

# 1960 PCUG Graphics SIG

## The Basics of Making Panoramas

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### A. Take suitable picture set

1. Keep camera level and pitch constant and do not change zoom during set
2. Rotate about camera position and overlap 15 to 50% on previous picture
3. Perhaps lock exposure for the set
4. Distant objects are easier than close-ups, Telephoto is easier than Wide Angle.
5. Vertical panoramas (e.g., tall buildings) are legal. Portrait or Landscape orientation will work.

### B. Stitching

1. **Easier cases** can be handled automatically by the Panorama feature of **Corel Photo Album**. (More difficult cases may require specialized panorama software, e.g., Panorama Factory)
  - a. Select pictures in set and click the **Panorama** button on Tool Bar
  - b. These pictures are placed in Panorama window
  - c. Click **Panorama Stitch** icon in top row of this window
  - d. Panorama is stitched and a provisionally crop frame is displayed
  - e. Accept provisional crop or drag edges of frame to impose your own
  - f. If auto stitch is unacceptable then cancel out and don't save image
  - g. You may wish to try alternative settings using the icon next to the Stitch icon
2. **More difficult cases** may require manual stitching using PSP
  - a. Load photo set into PSP
  - b. Duplicate starting picture and use **Straighten** or **Perspective Correction** tool to square it up
  - c. Use **Resize Canvas** tool make the canvas big enough to accept next picture in set
  - d. **Copy** next picture to clipboard and then **Paste as New Layer** on the starting picture
  - e. Using the **Mover** tool, drag the new picture to where it best fits with the base picture
  - f. Decide what has to be done to make a good fit – **Straighten, Perspective Correction, Resize, Rotate**, exposure and/or color corrections, etc.
  - g. When the match suits you then **Merge Down**
  - h. Repeat steps **c through g** for the remaining pictures in set
  - i. When all pictures are stitched then crop off ragged edges. If you will lose a lot of picture in the crop operation consider if you can crop more loosely and **Clone** in the remaining holes
  - j. Finally do the normal editing operations such as exposure and color corrections and sharpening and output the finished image.