

# Adobe PhotoShop Elements

North Lake College

DCCCD 2006

When you open Adobe PhotoShop Elements, you will see this welcome screen.



You can open any of the specialized areas. We will talk about 4 of them:

**1. View and Organize Photos** - This area of Elements lets you organize all of your photos on your hard drive for use inside of Elements.

- Import Photos from your digital camera
- View your collection of photos in one place
- Find photos quickly using keyword search

**2. Quickly Fix Photos** – This area is primarily for use with photographs

- Skin tone adjustment setting
- Red eye correction
- Magic extractor so you can pull elements from your graphic

**3. Make Photo Creations** - This allows you to customize your photos in many creative ways

- Allows you to format your photos for interesting presentation
- Make slide shows with music and narration
- Create a VCD – animate your photos
- Make greeting cards, postcards, calendars and more using custom templates

**4. Start from scratch** - This allows you to open up the full program. You can find each of the special features in this view on the tool bars near the top of the screen.

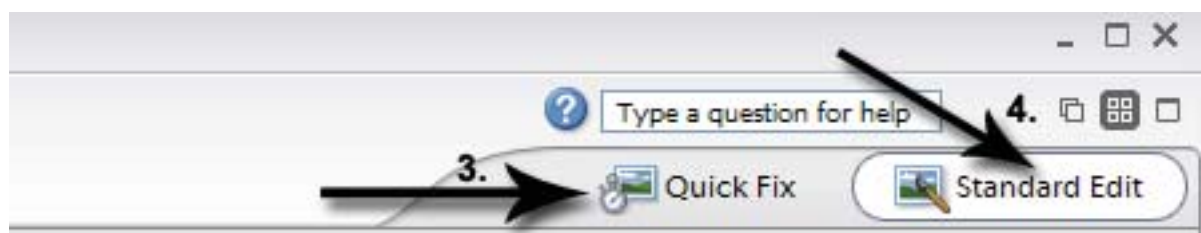
You can find the features below in the **Standard Editor View** near the top left part of the screen shown in the image below.



**1. Create** - Make Photo Creations view

**2. Photo Browser** - View and Organize your Photos view

You can find the two basic editing views shown below on the right hand side near the top of the screen.



**3. Quick Fix** - The Quick Fix Photos view is the area where you can easily make minor repairs to your photos.


**4. Standard Edit** - The regular editing view is the area where you can access all of PhotoShop Elements features.

# Elements Tool Bar

Below is an enlarged view of the Elements tool bar available in the standard editing mode. The following sections will contain a brief overview of each tool.

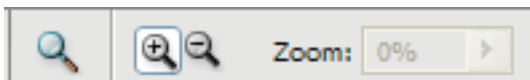





# Move Tool

The Move tool  lets you cut and drag a pixel selection to a new location in the photo. You can also use the tool to move or copy selections between photos and between photos in other applications.


# Zoom Tool

To zoom in or out




Select the zoom tool , and click either the Zoom In  or Zoom Out  button in the options bar. Click the area you want to magnify. Each click magnifies or reduces the image to the next preset percentage, and centers the display around the point you click. When the image has reached its maximum magnification level of 1600% or minimum reduction level of 1 pixel, the magnifying glass appears empty.

# Hand Tool


The hand tool  allows you to move around on your document. This is helpful if you have a large graphic.


# Eyedropper Tool

The eyedropper tool  allows you to take a sample of color from any graphic.

# Marquee Tool

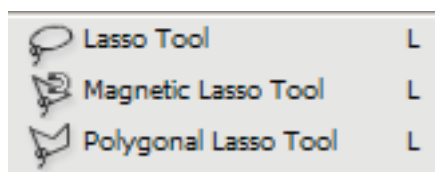
The **Marquee Tool** allows you to select areas in the graphic.

The **Rectangular Marquee Tool**  allows you to select a rectangle or square shaped area in the graphic.

The **Elliptical Marquee Tool**  allows you to select circular areas in your graphic.

# Lasso Tool

There are three types of Lasso tools. The lasso tool is used to manually select areas in your graphic.



