The best way to manage all your photos

The ability to take high-quality images and video is becoming easier than ever, and with that, management solutions are becoming more and more comprehensive. As you could imagine, trying to figure out what to do with all of your photos can be a bit of a struggle.

Since it's a lot easier to take photos than it is to store them somewhere, find them when you need to, and share them, a lot of iPhone users – smart phone users in general, really – are stuck in an awkward position. You might have a lot of photos and videos on your iPhone, and may think that you're going to back it all up eventually, but accidents happen, and it's too often that precious data is lost.

With great photos becoming a lot more valuable and attainable in this day and age, where do you turn when it comes to keeping them safe and sharing them most efficiently?

Important parts: The "four S's"

Even though there are many different apps, services, and platforms you can throw your photos into, there are some important things to consider. For no particular reason besides trying to make this more fun, I present what I'm deciding to call the "four S's of photo management," and will **bold** them whenever they are mentioned to be sure that they're all recognized.

1. **Saving:** If I could only focus on one important aspect of photo management, this would be it. Besides taking them in the first place, nothing is more important than making sure that high resolution copies of all of your photos are safely backed up somewhere other than your iPhone, or whichever device they were taken on for that matter. This could include any combination of device backups or cloud services. Redundancy is key here because things can go wrong any place at any time. And as an added bonus, you might be able to save some precious storage space on your iPhone.

2. **Syncing:** It's more of a luxury than a necessity, but having access to the same pool of photos from any device is also important if you want to make your experience as effortless as possible. Changes to your library such as adding or deleting photos, along with any edits made, should carry over across devices. Plus, having all of your photos uploaded to a cloud service at full resolution can also serve as a great backup method.

3. **Searching:** What's the point of setting all of this up if you can't easily find a photo you're looking for at a later time? Having a solution that allows you to find a photo while knowing little about it is critical.

4. **Sharing:** Welcome to the 21st century, where for every 10 photos you take, there are 100 places you can share them. Finding a few places that work for you and sticking to them will make your life a lot easier.