

Photoshop Workflow for Photographers

Getting the most out of your images

Recommended Programs

- Photoshop CS2 or CS3 / Photoshop Elements 5 or 6
- Read magazines and books on digital photography
- Practice, practice, practice - experiment and play (only on a copy of the original file)
- Start building a Photoshop file

Basic differences between *Point and Shoot* and *SLR* cameras

- Sensor design and sensor size between these cameras and how image quality is affected.

Common digital terminology

- What is *Noise*?

Noise is usually seen as a series of randomly spaced, brightly coloured pixels that sometimes appear in your digital images. A large amount of noise in an image will reduce the overall sharpness and clarity of the picture. Particularly noticeable in shadow areas, there are two distinct factors that control the amount of noise present in a picture: **High ISO** and **Long Exposure times**

- What is *Chromatic Aberration*?

Chromatic Aberrations are caused by optical defects in camera lenses. It shows up as colour fringing around areas of high contrast in an image.

- What is *Moire*?

Moire is a visible pattern that looks like a set of wavy lines across a small pattern of some sort, like that in a suit. It is set up when a pattern in an object being photographed (such as that in a suit) interacts with the array of pixels in a sensor. You've probably most often seen it on television when a suit with very faint stripes interacts with the lines in the television screen and creates patterns that seem to dance as a person moves.

- What is *Colour Space*? - **sRGB** and **adobeRGB**

sRGB: It is a multipurpose colour space standard that consumer digital devices could all standardise to (cameras, printers and monitors). It aims to match the colour gamut of a typical PC monitor (256 colours)

adobeRGB: It is a larger representation of the RGB colour space, thus you get more colour to play with. AdobeRGB images look "duller" on a monitor than sRGB images, but don't be fooled!!! Just wait till you print; the colours will leap off the page especially with large prints.

Why digital cameras shoot *soft* images and the importance of sharpening. Correct way to sharpen (working at 50 - 100%) and what to look for when images are incorrectly sharpened.

- An image should always be sharpened after all post-production work is completed and after re-sizing.

What is a RAW file?

- SHOOT RAW! SHOOT RAW! SHOOT RAW!
- RAW files - These are your digital negatives, so look after them!
- Backup, Backup, Backup!!!!
- Burn a disc of the images you shoot that day before any post-production takes place.
- Make a *Contact Sheet* in Photoshop
- **RAW Jargon???** - ACR or Adobe Camera Raw is Adobe's own raw conversion utility and comes with both Photoshop and Photoshop Elements, although in slightly different forms. Lightroom, or more properly titled Photoshop Lightroom, is a workflow based program designed to manage, enhance, print and output to web and screen, your raw files.

JPEG verses RAW!!!!

- Open a JPEG file and a RAW file - to demonstrate the differences in information contained in each of these file types (colour, meta data etc.).

Major digital file types

Advantages and disadvantages and the correct way to use them.

- JPEG (**J**oint **P**hotographic **E**xperts **G**roup - An ISO standard for compressing still images; each time you save it image quality decreases.
- TIFF (**T**agged **I**mage **F**ile **F**ormat)
- PSD (Photoshop's file name)
- RAW files - every camera manufacturer has its own RAW file type (eg. NEF, CR2, ORF, PEF)
- Adobe DNG - Adobes attempt to standardise the "RAW" file

Put an image through Camera Raw

- Explain what the different sliders do and the effect they can have on an image
- Explain working in 16bit and 8bit and colour space (sRGB and adobe RGB)

Open an image in Photoshop

- Go to "Image Size" and explain this window and how important it is
- Explain 72ppi and 300ppi???
- Ppi - pixels per inch: Image resolution
- Dpi - dots per inch: Printer resolution