



# Photoshop Tips

## Clean-Up Images

Have you ever had dust, scratches or blemishes on an image and tried unsuccessfully to cover them up with the Clone Stamp Tool? Remove these imperfections while maintaining the shading, lighting and texture with the Healing Brush Tool. For a more advanced version of the Healing Brush, try the Patch Tool. Select an area of the image that needs repair with any of your selection tools and then click the Patch Tool. Photoshop automatically “heals” the defined area while matching the lighting and shading of the selected pixels.

## Adjust Levels

Go to the Image menu and select Adjust > Levels. Move the right and left sliders under the histogram so the majority of the data is between them. The right slider forces everything to the left of the arrow to black. The left arrow forces everything to the right of it to white. The middle slider adjusts the midtones, moving to the left lightens the image. Don't get carried away. There is dot gain at the press, which will make the photo darker, so it is better to go a little lighter. You may want to try Auto Adjust and see if the results are satisfactory.

## Fun Effects with Paint Tools

- To be precise about where you are painting, press the Caps Lock key and the cursor will become a cross hair instead of the normal circle.
- To paint with smooth edges, open the Brushes Palette (Window > Brushes) and click on the Brush Tip Shape setting on the left side. Lower the Space setting to 1%.
- To create a straight paint stroke, click one spot and hold Shift as you click a second spot.

## Palettes

To hide all of your palettes, press the Tab key. To hide all of the palettes except the Tools Palette, press Shift + Tab.

## Fonts

To sample font choices in a text block, highlight your text block and highlight the font name in the selection menu. Use your up and down arrow keys. The font will change in the copy block according to the highlighted choice in the selection menu.

## Cropping

To keep your Crop Tool from snapping to the edge of a document when you get near the edge, hold down the Command key if you're on a Mac, or the Ctrl key if you're on a PC. You will have more control of where the crop line is positioned.

## Image Within Text

To place an image inside text, choose a thick/heavy typeface and make it black. Place the image you want inside the text on a separate layer above the type layer. Press Command + G (Mac)/Ctrl + G (PC) to group the image with the text.