

Photo Retouching with Photoshop®

Objectives

Using Photoshop, repair a digital or scanned photograph.

1. List three methods to get photos into a computer.
2. Define the term **resolution** as it refers to photographs.
3. Identify the **crop** tool.
4. List the process used to lighten or darken a photograph.
5. List the process used to remove red-eye.
6. Define the term **action** as it is used in Photoshop.
7. Identify the *Action* palette.

Introduction

Nothing is more frustrating than having a great picture ruined when a person's eyes come out bright red, the photo is overexposed or in the shadows. Photoshop can help you easily repair these problems as well as enhance your photos. In this lesson, we will discuss how to get your photos into your computer, techniques for repairing common problems and fun photo tricks.

Getting photos into your computer

There are **three** methods to get your photos into your computer: scanning, digital camera or photo CD.

- **Scanning** converts a photo into electronic format. When scanning a photo use 300 dpi resolution and save the file as .jpeg or .tiff format.
- **Digital cameras** let you take a picture and then download it to your computer. A two-megapixel camera generates photos that look similar to a standard photo print at 4x6 size. These photos are saved as .jpeg format.
- **Photo CDs** are made by scanning your film at a photo lab. The photos are generally high-resolution and saved in .jpeg format.

Terms to know

Resolution - Resolution refers to the number of pixels in an image. Resolution is sometimes referred to by the width and height of the image as well as the total number of pixels in the image.

Resolution	Print Size
640 X 480	4 x 6
1152 x 864	5 x 7
1600 x 1200	8 x 10

DPI - Dpi is dots per inch and refers to the number of pixels that fit into an inch.

JPEG - JPEG is the standard format for compressing continuous-tone images such as photographs.

TIFF – TIFF format is flexible and maintains high photo quality.

RGB and CMYK modes - Scanners and digital cameras create images using combinations of just three colors: Red, Green and Blue (RGB). These are the colors computers use to display photos. Printers print full color photos using Cyan (blue), Magenta (red), Yellow and Black. This is known as CMYK mode. Use Photoshop to convert RGB photos to CMYK.





Notes:

Repairing photos



Basic cropping

Cropping is the process of removing portions of a photo to create focus or strengthen the composition. You can crop a photo using the Crop tool .

1. Select the **Crop** tool. 
2. If necessary, adjust the cropping rectangle.
3. Drag over the part of the photo that you want to keep.
4. *Click* the **Enter** key to crop the selection.



Note: Select **Edit > Step Backward** to return to the original image.



Using the crop tool



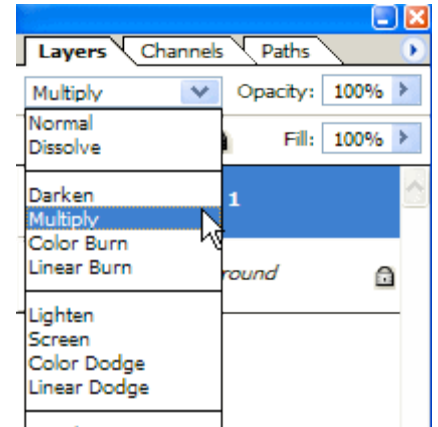
Notes:



Lighten or darken a photograph

Photos that are overexposed (too light) or underexposed (too dark) can be quickly repaired using Photoshop blend modes.

1. Open a photo that you want to repair.
2. Select the *background* layer and make a copy. (**Layer > New Layer via Copy**)
3. Change the blend mode of the layer copy from Normal to:
 - Use *Multiply* for a light photo
 - Use *Screen* for a dark photo
4. Repeat steps 2-3 until the photo has enough detail.
5. Finally, flatten the layers. (**Layer > Flatten Image**)