**1.** To use the **Lasso** tool, you simply click and draw around the selection. **Note:** When you release the mouse it completes the selection.

**2. The Magnetic Lasso** will draw rounder selections and each click of the mouse will create a point.

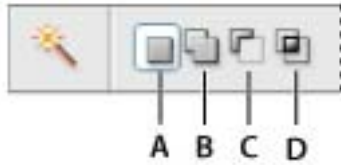
**3. The Polygonal Lasso** tool will allow you to draw around various irregular edges. Each time you click the mouse you can change directions of the selection.

# Magic Wand Tool

To use the Magic Wand tool:

The Magic Wand tool selects pixels within a similar color range with one click. You specify the color range, or tolerance, for the Magic Wand tool's selection. Use the Magic Wand tool when you have an area of similar colors, like a blue sky.

## Magic Wand tool options

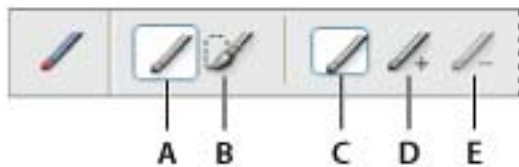


- A.** New selection
- B.** Add to selection
- C.** Subtract from selection
- D.** Intersect with selection

## Magic Selection Brush Tool

The Magic Selection Brush tool makes a selection based on color and texture similarity when you draw, scribble, or click the area you want to select. The mark you make doesn't need to be precise, because when you release the mouse, Photoshop Elements draws the selection border.

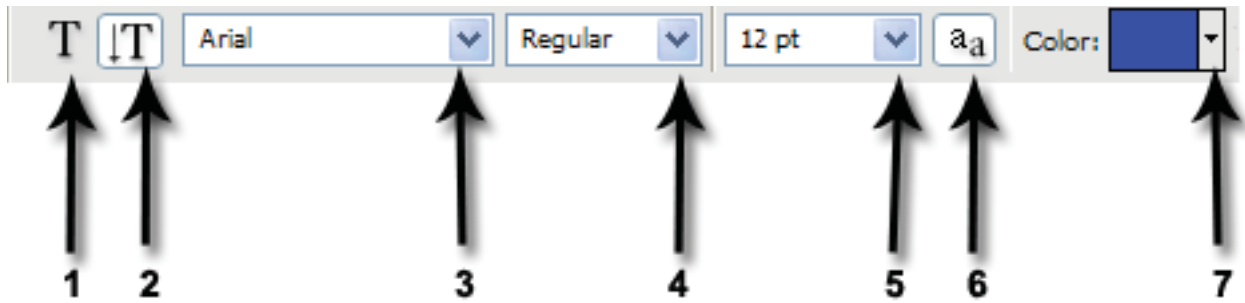
Magic Selection Brush tool options:



- A.** Magic Selection Brush tool
- B.** Selection Brush tool
- C.** New selection
- D.** Indicate Foreground
- E.** Indicate Background


## Type Tool

The type tool has a sub menu that pop-ups up at the top of the window when you engage the tool. On the next page is a picture with the areas of the submenu that we are going to cover.




1. **Horizontal Type** tool creates letters that are horizontally oriented.
2. **Vertical Type** tool creates letters that are vertically oriented.
3. **Font Family** applies a font family to new or existing text.
4. **Font Style** applies font styles, such as bold, to new or existing text.
5. **Font Size** applies a font size to new or existing text.
6. **Anti-aliased** applies anti-aliasing to make text appear smoother.
7. **Color menu** applies a color to new text or selected text.

