

PH 358 Photoshop CS3

Session 1: Basic Photoshop Image Adjustments

Note: All images are web site: http://www.miltonheiberg.com/Upcoming_events_Photoshop-258.htm
at the bottom of the page. If you have any problems downloading any of them, please call at the number listed below.

- **Preparing Images for Work in Photoshop:**

1. Open Photoshop.
2. Open the **web site page** and reduce the window to half size so that the Photoshop window is visible.
3. Drag and drop image **01-Scrub-Jay-Oversharp_CRW_2983.jpg** into the Photoshop window.
4. Right click on the top blue border of the image. A menu box will appear. Click on **“Duplicate.”** The **Duplicate Image** panel will appear. Click **OK**.
5. Close original image. (Click red X in upper right corner of image border.)

Note: Follow this procedure on all images that you bring into Photoshop as a safety measure to protect the original image.

- **Crop & Straighten:**

1. Select **Crop** tool from toolbox and drag cursor across image to the desired crop.
2. Place cursor anywhere within the crop area. Click and drag to change the overall position of the crop area.
3. Bring arrow to any of the borders and notice that the cursor becomes a double headed arrow. Left click and drag to correct or change crop area.
4. Bring arrow outside of crop area, but still inside of the image area. Notice that the arrow changes into a double-headed *curved* arrow. Left click and drag if cropped image needs straightening.
5. When ready to crop, place cursor inside crop area and right click. Click **Crop**. If you change your mind, click cancel—or just hit the **Escape** key.
6. Go to **File/Save As** (or simply keyboard <Ctrl+S>).

- **Levels and Curves:**

1. Begin learning levels for color and density adjustments. (It has been said that Levels is Curves with training wheels.)
 - a. Open image **02-Skokie-Lodge_MG_2006.jpg** from web site.
 - b. Go to **Image/Adjustments/Levels** or simply keyboard <Ctrl+L>.
 - c. Select the white eyedropper and click on the lightest area in the sky.
 - d. Select the black eyedropper and click on the darkest shadow area within the trees.
 - e. Select the gray eyedropper and click on any area that should be gray in the image. (Suggestion: Mountain in background.)
1. If after using eyedroppers the density and color are not true to life, then use the sliders.
 - a. When using either of the two outside sliders, try to keep the graph data from going off the ends of the graph. If any part of the graph goes off the sides that shadow or highlight detail will be lost.
 - b. Use the middle slider to adjust the density level of the mid-tones.

- **Sharpen:**

1. Almost all digital images need sharpening to some degree. However, sharpen *only* after all correction operations are finished.
2. Go to **Image/Sharpen/Unsharp Mask**.
3. Sharpen: **50% + 0.5 Radius + 0 Threshold** (starting point), then repeat with <Ctrl+f>
4. Avoiding digital noise when sharpening flesh tones (sharpen the RED channel only).
 - a. Open Image **06-Lindsey-4 CRW_3314-Lo-Res.jpg** from web site.
 - b. Go to **Window/Channels** and select the RED channel. A B&W image of the red channel will appear.
 - c. Go to **Image/Sharpen/Smart Sharpen**. In the Smart Sharpen panel select **Amount 50%**, **Radius: 1.0**, and **Remove: Lens Blur**.
 - d. Go back to the Channels panel and click on the RGB icon. Notice subtle improvement in sharpness.

- **Blur** for smooth skies (Surface Blur on green channel for smooth flesh tones):

1. Open **01-Scrub-Jay-Oversharp_CRW_2983.jpg** from web site.
2. Select the **Magic Wand** from the **Toolbox**.
3. Left click anywhere on the sky area.
4. Go to **Select/Similar**. Notice all areas of sky are now selected.

5. Go to **Select/Grow**. This feature *enlarges* the selected area to include pixels that are close to, but not quite within the color range of **selection**.
 6. Now go to **Filter/Blur/Surface Blur**. Use **Radius: 5, Threshold: 15**.
 7. Click **OK**. This feature is handy after much sharpening a detailed scene where the sky areas don't need sharpening but get carried along.
- **Surface Blur** on green channel only for smooth flesh tones:
 1. Open **04-Shirley_00611-15-04.jpg** from web site.
 2. Go to **Window/Channels** and select green channel in the **Channels** panel.
 3. Go to **Image/Blur/Surface Blur**. Use **Radius: 3, Threshold: 10**. (Also, play with the radius and threshold until you find a satisfactory combination for any particular portrait.)
 - **Image Menu:**
 1. Open **05-Sandpipers-at-Sunrise_CRW_2408-Straighten.jpg** from web site.
 2. **Rotate Image** using the menu's **Arbitrary** function
 - a. Go to **Image/Rotate Canvas/Arbitrary** and enter a number for the angle you want.
 - b. If you calculated wrong, then keyboard **<Ctrl+Z>** to go back one step and try again.
 3. **Rotate Image** using the **Tool Box's Measure Tool**
 - a. Go to the **Measure tool** in **Toolbox**. You will find the **Measure tool** in the fourth section of the **Toolbox**, in the upper right corner (packed with the eyedropper tool). Click and hold the left mouse button and the sections contents will appear. Drag down to the ruler icon and release mouse button.
 - b. Use this tool to draw a line across image for the new or corrected horizon. (This tool also works for vertical corrections.)
 - c. Now go to **Image/Rotate image/Arbitrary**. The exact angle that you drew now appears in the panel. Simply click **OK**.
 - d. Use crop tool to form new frame.
 - **Interpolation:** (resizing in several steps):
 1. **Image Size & the Resample** check box. For changing size of images
 2. For resizing upward use Bicubic Smoother. (Rule: do resizing upward in 30% increments. Sharpen after all increments are done.)
 - a. Open **03-White-tailed-deer.jpg** from web site.
 - b. Go to **Image/Image size**.
 - c. **Uncheck** the resample image box.
 - d. Keyboard "**100**" in the **resolution** box.
 - e. Check the resample image box.
 - f. Select **Bicubic Smoother** in the bottom pull down menu.
 - g. Keyboard "**130**" in the **Resolution** box.
 - h. Click **OK**.
 - i. If you want to enlarge the image more, repeat steps a. through h.
 - j. When all enlarging is finished, then and only then, sharpen image. Try Smart Sharpen using **Resolution: 85, Radius: 1** for starters. (or use **Resolution: 50, Radius: 1**, and repeat.)
 3. Resizing downward use same procedure but with Bicubic Sharper

Assignment:

Set-up Photoshop at home for **Color Profile** (Adobe RGB-1998) and **Preferences** (Units = inches)
Practice Cropping, Sizing, and Levels adjustments at home using the images on CD, or your own images.

If you have questions, please call me at 407-658-4869 (Best times: Wednesday – Saturday 7:30 – 9:30 PM)

or email: photonat@cfl.rr.com