Choosing a blend mode

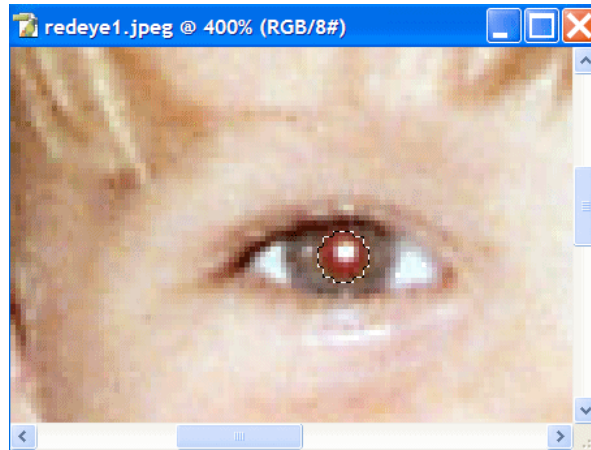


Notes:

Getting the red out

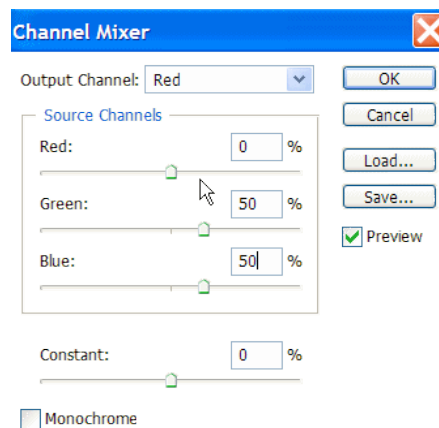
Photoshop gives you a simple way to fix red-eye in just a few steps.

1. Open a photo that you want to repair.
2. Use the **elliptical marquee** tool to select the first *red* eye. Hold the **Shift** key down while selecting the other *red* eye.



Using the elliptical marquee to select

3. From the **Select** menu choose **Feather**. Enter a feather radius of about 0.5 pixels. Click **OK**.
4. From the **Image** menu choose **Adjustments > Channel Mixer**.
5. Adjust the source channels as seen in the image. Basically, you want to remove all the red.



Removing the red

6. Click **OK**.

Actions

An **action** is a series of commands that you play back on a single file or a group of files. Photoshop has several predefined actions. Using actions can enhance your photos. Some favorites are: Vignette, Frame, Sepia Toning and RGB to Grayscale.

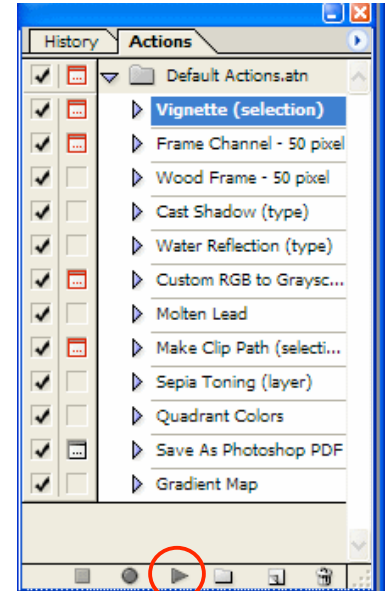


Using the *Action* palette

1. Open a photo.
2. Display the *Action* palette, choose **Window > Actions**.
3. Select an action.
4. *Click* the Play button ► in the *Actions* palette to play.



Note: To undo an action, choose **File > Revert** or select the **F12** key on your keyboard.

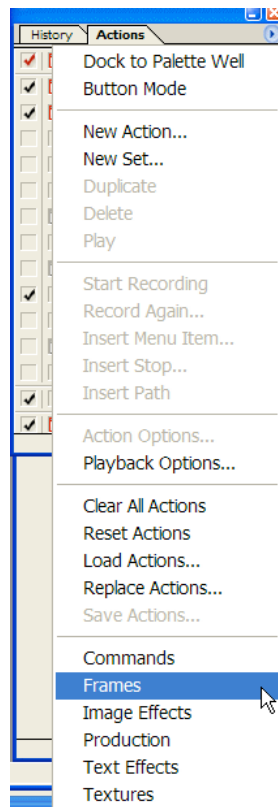


Action palette



Adding actions

1. Click the triangle ► in the upper right corner of the palette to add more actions like Frames and Image Effects.



Adding more actions



Notes:



How to tips

The Photoshop Help menu contains “how to tips” for fixing and enhancing photos. Select **Help > Fix and Enhance Photos** and choose a topic from the submenu.

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What did you learn?