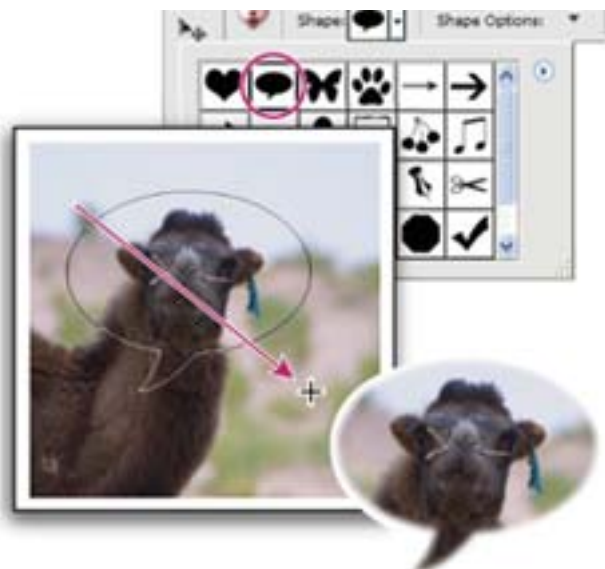
## Crop Tool

The **Crop Tool**  removes the part of an image surrounding the crop marquee, or selection. Cropping is useful when you want to remove distracting background elements and focus in on the target of your photo. By default, when you crop a photo, the resolution remains the same as the original photo.



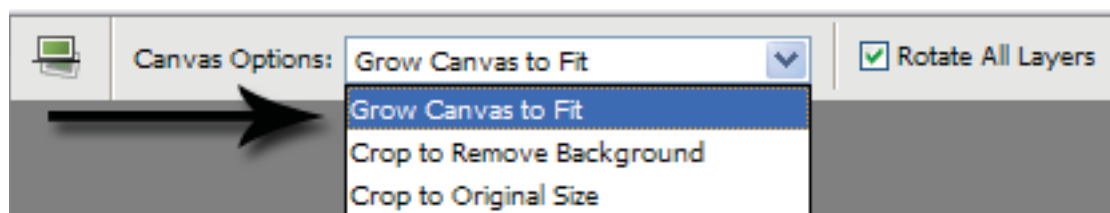
# Cookie Cutter Tool

**The Cookie Cutter Tool**  crops a photo into a shape that you choose. After you drag the shape in your photo, you can move and re size the bounding box until you have just the area you want.




# Straighten Tool

The straighten tool is used to quickly and easily straighten an image. The submenu below appears on the top right hand side when you select the tool



## To straighten an image

In the Editor, select the Straighten tool  To straighten all of the layers in the image, select Rotate All Layers, and then choose an option from the Canvas Options menu (this menu is available only if you select Rotate All Layers):

**Grow Canvas To Fit** re-sizes the canvas to fit the rotated image. Straightening causes corners of the image to fall outside of the current canvas. The straightened image will contain areas of blank background, but no pixels are clipped.

**Crop To Remove Background** Crops the image to remove any blank background area that become visible after straightening. Some pixels will be clipped.


**Crop To Original Size** Keeps the canvas the same size as the original image. The straightened image will include areas of blank background and some pixels will be clipped.

## Red Eye Removal Tool

The Red Eye Removal tool removes red eye in flash photos of people.

Red eye is caused by a reflection of the subject's retina by the camera's flash. You'll see it more often when taking pictures in a darkened room because the subject's iris is wide open. Photoshop Elements can automatically fix red eyes when you bring photos into the Organizer; just select Automatically Fix Red Eyes in the Get Photos dialog box when you import your photos.

Correct red eye by clicking an eye (center).

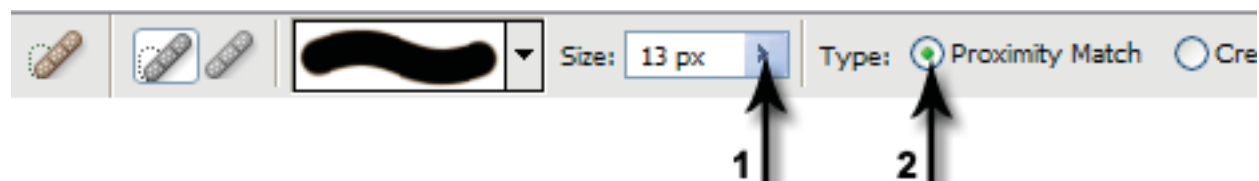
In the Editor or in Quick Fix, select the Red Eye Removal tool . In the image, click a red area of an eye, the red eye disappears.



