

Blur



Blur is softening of the detail in an image or parts of a image.



The original image on the left has not been blurred. In the image on the right, the area behind the plane has been blurred.

Clone Stamp

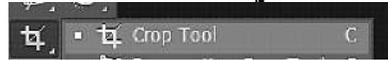


To copy pixels to new locations in an image. To paint with the Clone Stamp tool.



Using the Clone Stamp tool, the tree was duplicated, or cloned.

Crop



To trim a portion of an image to improve its composition.



The original image (left) was cropped to remove areas at the top and right edges. Note the change in the physical dimensions of the image (right).

Dodge & Burn



The **Dodge** tool and the **Burn** tool lighten or darken areas of the image. These tools are based on a traditional darkroom technique for regulating exposure on specific areas of a print.

Photographers hold back light to lighten an area on the print (dodging) or increase the exposure to darken areas on a print (**burning**)

Exposure

A measure of the amount of light in which a photo was taken.

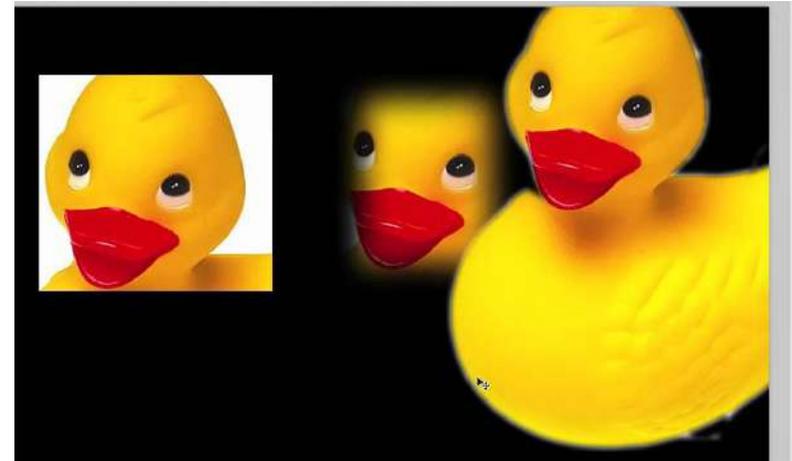
Underexposed digital photos are too dark; overexposed photos are, too light.



An overexposed image is too light overall (left). A properly exposed image with detailed highlight and shadow areas (center). An underexposed image is too dark overall (right).

Feather

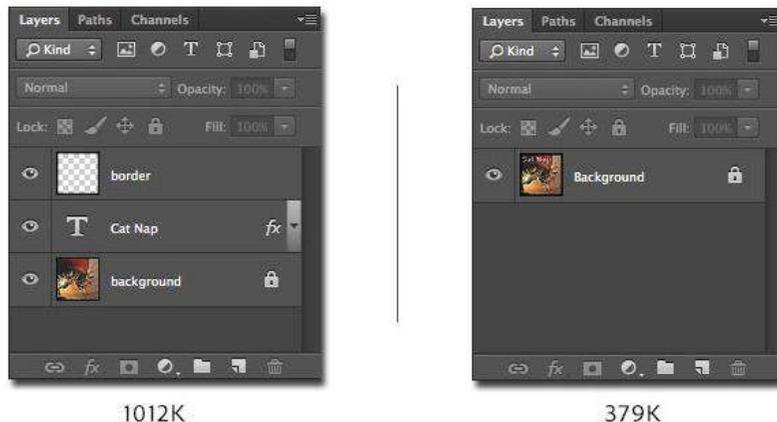
Feathering is the term that Adobe uses for creating soft edges by blurring and smoothing them. Using feathering you can either adjust harsh edges, blend images, or make a specific object stand out.



I feathered the edges of the rubber duck to soften the outline.

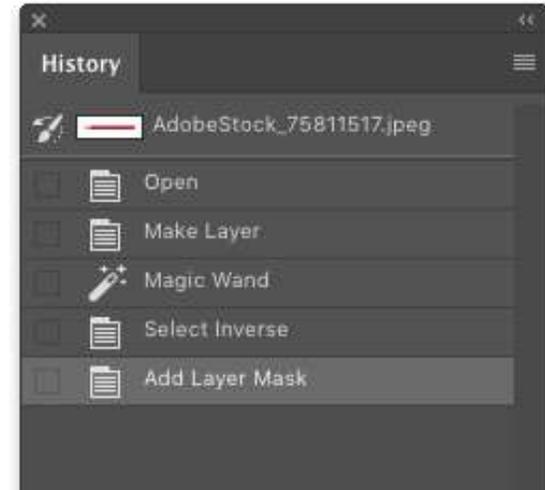
Flatten

Flattening is merging all visible layers into the background layer to reduce file size. Once this is done, the individual elements can not be re-edited.



