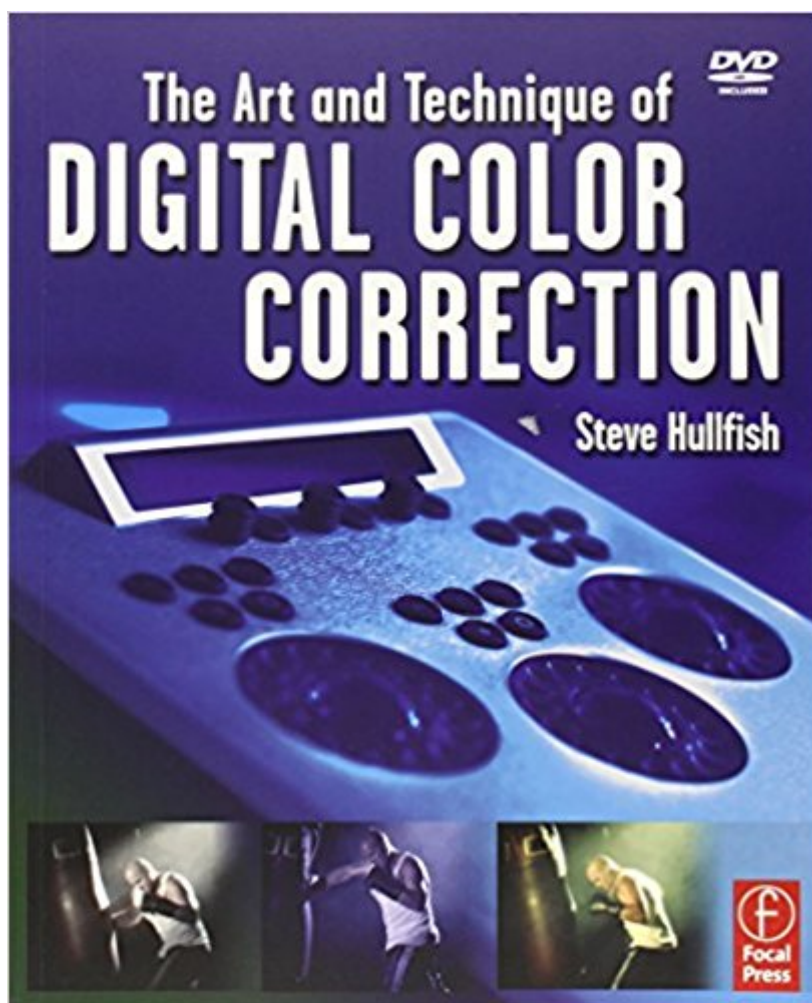




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# The Art And Technique Of Digital Color Correction



## Synopsis

Provides direct access to the skills, insights and techniques of some of the postproduction industry's most prominent digital video colorists, delivering practical skills to the postproduction pro seeking to improve their color grading craft. The author interviews and observes 8 professional colorists as they grade a series of real world video images, describing the methods and techniques each artist uses to reach their finalized image. These video images are included on a DVD that allows you to work lockstep with each artist as they grade their images. Though some tools provided may differ from one product to the next, the basic process of video color correction (grading) remains the same. Application agnostic and sure to inspire, *The Art of Digital Video Color Correction* will further your artistic skills, whether you're an editor, compositor, or colorist, and allow you to apply those skills to the grading process, making your finished image sharper, crisper and more aesthetically pleasing in general.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Another great offering from Steve Hullfish. There are so many texts out there covering so many different aspects of post-production. Yet the final, all-important step of color correction and finishing has been a true tradecraft. The only way you learned was by sitting at the feet of a master. Steve has demystified much of that and given both beginners and professionals a fantastic resource. Reading through this text is like sitting at the feet of the masters listening to wisdom.

Randy Starnes, Mike Most, Greg Creaser. these are the guys I call when I'm confused about concepts or need clarification, and this is my business! Greg makes a wicked barbecue as well."-- Lucas Wilson, ASSIMILATE, INC."As more of us shoot our own footage, we are also required to become our own colorists. The Art and Technique of Color Correction will help you develop the skills you need to master this essential art. Steve demystifies the technical art of color correction by patiently distilling the wisdom of eight professional colorists down to a skill set any dedicated editor or motion graphics artist can learn. Those new to the field will particularly appreciate how he introduces all of the technical and slang terms required while still speaking plain English."-- Chris Meyer, Founding Partner, CyberMotion; author- Creating Motion Graphics with After Effects, currently in its 4th Edition, After Effects Apprentice"Steve Hullfish has written another down-to-earth analysis of digital color correction for video. It's great for editors who are tackling their first color grading job as well as those who do it every day, but want a deeper understanding of how to turn color correction into color enhancement. Not only does Steve give simple and clear explanations of the technical aspects, but he walks the reader through the steps that leading colorists use to apply their own artistic touch. And best of all, readers can try these approaches for themselves, using the very same sample clips. He goes past the 'how-to' so you also understand the 'why'. This book is a must-have for anyone involved in color correction for video."-- Oliver Peters, President and Founder, Oliver Peters Post Production Services, LLC

"Color correction has always been a true tradecraft. The only way you learned was by sitting at the feet of a master. Steve has demystified much of that and given both beginners and professionals a fantastic resource. Reading this is like sitting at the feet of the masters."-- Lucas Wilson, ASSIMILATE, INC.".demystifies the technical art of color correction by patiently distilling the wisdom of over a dozen professional colorists down to a skillset any dedicated editor or motion graphics artist can learn."-- Chris Meyer, Founding Partner, CyberMotion; author - Creating Motion Graphics with After Effects, currently in its 4th Edition; After Effects Apprentice".great for editors who are tackling their first color-grading job as well as those who do it every day, but want a deeper understanding of how to turn color correction into color enhancement.... Hullfish goes past the 'how-to' so you also understand the 'why'. This book is a must-have for anyone involved in color correction for video."-- Oliver Peters, President and Founder, Oliver Peters Post Production Services

