Google Photos – Adding, Albums & Sharing

What is Google Photos?

- Google Photos is a photo sharing and storage service.

- Google Photos gives users free, unlimited storage for photos up to 16 MBs in size per photo and videos up to 1080p resolution.

- Note that unlimited storage is free if you keep the default upload size to "High quality". However, if you want to keep the photos in their original size, the storage is limited to 15 GB and after that amount Google will begin charging $2/month for up to 100 GB of storage, $3/month for 200 GB

- Google photos acts as a cloud-based back up. I use it to automatically backup all of my photos on my Android phone. An iPhone app is also available.

    o Your photos/videos will save to your Google Photos library.
    o Photos and videos backed up from your device are private unless you share them.
    o Any changes you make will be mirrored on every synced device

Getting started:

- If you don't have a Gmail account, go to Google.com and create an account. Google will use this account to backup your Photos. (Create an account by searching Create google account). I recommend doing this from your computer or tablet.

- After creating your account, go to your cell phone and open the Google Play Store and search for Google Photos. At the prompt install it and then open it. Once installed, you will have an icon

called Photos on your screen or you can access Photos from the Google apps menu at Google.com.
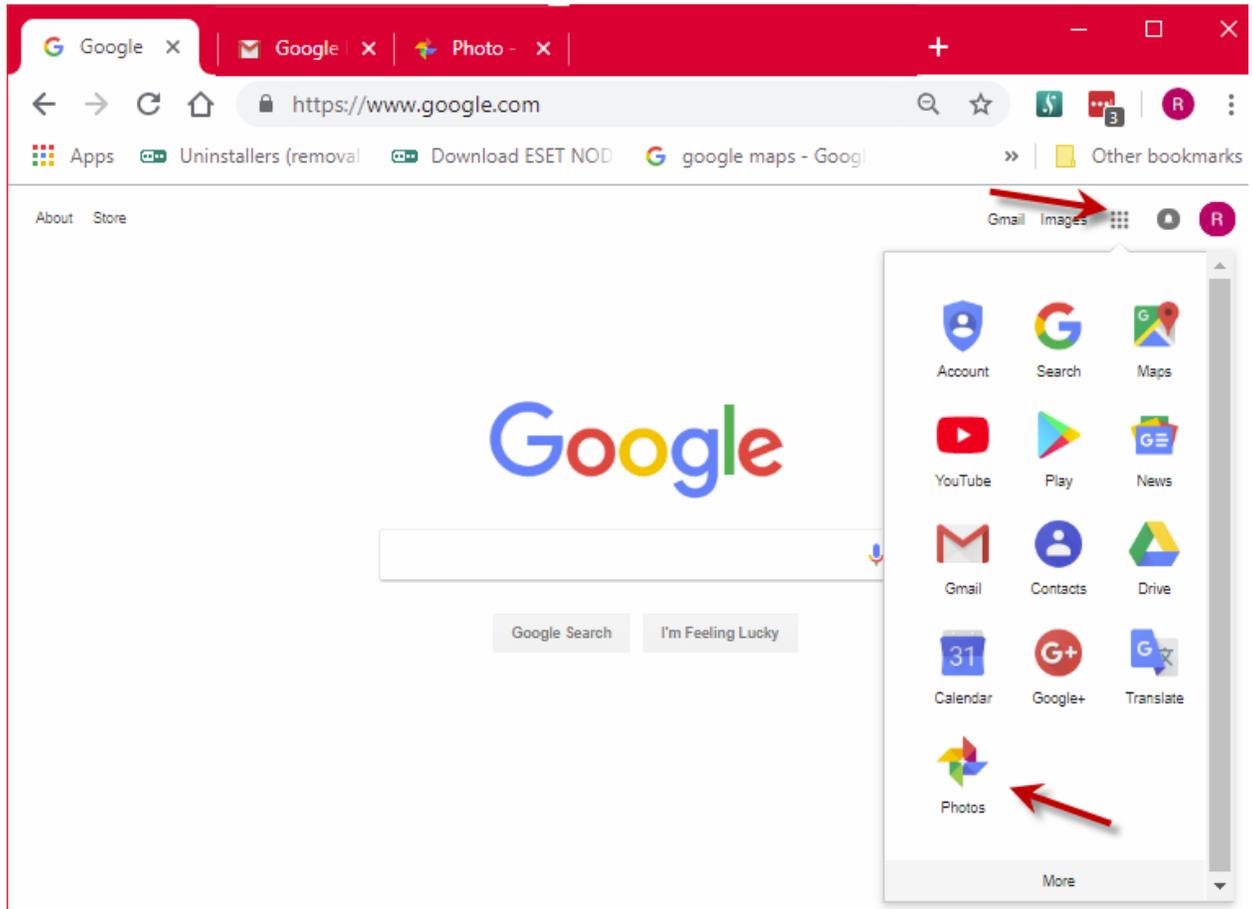
Syncing and backup up:
- You must turn on the syncing feature in order for pictures to be backed up. Do this on all devices where you have Google Photos installed.
    o Open Google Photos and at the top, tap Menu ☰.
    o Select Settings ❯ Back up & sync.
    o Tap "Back up & sync" to turn it on.
- That's it! To confirm that your pictures are being backed up, just log into your Google account from any other device (tablet, laptop or desktop) and tap the Photos icon. If all is well, you will see all the pictures from your phone.
- Whenever you take a pic(s) Google Photos will begin a backup. You'll see a progress alert like this:
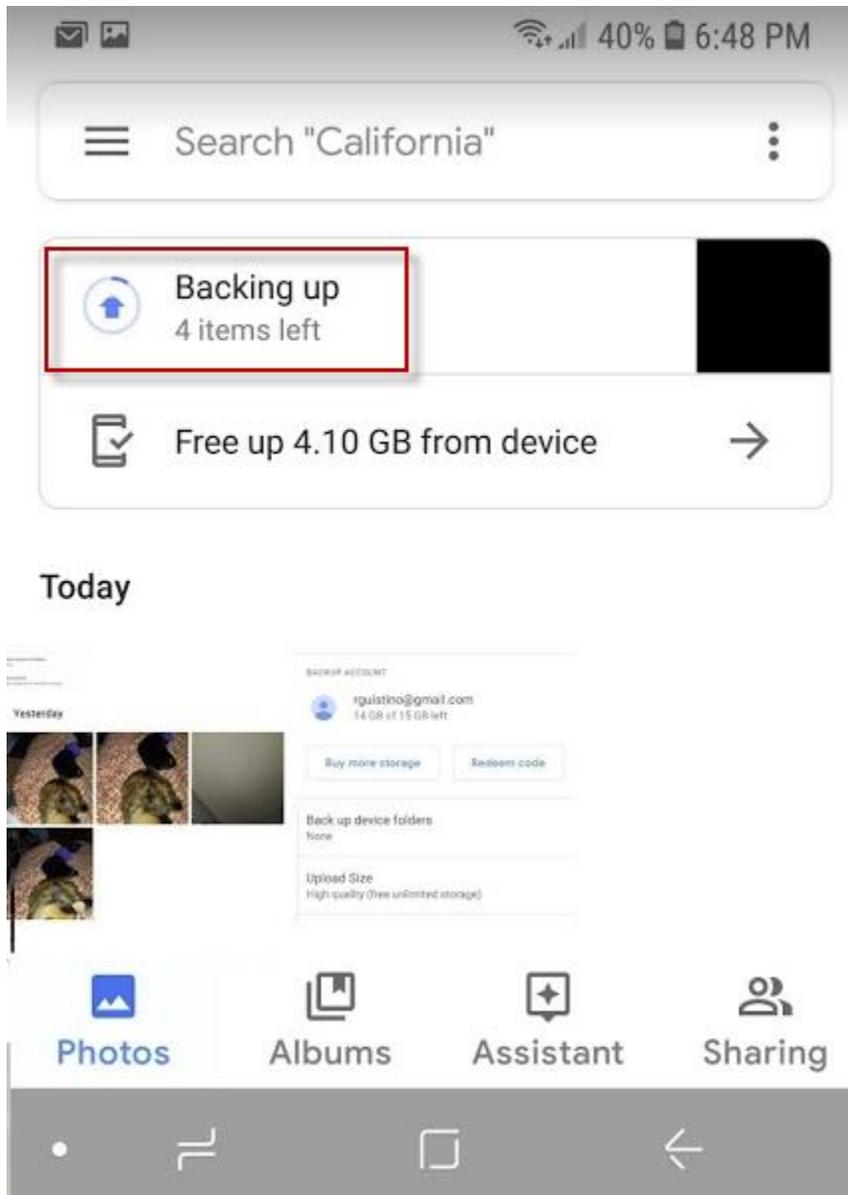
Creating and then Sharing an Album:

- Log into your Google account and tap Photos from the Google menu
- From the menu on the left-hand side, click Albums then Create album
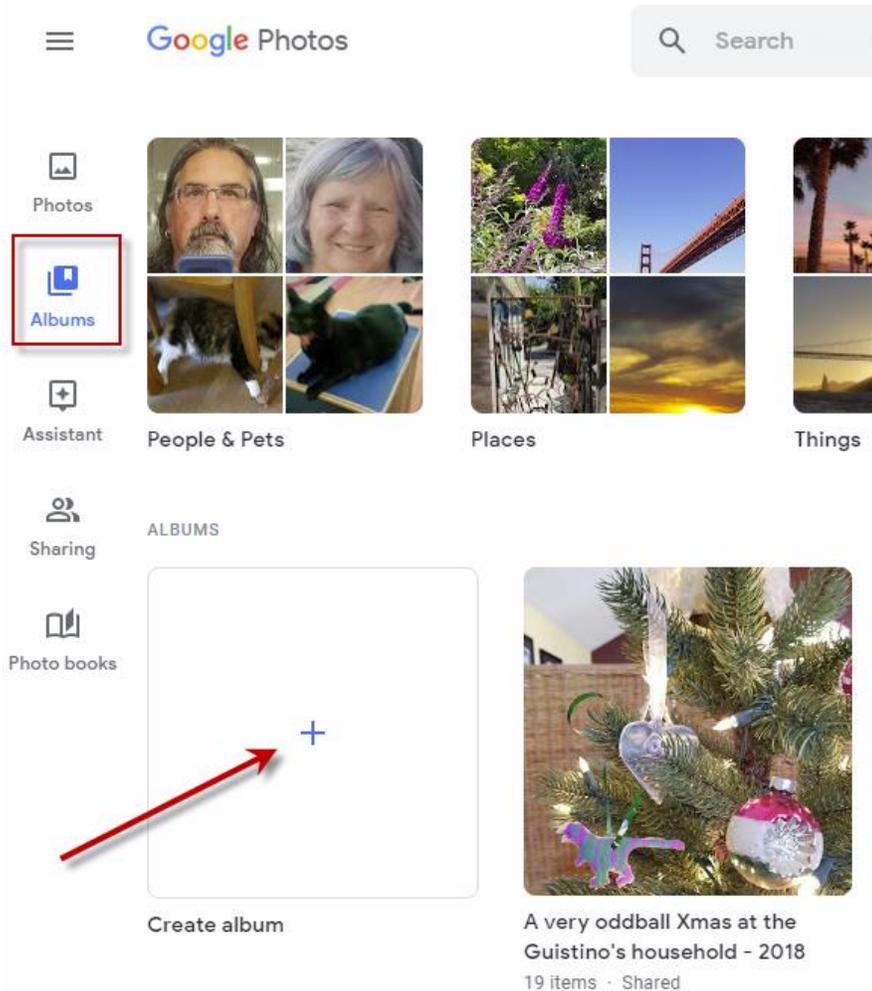
- Click Select photos
- Click on each photo that you'd like to share then click Done
- Add a description title
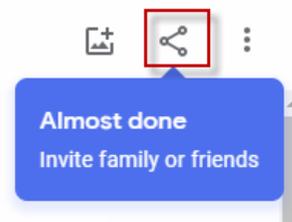
- Click the Share icon in upper right of screen
- Choose to email an invite to the shared album, post to Facebook or Twitter or create a link that you can copy and paste into anything of your choice

-   When emailing, a list of your Google Contacts (assuming you use Google Contacts) will appear and you can choose who to send the album to

-   Add a message if you like and click the Send icon: