. (The same is true if there are objects in the immediate foreground as well.)

## FAQ:

### How Long Will It Take the Software to Run?

LP Image Aligner will create montages of 3-4 photos usually in a minute or less and of 5-8 photos in one to three minutes. Exact times depend on both the specifics of your computer, on the size of the images, and on the difficulty of creating a montage. LP Image Aligner can create montages of many more images, but the amount of time can increase substantially. Be patient and you will have some visually-stunning results.

### What if I mix in pictures of other scenes?

Don't worry! LP Image Aligner figures out which photos belong together and creates a single montage of the largest collection. Later you can go back and create montages of the other collections of images.

### Can I try this out for free?

Yes, you get 25 attempts in 30 days. You can purchase this tool at a special price (for a limited time) of \$89, by calling **1-877-233-4951, option 1.**