# Spot Healing Brush Tool

The Spot Healing Brush quickly removes blemishes and other imperfections in your photos. You can either click once on a blemish, or click and drag to smooth away imperfections in an area.

In the Editor, select the Spot Healing Brush tool .



1. Choose a **Brush Size**. A brush that is slightly larger than the area you want to fix works best so that you can cover the entire area with one click.

2. Choose a **Type Option** in the options bar.

**Proximity Match** - Uses the pixels around the edge of the selection to find an image area to use as a patch for the selected area. If this option doesn't provide a satisfactory fix, undo the fix and try the Create Texture option.

**Create Texture** - Uses all the pixels in the selection to create a texture in which to fix the area. If the texture doesn't work, try dragging through the area a second time.

Click the area you want to fix in the image, or click and drag over a larger area.



# Clone Stamp Tool

The Clone Stamp tool paints with a sample of an image, which you can use to duplicate objects, remove image imperfections, or paint over objects in your photo.

In the Editor, select the Clone Stamp tool . In the options bar, select the following options.





1. Brushes pop-up menu sets the brush tip.
2. **Size** sets the size of the brush in pixels. Drag the **Size** pop-up slider or enter a size in the text box.
3. **Mode** determines how the source or pattern blends with existing pixels. **Normal mode** lays new pixels over the original pixels. **Replace mode** preserves film grain and texture at the edges of the brush stroke.
4. **Opacity** sets the opacity of the paint you apply. A low opacity setting allows pixels under a paint stroke to show through. Drag the pop-up slider or enter an opacity value.

Drag to paint with the tool.



# Background Eraser Tool


The **Background Eraser** tool  turns color pixels to transparent pixels so that you can easily remove an object from its background. With careful use, you can maintain the edges of the foreground object while eliminating background fringe pixels.

The tool pointer is a circle with a cross-hair  indicating the tool's hotspot. As you drag the pointer, pixels within the circle and of a similar color value as the pixel under the hotspot are erased.

If the circle overlaps your foreground object and it doesn't contain pixels similar to the hotspot pixel, the foreground object won't be erased.

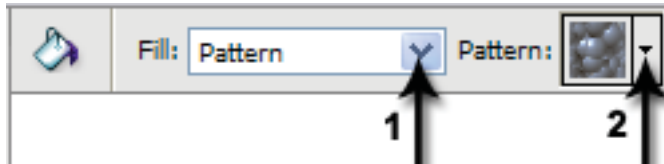


# Brush Tool

The **Brush** tool  creates soft or hard strokes of color. You can use it to simulate airbrush techniques or just drag it and paint a variety of lines and colors.

# Paint Bucket Tool

The Paint Bucket tool fills an area that is similar in color value to the pixels you click. You can fill an area with the foreground color or a pattern.



Select the **Paint Bucket** tool  in the toolbox.

Set options in the options bar as desired, and then click the part of the image you want to fill. You can specify any of the following **Paint Bucket** tool options:

1. **Fill** sets whether to fill with the foreground color or a pattern.
2. **Pattern** sets a pattern to use as the fill.

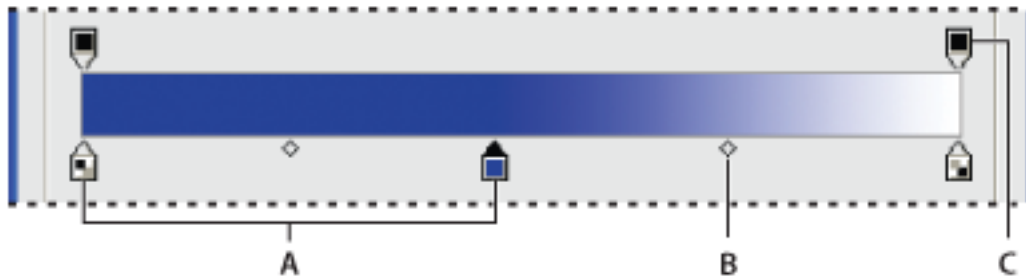
**Note:** If you want to fill with a solid color, select **Foreground** in the **Fill Option**.

