



Astrophotography Practice Files: North America Nebula



# Introduction

This is a set of practice files for stacked deep sky astrophotography post-processing.

Included is the source TIFF file from DeepSkyStacker in rational (float) 32-bit precision. You can load this into your preferred image editor as a starting point—you will need to perform tone stretching and extreme white balance correction, as a full spectrum camera with no filter was used.

An Affinity Photo document file is also included, which features my complete non-destructive edit of the original TIFF file. The layer stack is well-organised and labelled so you can easily follow each step of the editing process.

It also demonstrates how you can utilise a non-destructive workflow from beginning to end—no conversion to 16-bit is required so there is no need to flatten and convert at any point during the editing process.

Also included is a preview JPEG image of the final edit—this is just for reference, since it has been resampled and compressed.

Thank you for downloading, and I hope this project proves useful to you!

# Installation

1. Extract all files from the ZIP to a directory of your choice.
2. If you are editing the TIFF file, simply open this in any image editor that supports 32-bit linear compositing and start working.
3. If you wish to view the .afphoto document to see my non-destructive workflow, you will require Affinity Photo. If you do not have the app, you can download a free trial from <https://affinity.serif.com/photo/#buy>

# Credits

All astrophotography and editing by James Ritson.

