



Photoshop 7 Bootcamp

To really master Photoshop and all the things that it can do, you really just need to sit down with someone who knows the program and learn by doing... one image after another. That is what this class is all about. **It is assumed that you already know the basic tools in Photoshop and what each one does.** This class builds on that knowledge.

Each section in this handout has sufficient space available for notes so you can write down what you need to know in each section. So hang on... here we go!!

I. Visual Guides

There are a few things that can visually help you as you work with layers and objects inside Photoshop. Specifically, the Grid and Guides.

Activities:

- * The grid
- * Guides

You can change the properties of both of these in Edit/Preferences

II. Selection techniques

Before you can start manipulating objects inside Photoshop, it is a good idea to make sure you know how to select things using the different selection tools.

Activities:

- * Lasso (regular, magnetic, polygonal)
- * Marquee (square, oval, line)
- * Magic Wand
- * Selecting the inverse
- * Deselecting (ctrl-D)
- * Modify (smooth, expand, contract)

Hints:

III. Transforming

Transforming is taking your object and stretching it, or skewing it, or squashing it, or whatever, depending on what you want to accomplish.

NOTE: Using these features will cause Photoshop to either add pixels where they don't exist now or remove pixels that are no longer needed. This has the potential to really alter the way your object looks, so experiment. And don't forget.... Ctrl-Z!!!

Activities:

- * Transform
- * Free Transform

IV. Adjustment layers

As you learned in the basic Photoshop class, you can apply effects to individual layers inside Photoshop and not hurt the other layers. Now it is time to learn about adjustment layers.

Basically, your adjustment layer contains the information about what you are doing to a layer without physically changing the information on the layer that has your object.

To create one, go to Layers/New Adjustment Layer, then choose your effect.

V. Removing parts of pictures

Sometimes you take a great picture, but there is something in the picture that you wish wasn't there. Using the stamp tool can fix your problem.

Activities:

- * Clone stamp
- * Pattern stamp

VI. Removing red-eye & changing colors

One of the handiest abilities you have with Photoshop is to remove red-eye, or even change someone's eye color! Mastering the selection tools is a must before trying this!

- * Adjusting color balance
- * Adjusting hue/saturation

VII. Adjusting light/dark places in pictures

Don't trash that picture just because the background is too dark or the sun is making part of it too light. Adjust just the parts that need adjusting by using the selection tools and feathering together! What an idea!!

Activities:

- * Adjusting Levels
- * Adjusting Curves
- * Adjusting Brightness/Contrast

NOTE: You can even select only PART of a picture and adjust it. Use your selection tools, then use the feather technique we just learned!!



VIII. Feathering

Putting a soft edge around a picture, or even part of a picture, makes it more pleasing to the eye sometimes.

Activities:

- * Feathering
- * Modify (smooth, expand, contract)

IX. Applying Filters

Most of the filters that come with Photoshop you will never use. They are all pretty cool, but you probably will never get so heavy into graphic design that you will find a need for most of them. However, there are several filters that you will use a lot.

Activities:

- * Sharpen
- * Blur – Motion, Gaussian
- * Noise – Add Noise
- * Render – Clouds, Lens Flare, Lighting Effects

X. Misc effects

Here are some misc effects that you need to know about:

Activities:

- * Stroke
- * Paste Into
- * Rasterizing text