Reference material for *Focus Stacking* clinic by Jim Osborn

Apps	Author	Platform	License	Pricing	Includes
Photoshop	Adobe	Windows & Mac	Proprietary	$10/mo.	3 other apps / 2 computers
Zerene stacker**	Zerene Systems	Windows & Mac	Proprietary	$89	3 computers
Helicon Focus	HeliconSoft	Windows & Mac	Proprietary	$30/yr.	4 computers
Focus Stacker	Olga Kacher	Mac OS 10	Proprietary	$15*	6 computers
Affinity Photo	Serif Labs	Mac OS 11	Proprietary	$20*	6 computers
CombineZM or ZP	Alan Hadley	Windows 7 – 10	GPL	Free*	
MacroFusion	Dariusz Duma	Linux	GPL	Free*	
Chasys Draw IES	John Paul Chacha	Windows XP +	GPL	Free*	Raster Graphics Editor
GIMP	GIMP Project	Windows & Mac	GPL	Free graphics editor only (no focus app yet)	
Open Camera	Mark Harmon	Android	GPL	Free	Focus Bracketing App
Camera Pixels	Natalya Petrenko	Apple iPhone	Proprietary	$5.99	Focus Bracketing App

**Note: Literature appears to indicate that this app is the choice of professionals
 *Note: These GPL Stacking apps are written by individuals or contributing groups. Reviews I have read are mixed.

Various Tools	Model	Cost	Available from
Sturdy Tripod w/ quick release	Various	$50-100	Amazon, B&H, etc.
Aluminum Cellphone tripod mount	Ulanzi ST-02S, RetiCAM RC-STM01-C	$15-20	Amazon, B&H, etc.
Smartphone Shutter Release	VariZoom, Vivitar, CamKit, Camera 360	$7-15	Amazon, B&H, etc.
Short tripod	GorillaPod, GripPro, etc.	$15-30	Amazon, B&H, etc.
Wood block mono-pod	Homemade	$1	
Control My Nikon	Teatherscript Software	$40-$60	Teatherscript
Nikon Camera Control	Nikon Software $150		Amazon, B&H, etc.
Canon Remote Connect	Canon Connect Software	Free - $275	Canon
Open Camera	Android Focus Bracketing App	Free	Sourceforge
Camera Pixels	Apple iPhone Focus Bracketing App	5.99	Apple Store

Software Apps	Company	Link
Photoshop	Adobe	https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/photography.html
Zerene stacker**	Zerene Systems	https://zerenesystems.com/cms/stacker
Helicon Focus	HeliconSoft	https://www.heliconsoft.com/
Focus Stacker	Olga Kacher	https://www.focusstacker.com/
Affinity Photo	Serif Labs	https://affinity.serif.com/en-us/photo/
CombineZM or ZP	Alan Hadley	https://combinezm.informer.com/
MacroFusion	Dariusz Duma	https://sourceforge.net/projects/macrofusion/
Chasys Draw IES	John Paul Chacha	https://www.jpchacha.com/chasysdraw/
GIMP	GIMP Project	https://www.gimp.org/
Open Camera	Mark Harmon	https://opencamera.sourceforge.io/
CameraPixels	Natalya Petrenko	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/camerapixels/id1148178499?mt=8

**Note: Some literature suggests that the Zerene Stacker appears to be the stacker of choice by the professionals

Other useful or interesting information

Equipment & Software	B & H Photo	https://www.bhphotovideo.com/
Equipment & Software	Ritz Camera	https://www.ritzcamera.com/
Equipment & Software	Amazon	https://www.amazon.com/
General Focus Stacking Information		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Focus_stacking#In_photography
How to focus stack in Photoshop		https://www.photoshopessentials.com/photo-editing/focus-stack-images-photoshop/

Article on focus stacking:

https://www.popphoto.com/premier-insect-photographer-john-hallmen-shares-his-secrets-for-macro-bug-photography?cmpid=ene20190127&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=email&cid=47903&mid=413440010#page-2

Cool bug photographs: https://www.flickr.com/photos/johnhallmen/