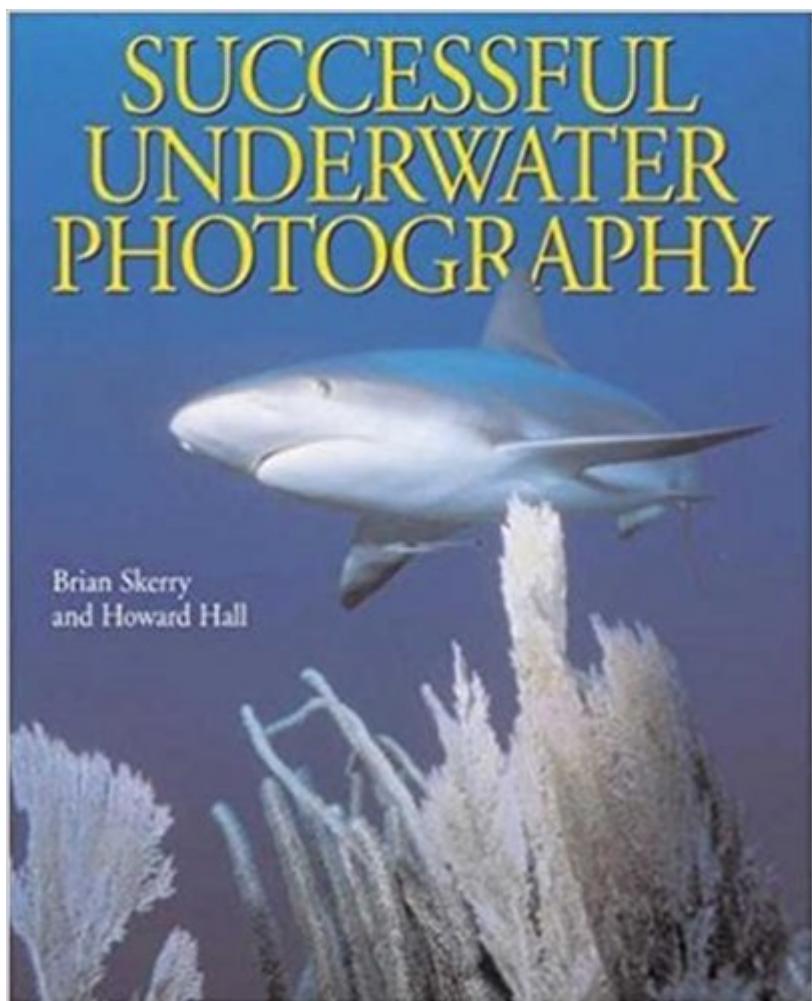


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# Successful Underwater Photography



## Synopsis

From fundamental principles of photographing marine life to making a living selling underwater photographs, this guide provides a wealth of practical advice, sure-fire strategies and tested tips for taking extraordinary photographs of elusive underwater subjects. Written by two top photographers who specialize in marine photography, this illustrated field guide provides no-nonsense information on topics such as taking available-light photographs, silhouettes, marine wildlife portraits, close-focus wide angle photographs and extension tube photographs to name just a few. Readers will also find proven guidance for purchasing underwater photographic equipment, taking photos of shipwrecks, and repairing and maintaining field equipment. Full-colour photographs demonstrate the authors' successful techniques in action.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Brian Skerry is a professional photojournalist specializing in underwater subject matter. He has worked in diverse environments including the open ocean, beneath ice, and inside underwater caves and shipwrecks. Currently an assignment photographer for National Geographic, his work also appears in People, Smithsonian, Sports Illustrated, US News and World Report, Yankee, Men's Journal, and dozens of other publications. He also does film work for CNN, Discovery Channel, NOVA (PBS), and National Geographic films. He lives in Uxbridge, Massachusetts. Howard Hall is a well-known marine naturalist, underwater photographer, film producer, cinematographer, and writer

whose articles and photographs have appeared in LIFE, Natural History Magazine, The New York Times, GEO, International Wildlife, Skin Diver, Vista USA, and National Geographic. The winner of six Emmy awards, he works in television with NBC, CBS Sports, PBS, ABC, and National Geographic, and also directs IMAX films, receiving a 1995 Oscar nomination for his work on The Living Sea. He lives in Del Mar, California.

This book is in its third edition, with both authors being tops in underwater photography. Bryan Skerry is full time with the National Geographic and Howard Hall has won three Emmy Awards, that speaks for their qualifications. This book is top notch book for serious underwater photographers. Its only defect is that it is dated and has very little on digital photography. What I do is bypass the few chapters on Nikonos and similar equipment and study the sections on composition, lighting, subjects, negative space, all beautifully handled by Skerry and Hall. Even so, I give it as a gift to my friends, and also recommend it. My hope is that the authors are now working on a fourth edition to include digital cameras.

Whether still shooting film or SLRs, this book by Brian Skerry and Howard Hall should be in every U/W photographer's bookshelf, or along with their camera gear. It gives detailed, but uncomplicated, basics of how and why to get the best from your camera and strobes. Accompanied by diagrams and photos, Skerry and Hall go into the fundamentals of U/W photography, using their own prize winning photos to explain the how-to's with available light, strobes, how to eliminate (or greatly reduce) spatter, composition, exposure, bracketing, macro photography, and using wide angle lens. I did a week long course last year on a live aboard and wish I had read this book prior to that expensive trip. Now everything seems to have fallen into place, and even my surface photography has improved. Kudos!

This is by far the most helpful book on underwater photography that I have read up to now. It is not just a coffee-table book of gorgeous images. The authors have genuinely set out to teach the craft of u/w photography. Each photograph is discussed in detail - how it was taken, how the exposure was determined, shooting angle, the instructions to the model, how they got the fish to look through the hole, etc. Best of all, they teach you how to appraise other photographs, to identify the technique used and to criticise weaknesses. The images and the technique data are mainly from film cameras, but digital cameras are discussed too. An excellent, inspiring, articulate, readable and beautifully-presented book. Sits next to Jim Church's Essential Guide to Composition on my quick

access bookshelf.

Not much information in this one. I read the whole thing in just a few hours, and I read slowly. Not what I expected at all. Did not cover digital photography much at all. Of course, digital was new when the book came out, but now books like this are bound (no pun intended) to go the way of the 35MM cartridge.

Howard Hall has done it again. For more great undersea video check out - The Living Sea - if you're a little younger, check out Captain Jon Explores the Ocean.

This outstanding effort by Brian Skerry with Howard Hall is very definitely one of the finest books I have ever read on the art and wizardry of taking pictures in the hostile environment of a watery world. Lots of good info here on equipment and techniques for the aspiring underwater photographer. Although published at the dawn of the age of the practical high definition digital camera it shows that the essence of photography is above all to work with light and that the rules are the same for any camera. Packed with splendid images and insightful text this book belongs on the bookshelf of all divers who aspire to excellence in the world of underwater photography.

**The Wreck Hunters: Dive to the Wreck of the USS Bass**

Worth owning just to see the beautiful photography within! Designed for the professional and avid amateur, this book is full of useful advice and discussions of such topics as: what happens to light underwater, shooting wildlife and people underwater, angle choices, and even suggestions on how to sell underwater photography. A great choice!

It's really good book! I have had a lot of nice time when reading..One remark, you should forget about pices of equipement. In book nothing about. But is really very expensive staff!! Author also practically wrtie nothing about diving equipement...But as a handbook is really great!

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