The image on the left shows the Layers panel (with three layers) and file size before flattening. The image on the right shows the Layers panel after flattening.

History



The history panel provides a chronological list of the edits you have made, allowing you to undo previous edits and retrace your steps.

Layers

Layers are like stacked, transparent sheets of glass on which you can create images.

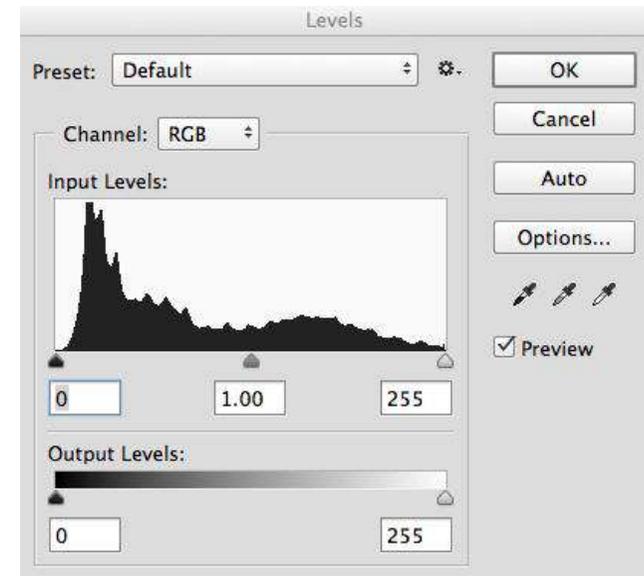
You can see through the transparent areas of a layer to the layers below. You can work on each layer independently.



The image on the left has three layers. The photo is on the background layer, a semitransparent rectangle is on the layer above the background layer, and the topmost layer contains the type.

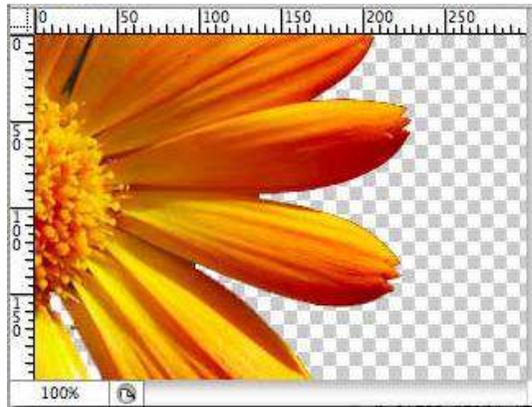
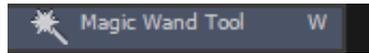
Levels

Levels allows you to adjust brightness, contrast, and tonal range by altering the histogram.



Using the levels, you can specify the location of complete black, complete white, and midtones.

Magic Wand Tool



The Magic Wand tool is a huge time saver when you want to remove a consistently coloured area like a background. The Magic Wand automatically selects an area of the same color without you having to trace the outline. You can even specify the colour range — known as **tolerance** — relative to the colour that you selected.

Opacity & Transparency

Opacity: 75% ▾

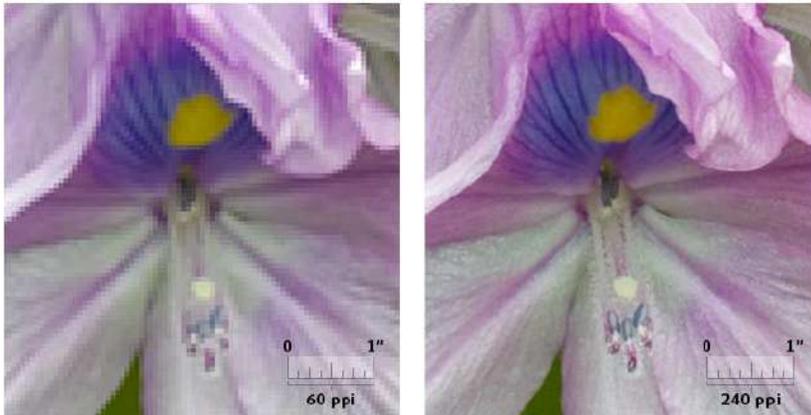
To change how transparent areas in an image or an image layer is. Opacity is the extent to which something blocks light. You can change the opacity of layers, filters, and effects so that more (or less) of the underlying image shows through.