# Gradient Tool

## To define a gradient

You can define your own gradients in the **Gradient** Editor dialog box. A gradient can include two or more colors, or one or more colors that fade to transparency.

To define a gradient, you add a color stop to add a color to the gradient, drag the color stop and the midpoint icon to define the range between two colors, and adjust the Opacity stops to specify the transparency that you want in the gradient.



## Gradient Editor dialog box.

**A.** Color stop **B.** Midpoint **C.** Opacity stop

In the Editor, select the Gradient tool 

1. To display the **Gradient Editor** dialog box, click the **Edit** button next to the gradient sample.



2. In the **Presets** section of the **Gradient Editor** dialog box, select a gradient on which to base your new gradient.

3. To choose colors for your gradient, double-click the color stop.

4. Choose **Foreground** from the **Color** pop-up menu to use the current foreground color. Choose **Background** from the **Color** pop-up menu to use the current background color.

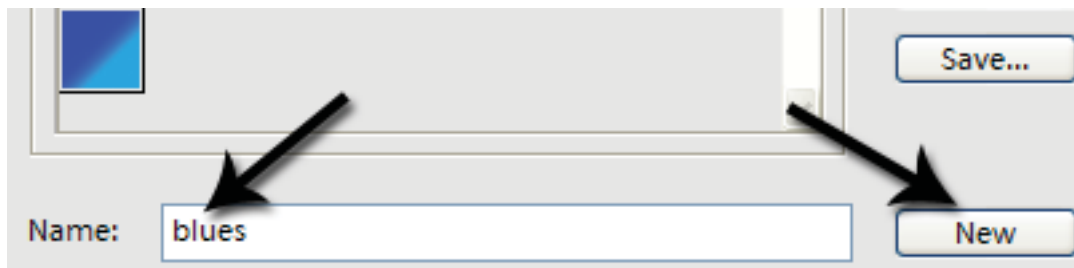


5. To adjust the color stop location for a color, drag the stop left or right.

6. To add a color to the gradient, click below the gradient bar to define another color stop.

7. To adjust the location of the transition midpoint between colors, drag the diamond below the gradient bar to the left or right.

8. To delete the color stop you are editing, click Delete.



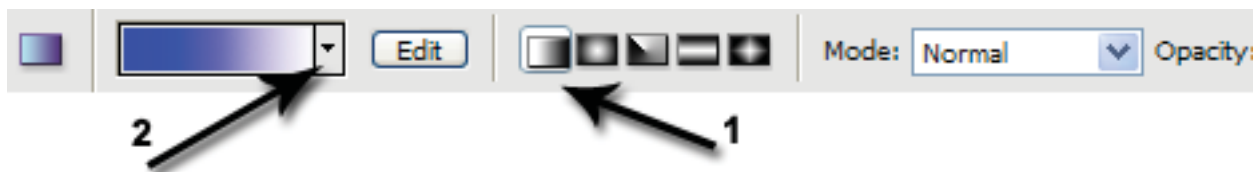
9. To save the gradient to the gradient presets, enter a **Name** for the new gradient, and then click **New**. Click **OK**. The newly created gradient is selected and ready to use.

## To Apply a Gradient

To fill part of the image, select the area with one of the selection tools. Otherwise, the gradient fill is applied to the entire active layer.

Select the **Gradient** tool 

1. In the options bar, click the desired gradient type.



2. Choose a gradient fill from the **Gradient Picker** pop-up palette in the options bar.

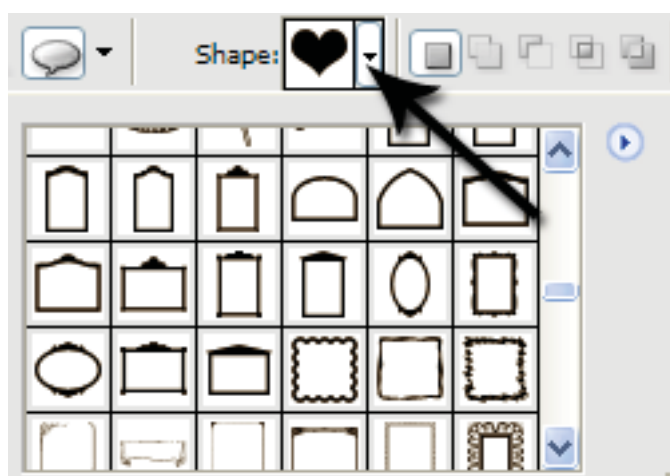
3. In the image, position the pointer where you want to set the starting point of the gradient, and drag to define the ending point.

