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Recovering Deleted Photos

December 28, 2004; Page D1

The Problem: Your digital camera is filled with priceless photographs of your kids -- and you accidentally hit the delete button.

The Solution: **Deleted photos** usually remain on a camera's memory card until they are actually overwritten with new images. As long as you haven't taken any additional pictures, you can probably recover most of them.

To do that, you need two things -- a memory-card "reader" and a software program. The readers are tiny devices into which you insert the camera's memory card; they then attach to the back of your computer. The readers cost \$15 to \$30 at electronics shops and camera stores. (Be sure to buy one with a format that is compatible with your memory card).

The "recovery" software programs scan the memory card for deleted pictures and save those images to your computer's hard drive. Most of the programs -- such as MediaRECOVER (\$29.95; www.mediarecover.com) and ImageRecall (\$39.95; www.flashfixers.com) -- are available for a free trial.

--Sam Schechner

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