

Lightroom CC® Classic

Advanced Local Adjustment Tools

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Agenda for the day

- Welcome and introductions
- Overview of general problems in photography
- Components of exposure and histogram
- Lightroom vs Photoshop local tools
- Develop Module panels – local effects
- Local adjustment tools: gradient and radial filters, brush, spot removal tool
- Dodging and burning; creating image depth
- Wrap-up by 1 PM

Learning Objectives

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Identify roles for Lightroom and Photoshop
- Identify the local tools in the Develop Module
- Optimize raw image using LR modules
- Discuss physical vs digital filters
- Define the role of the LR local adjustment tools
- Recognize interaction between tools
- Perform dodge and burn with LR adjustments

Repeat after me...

- ▣ There is no one, single workflow
- ▣ My workflow is not the only way
- ▣ Workflow changes with images / outputs
- ▣ There are lots of ways to skin a cat
- ▣ Find what is best for you

Always have a workflow in mind

LightRoom vs PhotoShop

LightRoom

- ▣ Synchronized editing
- ▣ Image storage system
- ▣ Database / search engine
- ▣ Adobe Camera Raw
- ▣ Image-level editing
- ▣ Non-destructive edits
- ▣ Limited local edits

PhotoShop

- ▣ Single image editing
- ▣ Bridge is viewer
- ▣ Adobe Camera Raw
- ▣ Pixel-level editing
- ▣ Destructive edits
 - Smart objects
- ▣ Layers & overlays
- ▣ Masks
- ▣ Content-aware fill

The programs are different but complementary.

LightRoom Modules

- ▣ Library – organize your images
 - Import, export, publish images
- ▣ **Develop** – process your images
 - Local adjustment tools
- ▣ Map – geo-tag your images
- ▣ Output Modules:
 - Book – create a photo book
 - Slide show – create a slideshows
 - Print – print your images
 - Web – create a web objects

Workflow...

Post-processing (Editing) Goals

- ▣ Optimize white balance and tint
- ▣ Optimize overall exposure and contrast
- ▣ Correct saturation problems
- ▣ Enhance local exposure and contrast
 - Dodge & burn; clarity
- ▣ Crop for final use (straighten, fix corners and edges)
- ▣ Eliminate distractions: clone, heal, blur, etc.
- ▣ Create vignette
- ▣ Merge images: HDR, panorama, focus-stacking
- ▣ Other local adjustments, filters, etc.

Develop Module

- ▣ White and black points; highlights, shadows
 - Exposure, contrast – dynamic range
- ▣ Color temperature, white balance, and tint
- ▣ Presence (pop) - clarity, vibrance, saturation
- ▣ Crop, level, clean-up, filters
- ▣ **Local adjustments**
 - Gradient & radial filters, brush, spot removal
 - Dodge and burn
 - Tone curve, HSL, split-tone*
- ▣ Lens corrections and perspective control
- ▣ Sharpness; luminance & color noise reduction
- ▣ Special effects – post-crop vignette, grain

Workflow...

Develop Module Panels

- ▣ **Local adjustment tools** — gradient, radial, brush, clone
- ▣ **Basic** — exposure & color correction
- ▣ **Tone curve** — contrast and dynamic range
- ▣ HSL — Hue, Saturation, Luminance, (B&W)
- ▣ Split Toning*
- ▣ Detail — noise reduction and sharpening
- ▣ Lens Corrections — aspect error, chromatic aberration
- ▣ Effects — vignette and grain; de-haze
- ▣ Camera Calibration*

* = very low use

Exposure & Contrast

- ▣ **Use histogram!**
- ▣ Gross exposure to shift curve right or left
- ▣ Set white and black points
- ▣ Open shadows and highlights
- ▣ Fine tune each luminance segment
- ▣ Add clarity for mid-tone details
- ▣ Consider vibrance - if exposure is increased
 - Preserves skin tones; acts only on unsaturated hues
- ▣ Consider saturation - if exposure is increased
 - Use with extreme care
- ▣ Add contrast (if needed); check tone curve for fine detail contrast adjustments

Local Adjustment Tools

- ▣ Non-destructive edits
- ▣ Affect less than entire image
 - Multiple effects can be combined
- ▣ Tone curve & HSL
- ▣ Spot removal tool (brush)
- ▣ ~~Red eye tool~~
- ▣ Gradient (graduated) filter tool
- ▣ Radial filter tool
- ▣ Local adjustments brush (tool)

(New) Tools

- Auto-mask brush
- Luminance mask
- Color mask
- Depth mask - new!