# Custom Shape Tool

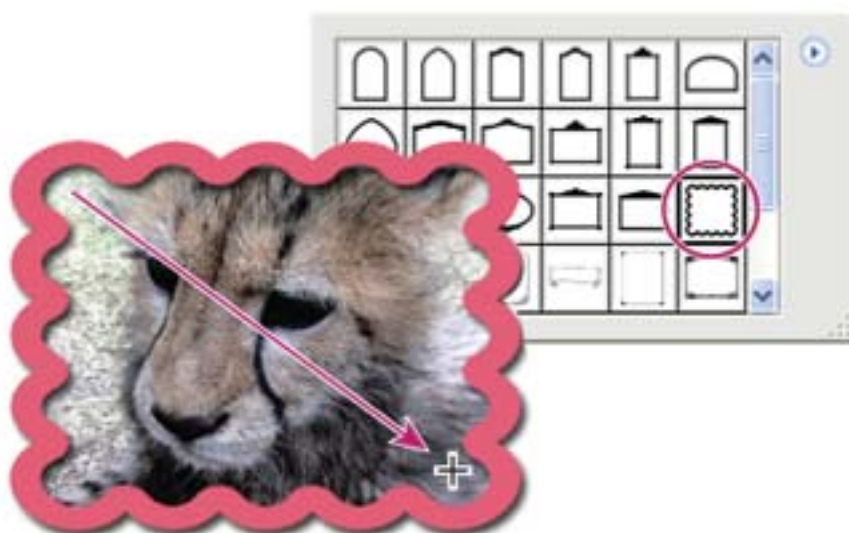
The **Custom Shape** tool provides many different shape options for you to draw. When you select the custom shape tool, you can access these shapes in the options bar.

In the Editor, select the **Custom Shape** tool  .

In the options bar, select a shape from the **Shape** pop-up palette. Click the arrow at the top right of the palette to list the shapes you can choose from.



Drag in your image to draw the shape.




*The Custom Shape tool has ready-made frames that you can drag around a photo.*

# Blur Tool

The **Blur** tool softens hard edges or areas in an image to reduce detail. Blurring a busy background can bring your target images more into focus.


To blur or soften edges

1. Select the **Blur** tool 
2. Drag over the part of the image you want to blur.




Original photo (left) and photo after blurring the background (right)

# Sharpen Tool

The **Sharpen** tool  focuses soft edges in a photo to increase clarity or focus. Over-sharpening a photo gives it a grainy look. It's best to make the sharpening subtle and increase it as necessary by dragging over the area several times, building up the sharpness each time.


## To sharpen areas of an image

1. Select the **Sharpen** tool 
2. Set options in the options bar:
3. Drag over the part of the image you want to sharpen.



Original image (left) and two faces sharpened (right)



## Smudge Tool



The **Smudge** tool  simulates the actions of dragging a finger through wet paint. The tool picks up color where the stroke begins and pushes it in the direction you drag.

1. Select the **Smudge** tool in the toolbox.
2. Drag in the image to smudge color.



# Dodge and Burn Tools

The **Dodge** tool  and the **Burn** tool  lighten or darken areas of the image. You can use the **Dodge** tool to bring out details in shadows and the **Burn** tool to bring out details in highlights.

1. Select the **Dodge** tool  or the **Burn** tool .
2. Set tool options in the options bar.
3. Drag over the part of the image you want to modify.



Original image (left) after using the Burn tool (top center) and after using the Dodge tool (bottom right)