

Digital Photo Data Recovery

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Thanks to MoNEP member Don Swardson who found the following information and website: photorescue.us

Oscar Medina is a professional fine arts photographer and digital artist and who also offers digital photo data recovery services through his company San Diego Photos and Prints. His company offers both photo recovery software and their own photo recovery services. You can try a free demo of the software at the PhotoRescue website. If the demo program shows you thumbnail images of your missing photos, you can purchase the fully licensed version which will recover your photographs. The software is estimated to be successful about 20% of the time.

Medina also offers free analysis of your memory card to determine if your photos are recoverable. His process also works on all other digital camera flash media and USB flash memory including: compact flash, Pro Duo, secure digital, smart media, MMX, MMC, micro drives, and more. See his website for details and pricing info for recoverable data. He estimates that only 15% of cards sent to him are unrecoverable. You may also call him at San Diego Photos and Prints, 858-274-0665 (9:00-6:00 Pacific time, Mon-Sat).

When your camera gives you a “no images found” or other error message, follow these tips from **Oscar Medina**.

Do not panic! Remain calm.

Turn off your camera and remove the memory card. Remember to wait for the flashing access light to stop blinking before removing the card. If the memory card is in a card reader, remove it. Remember to wait for the access light to stop blinking and if it does not, then turn off the computer and remove the memory card from the card reader. Store the memory card in its own static free case.

From the time your memory card becomes inaccessible, every thing you do adds more variables to the recovery process making it that much more difficult. Therefore:

- Do not continue to attempt to read the pictures on a damaged or corrupted memory card.
- Do not format that memory card.
- Do not take more pictures using that memory card.

Medina recommends that you not use memory cards larger than one gigabyte. Larger cards are more prone to failures.