Clone vs Heal

- ▣ Both functions hide selected regions
- ▣ **Clone**
 - Exact copy of pixels — hue, saturation & luminance
- ▣ **Heal**
 - Texture copied
 - Hue & saturation match
 - Softer blend effect
- ▣ Sometimes combined



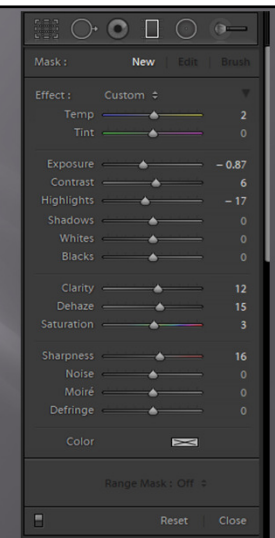
Graduated Neutral Density Filters (Grads)

- ▣ Large rectangular filters mounted on an adapter
- ▣ No tint or color correction
- ▣ Glass or resin construction
- ▣ Hard or soft edge
- ▣ Different 'strengths' of light reduction
- ▣ May be stacked for greater effect

Gradient Tool Graduated Filter

Functions

- Replace graduated neutral density filter for camera
- Linear adjustments
- Feathered edge softening
- Temperature, tint, exposure, contrast, black & white points, highlights & shadows, clarity, dehaze, saturation, sharpen, color correction / toning
- Range masking



Radial Filter Tool

Functions

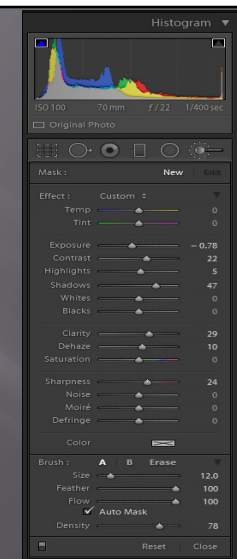
- Replace harsh vignette
- Oblong adjustments
- Feathered edge softening
- Temperature, tint, exposure, contrast, black & white points, highlights & shadows, clarity, dehaze, saturation, sharpen, color correction / toning
- Range masking



Adjustment Brush

Functions

- Local exposure adjustments
 - Traditional dodge & burn
- But far more:
 - WB & tint
 - Contrast & clarity
 - Dehaze
 - Saturation (not vibrance)
 - Sharpen
 - Colorize
- **Auto Mask**
- Size, feather, flow, density



Local Adjustments - scrubby slider

- ▣ Can create a series of edits under any local adjustment tool
- ▣ Scrubby slider allow strength of all effects
- ▣ **Local Adjustments**
 - Can combine brush tool with linear and radial tools
 - Can “store” two brushes for future use
 - Can combine erase tool with all other local tools
 - Can auto-mask with Brush tool
 - Can mask by luminance, color, and “depth”

Application of processing

- ▣ Eliminate distractions
- ▣ Focus attention on subject
- ▣ Add ‘depth’ to image
 - Color / saturation / vibrance
 - Contrast / sharpness / clarity
 - Dodging and burning
- ▣ Keys to creating

Pop

Summary

Lightroom:

- ▣ Powerful database for image organization
- ▣ Non-destructive, image-level edits
- ▣ Seamless integration with other Adobe and many third-party products
- ▣ Simple local editing to add drama to image

Photoshop:

- ▣ Pixel level, destructive edits
- ▣ Powerful tool for fine editing

Local Adjustments Summary

- ▣ Far more powerful than on-camera filters
- ▣ Flexible strength and softness
- ▣ Not just changing local exposure
 - Temperature & tint
 - Contrast, black & white points, highlights & shadows
 - Clarity, dehaze & sharpen
 - Saturation (not vibrance, yet)
 - Color correction / toning
- ❖ Range masking
 - Luminance
 - Color
 - Depth
- ❖ Combine effects with brush and erase

Why –
Would you ever
use a graduated
filter again?