

## Photo Process Comparison

Process	Material	Image	Case	Size	Other
<b><i>Daguerreotype</i></b> <b>1840-1860</b>	Highly polished silver plates	Depending on viewing angle can look negative, positive or mirror	Very delicate; easily damaged. Always in protective cases, often leather and lined with silk or velvet.	Range of sizes, most small, around 2"x3"	If exposed to air, silver plate tarnishes. Even though sealed under glass, characteristic tarnishing signs around edges
<b><i>Ambrotype</i></b> <b>1854-1868</b>	Glass negative backed with black cloth, paint, or varnish to produce positive image	Always appear as positive image, no matter viewing angle	Also usually supplied in protective case or frame, small, hinged as daguer - rotype.	Similar size as daguerrotype	Much cheaper than daguerreotypes. Lower quality case materials—compressed paper and card
<b><i>Ferrotypes</i></b> <b><i>Tintype</i></b> <b>1856-1878</b>	Thin sheet of iron coated with black enamel, identify using magnet	Not from negative; images reversed (mirror). Very dark grey-black; poor image quality	Sometimes put into cheap papier-mâché cases or cardboard mounts. Today usually found loose.	Fairly small, about 2"x3".	Thin sheets of iron, often show rust spots or blisters on surface where enamel has started to lift off
<b><i>Carte de Vista</i></b> <b>1859-1889</b>	Paper print pasted on cardboard	Photographer's name & address often printed on back	Generally, the thinner the cardboard mount, the earlier the photograph	Small, 3½" x 2" on cardboard, about 4" x 2½"	Early cartes (1860s) usually square corners. 1870s introduced rounded corner mounts
<b><i>Cabinet Card</i></b> <b>1866-1903</b>	1880s mounts some-with beveled edges, some finished in gold or silver	Front usually printed/embossed with photographer's details; back often printed with elaborate designs.	Mounts usually thicker than cartes de visite	Prints 5½" x 4", cardboard mounts 6½ x 4¼"	Cream mounts popular. Bolder, dark colors (black, dark brown, burgundy, green appear 1880s,1890s
<b><i>Post Cards</i></b> <b>1900-1950s</b>	Amateur photographers could buy sensitized cards to print own postcards	Backs divided by middle line (address/message)	Kodak - folding camera in 1903 (designed to take postcard-sized pictures)	Std: 5½" x 3½", but not always	If postmarked; date may not same as date of picture