The letters are transparent when opacity is set to 50%. The letters with opacity set to 100% are opaque, or not transparent.

ReSOLUTION

The amount of detail in an image. Digital images are measured by the number of pixels per inch (ppi). For printing, resolution is measured by the number of dots printed in a linear inch (dpi). The higher the resolution, the larger the file size.



To create more-detailed images, increase the resolution setting in your camera.

Saturation & Desaturation

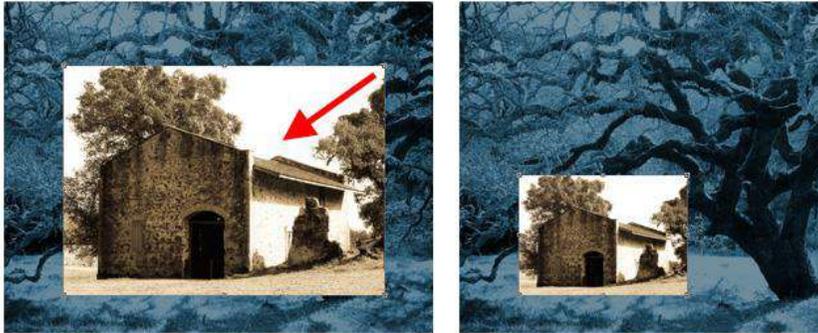
Saturation makes colours more vivid (less black or white added).
Desaturation makes colours more muted (more black or white added).



Original colour image (centre). The desaturated version (left) has little colour. In the oversaturated version (right), tonal detail is lost

Scale

To change the proportions of an image. For example, to make an image one-half of its original size.

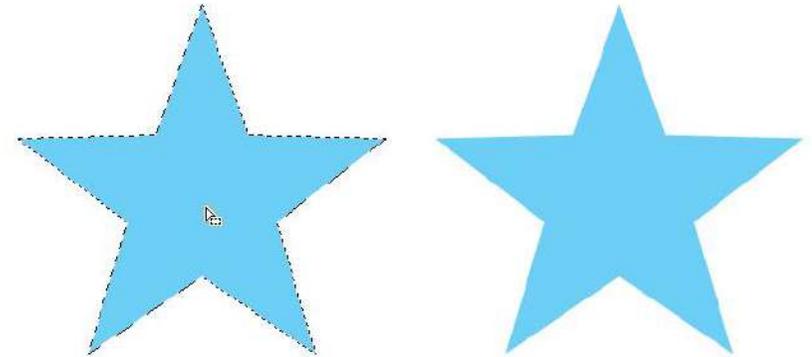


In the image on the left, a layer is being scaled down in size. The image on the right shows the result.

Selection

 Quick Selection Tool W

A selection is a part of an image selected for manipulation, e.g. to rotate or move. The selection consists of all the pixels—fully or partially selected—contained within the selection boundary.



When an object is selected, a selection border appears around the selected area (left), these are also known as marching ants. When object deselected, these disappear (right).

Sharpen

▲ Sharpen Tool

An editing technique in which the contrast between specific pixels is enhanced.



The original image (left) is in focus, but the detail is slightly soft. The image has been sharpened a great deal and has a crisper look (right). The detail shows that over-sharpening can lead to some image distortion and unwanted texture.

Transform

To scale, shrink, enlarge, skew, distort, rotate, or change the perspective of a layer, selection, or shape.



The full, original image (left). One layer selected (centre), and then transformed using Free Transform to fit the perspective of the image behind it (right).

Vignette

Vignetting is a reduction of an image's brightness or saturation at its edges so that it is clear in the center, and fades out at the edges.



The image on the left is 100% visible to its rectangular edge. The vignettted image on the right is 100% visible in the center and fades to white at the edges of the oval.

Warp

To distort an image, often text, to conform to a variety of shapes. For instance, a line of text can be warped in the shape of an arc or wave.

Technology
Technology
Technology

The original text (top) was warped using the Liquify filter with a very large brush size (center), and warped using the Pinch Distortion filter (bottom).