Containing decades of industry experience and know-how, The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction shows postproduction professionals how to take their art to the next level. Featuring correction techniques performed in a variety of color correction software applications

(Apple's Color, Synthetic Aperture's Color Finesse, Avid Xpress Pro, among others), this book turns what has long been a misunderstood 'black art' into a set of skills that any dedicated editor or motion graphics artist can begin to master. Packed with explanations, tips, and concepts that build on each other, *The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction* will teach you how to: Fix poorly exposed shots and shots with color casts. Create looks. Match shots. Master secondary color correction techniques. Use color correction to advance a story. *The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction* features unprecedented insight into the skills needed to master this essential art. The book allows you to improve your grading art and craft with techniques and inspiration from the masters, as more than a dozen industry professionals guide you through their grading process, explaining the "hows" and "whys" of each grade. Colorists looking to hone their skills can work side-by-side with these pros by examining each color-grading step they make on the tutorial video files included on the companion DVD. Steve Hullfish has been a producer and on-line editor for over 20 years. Through his company, Verascope Pictures, he produces and consults for clients such as Universal Studios, NBC Television, Turner Networks, HIT Entertainment and VeggieTales.

I read Steve's previous book, *'Color Correction for Digital Video'* several years ago and had found it to be a very good starting point for my color correction education. I came across *'The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction'* by accident while looking for a text on Apple Color. The two books work well together in providing a very thorough, easy to understand, survey course on modern color correction techniques. There were several elements of the book I found excellent. First, Steve's writing is very conversational and understandable and demystifies the science of color and light. His clear methodical approach to balancing color in primary corrections and solving problems with secondary corrections made immediate logical sense to me. Steve explains things in a way any novice or seasoned pro can understand. Another wonderful feature of this book is that it applies the techniques to and provides screen shots from Avid Xpress Pro, Avid Symphony, Final Cut Pro, Color, Color Finesse, and After Effects and approaches color-correction in a modern cosmopolitan way... understanding that there are multiple tools and approaches to any problem. This gives the reader a very universal over-view of color correction as an art form. An improvement over the previous book is the addition of explanations and glossary of terms in the margins; which any good student of color correction will find useful. Both books come with a DVD of video materials that can be used in conjunction with the examples in the book to provide a hands-on tutorial experience for the reader. I read the two books on the subway on my way to and from work as an

editor and was up to speed quickly. I already knew Final Cut, Avid, and After Effects and now am completely comfortable with the color correction tools in all of them as well as Apple Color. I highly recommend this book to anyone serious about modern video editing and color correction. George Missor; Editor; Hollywood, California

Whoa. You need to buy this book now. Before I read this book I knew ZERO about color grading. Now I know a HECK of a lot more and this book is ALSO for very advanced color graders as well because he has tips from a very wide range of color graders in the big leagues. I needed to learn a lot in a hurry and this book is a bible for me. I return to it again and again. Making a great film is one thing but without the best color grading you diminish your chances of winning awards for your very hard work. At the absolute minimum this book will teach you how to prepare your film for digital color correction by at least getting your luma in order. This will greatly decrease your cost in post and, more importantly, having done this essential preliminary work with your blacks, gammas and highlights will provide the digital color grader with product that will have much of the heavy lifting already completed. Additionally, this book will help you specify to your digital color corrector exactly what you want, which will save time and expense in post also. AND this book also contains enough incredibly well presented information so that you can do a pretty damn good job grading it yourself if you have the desire and force of will to pull it off, which I do. This book is an absolutely indispensable resource and you need to buy it if you are serious about what people think of your hard work in film and video. I have ZERO financial interest in this book and have never had the pleasure of meeting the author. I'm just speaking from both the head and heart. Questions? Email me at [mdubuque@yahoo.com](mailto:mdubuque@yahoo.com)

This book is a very interesting trip through the color correction process since it covers most of the issues that generate questions for us editors, that begin to polish their skills in the craft of grading. Going through hardware, room conditions, and common software, yet explaining things in a software independent way, so the concepts handled here are applicable to any color correction solution. Also a view on how to handle the relations with other people that participate in making movies or video, clients, producers, etc, that come very handy when you start to work in bigger projects. A very good start point for video editors that want to enhance their skills and produce better video. Alvaro Calandra

Overall a well written book, that covers most of the important aspect of color correction. However, I

gave it only 2 stars as the book does have some deficiencies.1) The viewing environment used when color correcting is of utmost importance - yet this book gives only a very cursory coverage of monitor set up and viewing environment. Instead, the author points to a previous book of his for this vital information.2) This book has nearly no discussion of gamuts, color spaces, color profiles, LUTs and other related topics, all of which are critical. In fact, the reason I purchased the book was anticipating an adequate coverage of these topics. I would have returned it, but missed 's return window.3) The book only mentions Luster once in passing. Other than that there is absolutely no discussion of digital color timing for film. As such, this book should be titled "The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction for Video".In short, while the book does a good job of covering certain tools and a very nice in depth discussion of secondary color correction, it misses to many important topics that I believe should be included in such a book.

Hullfish's The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction serves as an excellent introduction to CC. This book is intended to introduce and build upon the fundamentals of CC, rather than exhaustively detail methodology for individual software suites. The Art and Technique of Digital Color Correction "teaches the eye" so to speak, helping aspiring CCists grasp the concepts more fully. My first, and only, book on CC.

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