

Lightroom Classic V8.4 (August 2019 update) Should I Update?

Processing Your Photos SIG
The Woodlands Camera Club
September 16, 2019

Should I Update?

Usually we say yes, but wait a week or two for bugs to be worked out

For this release, it depends on your computer

If you have a Mac running Mojave (latest MacOS version), there is a major issue created by this version

Any use of the Map or Web Module causes LR Classic to crash and close immediately.

We recommend that you wait for a fix if you're using a Mac with Mojave

What if I've already installed v8.4 and need to use the Map or Web Module?

You can easily revert back to version 8.3.1

Close LR Classic (back it up!) and click on the Creative Cloud icon

Click on the down arrow next to the Open tab on LR Classic, Select Manage, Older Versions, and Click Install next to 8.3.1

Version 8.4 will be removed and replaced with 8.3.1

When opening LR Classic again, Click on the LR Classic name - don't Click on Update or you will go right back to v8.4

What's New

Accelerate image editing with GPU support

Organize Collections with Color Labels

Batch Processing of HDR and Panorama merges (Stack each group first)

Support for new cameras and lenses

Miscellaneous improvements

Adding Breathing Room in a Photo Framed too close to the subject

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First, Let's Add Some Room Around the Image

In Lightroom Library, Click on Photo > Edit In > Edit In
Photoshop CC 2019 (or use keyboard shortcut Cmd/Ctrl > E)

In Photoshop CC, Click on Image > Canvas Size

In the pop up menu box, Enter exact Width and Height you
want, Or, Click on Relative and enter amount to Add to Width
and Height

Click on the Anchor Point to be used - this determines where
the space is added

Click OK

Next, Let's Fill the Blank Space

Make a Selection of the Blank Space using any of the Selection Tools; Rectangular Marquee works good for the added rectangles

Click on Edit > Content Aware Fill and use the tools there to get it looking as good as you can; Click Save

If it looks good enough, Close the image and a copy will be saved back to LR next to the original

If it needs more work, use other tools like Clone Stamp, Healing Brush, etc to make further adjustments and Save

Collage Example in Photoshop CC

Post-Processing SIG
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What is a photo collage?

A photo collage is a collection of pictures that are put together to make a single picture.

Ok then, what is a composite photo?

A composite photo is simply the result of blending two or more images to create one final image.

Collage or Composite?



A Simple Blended Collage (also technically a composite)



Blended Collage Workflow in PS

Select a **background photo** that shows the subject in context, and has extra space for a **subject close-up**

In Lightroom, select these two images and from the Menu Bar choose Photo > Edit In > Open as Layers in Photoshop

OR, open both in PS; for one image: select all, copy, open second image, paste

Arrange the layers with the “background” photo as the bottom layer

Unlock the background layer and resize as needed

Option/alt double click on layer name to unlock

Use Move tool to resize and adjust on canvas

Blended Collage Workflow in PS

Using the Move tool, arrange the subject closeup approximately at the desired location relative to the background; resize if needed

Create a white layer mask for the subject

With subject layer selected, click on the “washing machine” icon

Now we need to smoothly blend away the part of the subject closeup that we don't want to show.

This amounts to painting black on the layer mask everywhere except the part of the subject closeup that we DO want to show (with nice feathered edges).

Some options: gradient tool, elliptical marquee (feathered), big soft brush

Blended Collage Workflow in PS

Gradient Tool Blending Method

SELECT THE LAYER MASK (not the subject thumbnail)

Select the “black-to-white” option from the gradient picker

Select the linear gradient option

Click and drag on the workspace FROM the desired black region TO the desired white region; repeat to re-do

Complete the blend with a large 100% feathered brush (black)

Alternate to brush: set gradient tool mode to “multiply” and build the blended area with multiple additive gradients

Blended Collage Workflow in PS

Elliptical Marquee Tool Blending Method

SELECT THE LAYER MASK (not the subject thumbnail)

In tool option bar, set feather to 100 px (varies by image)

Make an oval selection over the closeup

From menu bar, choose Select - Transform Selection, then adjust size, shape and orientation of your oval selection

Use a large brush to paint over the oval selection with black. This will temporarily hide your subject's face.

Invert the mask colors: Command/control I (“eye”) - the subject has returned!

Use a fuzzy white brush to clean up the face

October SIG: Stump the Chumps

Got a problem image?

Don't know how to fix it/make it "better"?

Struggling with removal of those pesky distractions?

Want new processing ideas for a favorite shot?

Submit one or two of these (copies please!) in full resolution RAW (or whatever format you shoot) and an explanation of your issue.

Submit images by Dropbox (link to be provided) and explanation by email to ppsig@thewoodlandscameraclub.org