Processing Your Photos SIG
Presentations

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Lightroom Classic CC Tips & Tricks

The Woodlands Camera Club
Processing Your Photos SIG
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Tips & Tricks You May Not Know About in LR Classic

- Exposure Matching

- Straight Line Brushing

- Temporary Auto Mask for Adjustment Brush

- Selective Tool All Slider Adjustment

- Batch Application of a Develop Preset after Import

- Auto Advance

Exposure Matching

- For bracketed photos or when you goof on exposure (or leave bracketing on when you're done bracketing), easily match the exposure of a group of images to one selected image

- In Develop Module, adjust Exposure on one image to what you want

- Select other images in Filmstrip (Cmd/Ctrl>Click), making sure adjusted image remains as "most selected" image (a bit brighter highlighting in filmstrip)

- Click on Settings > Match Total Exposure. Exposure of each image will be adjusted to achieve the same brightness in each image

Straight Line Adjustment Brush

- A quick way to apply an Adjustment Brush to an object with a straight edge like a building, branch, etc

- In Develop Module, select the Adjustment Brush and adjust the sliders as you need. Set the Brush size based on the object

- Click and release at one end of the object; Hold Shift key and Click at other end of the object

- Brush adjustments will be applied in straight line between the two Click points

- Also works with Spot Removal tool

Temporary Auto Mask for Adjustment Brush

- Simple way to Auto Mask the edge of an object while applying an Adjustment Brush (rather than turning on Auto Mask in the Brush controls)

- Hold Cmd/Ctrl while brushing near the edge of an object; Auto Mask is activated until you release Cmd/Ctrl

Selective Tool All Slider Adjustment

- Useful on Gradient Filter, Radial Filter, or Adjustment Brush; Moves all Sliders with non-0 values proportionally; Similar to an Opacity or Intensity adjustment

- Create your Filter or Brush settings and apply to your photo; If changes are too intense or too weak. move all sliders together with one step

- Hover over Adjustment Pin; Hold Option/Alt key; Click and drag to right or left to raise or lower all slider values

- Alternate method: Click on down arrow to right of Effect at top of Filter/Brush; closes Sliders and opens Amount Slider; Slide as needed to adjust Opacity/Intensity of Filter/Brush

Batch Application of a Develop Preset After Import

- Develop Presets are often created to provide a streamlined way to apply commonly used edits to photos; They can be applied during Import, but sometimes we forget or want to apply a different preset during further processing

- In the Develop Module, Presets are applied to one photo at a time; Or you can apply to one and then Copy/Paste Settings to apply to others

- If you have a bunch of photos needing a preset applied, use the Library Module Quick Develop section

- In Grid view, highlight the photos needing the preset; In Quick Develop, Click on the box to right of Saved Preset; Select the Preset you want to apply and Click on it

Auto Advance in Library Module

- In Library Module, by default, you must choose to move to the next image using the arrow keys or the mouse/trackpad

- You can change that to Automatically Advance to the next photo in the Grid after applying any Flag, Rating, or Color Label to an image which may speed up your workflow

- To turn on this feature, Open Library Module; Click on Photo > Auto Advance (in the section of the drop down menu with set Flag, Rating, and Color Label; Use the same steps to turn it off again

- Auto Advance can also be activated by Caps Lock on the keyboard; Check Caps Lock if the feature is on without you turning it on

What are Auto Tone Settings?

- A couple of years ago, Adobe added an Auto button to the Tone section of the Develop Module (also in Library Module Quick Develop); It has been updated and improved in subsequent releases of LR Classic CC

- Auto Tone interprets the information in the image and automatically adjusts Exposure, Contrast, Highlights, Shadows, Whites, Blacks, Vibrance, and Saturation

- The Auto button is located on the right just above the Exposure Slider; If it is "Lit" (white) it is available for application to the image; If it is not Lit (gray) it has already been applied or is not available for the image

- Auto Tone can be a useful step as a starting point for further adjustments but you need to be aware of some issues with this tool

Things We've Learned About Auto Tone Settings

- Results may be different depending on how and when you apply Auto; In some cases the Preview image is sampled; In others the Source image is sampled achieving different results

- Auto Settings applied via Preset during Import (or batch processing in Library Quick Develop) sample the Preview image; sliders will move but Auto will remain lit indicating further changes may be made when the source image is sampled; Clicking Auto again will produce a different result

- Auto during Import or batch processing tends to produce smaller changes in slider settings; Clicking the Auto Button in Quick Develop Tone Control produces results more similar to the Develop Module Auto Button but Auto remains lit in the Develop Module

- Auto Settings applied directly in Develop Module samples the source image; Auto will be dimmed indicating no further changes will be made

How do I Apply Auto Tone to an Image?

- There are many ways to apply Auto Tone to an image

- In Develop Module, Click on the Auto button (Source)

- Create a Develop Preset including Auto Settings to apply to images during Import (Preview)

- Apply the Develop Preset to a batch of images using the Quick Develop section in the Library Module (Preview)

- Apply the Develop Preset to an image directly in the Develop Module (Source)

- Methods using Source image produce best results

When Should I Apply Auto Tone to my Image?

- You can apply Auto Tone any time the button is lit, but remember that it will change any Tone adjustments you have already made

- Should be done early in workflow since it will make changes to any Tone slider moves you've made; Crop and Profile changes should typically be done before applying Auto

- After cropping an image, the Auto button will light and produce different results since it's sampling only the cropped part of the image

- Changing a Profile doesn't change the sliders but applying Auto after the change will produce some slider changes

Creating a Develop Preset Including Auto Settings

- In Develop Module, apply edits to the selected photo that you want included in your new Preset

- Click on + in Preset Section of Left Panel; Select Create Preset

- Check the boxes for Auto Settings and any other settings you want to include

- Assign a meaningful name so you'll know what's in it and Click on Create

- The new Preset should be with all your other User Presets

Pros and Cons of Using Auto Tone

- Auto Settings can produce a decent result whenever applied that may serve as a better starting point for further editing. In some cases, the result will be good enough to just move on to the next photo

- Auto Settings tends to reduce Contrast on a very high percentage of photos. If you prefer enhanced contrast you will need to adjust contrast on almost every photo after applying Auto Settings (Tip: Select all the photos in Library Grid and use the Quick Develop Contrast Adjustment - single arrow is +5; double arrow is +20)

- Applying a Preset including Auto during Import can speed up your workflow but may not produce the best results; Some feel it's a waste of time, while others feel it provides a better starting point for image sorting and selection