

Copying Lightroom Keyword Lists to New Catalogs

Exporting photos as a catalog only includes keywords assigned to the exported photos

New catalogs do not include any of the keywords you've used

Copying your full keyword list to new or exported catalogs is an easy solution

While in your master catalog, click on Metadata > Export Keywords, then name the list and select a location

Open your new catalog, click on Metadata > Import Keywords, then select the file you created

“Type” Layers

C'mon, can we please call them “Text” layers?

THE way to put editable text in your images is by using Type layers

Select the layer where you want the text to show

Select type tool (T); select parameters; click in image where you want the text

Start typing; this will create a Type layer above the previously selected layer.

To edit, select the Type layer, select the type tool, and click on the text

To add a layer style, select the Type layer and select the *fx* at the bottom of the layer panel. Choose the desired effect (such as drop shadow) to bring up the entire layer style window.

Type Layer Example

Create a Type Layer: *Type Layer Snow Example01.psd*

Start with the snow image, choose the type tool

type “SNOW!”, creating a new type layer on top of the snow

adjust font, size and spacing using the “character” tab, and position using the Move tool

Enhance the appearance: *Type Layer Snow Example02.psd*

Select the type layer, change the font color to very light gray

Click the “fx” to add a layer style; add both drop shadow and bevel/emboss (include texture as per example)

Show the different effect of type layer “opacity” and “fill”

Put the “snow” inside “SNOW!): *Type Layer Snow Example03.psd*

Start with the type layer on top

Add a fill or gradient layer and position it as the background (bottom)

Move the snow image layer above the type layer

Select the snow image layer, right click and select “Create Clipping Mask”

Using Layer Masks in Photoshop

Processing Your Photos SIG
July 17, 2017

Layer Mask Basics

Start with basic Layer Masks

Save Selections for another session

A nondestructive way to show or hide parts of an image

Alternative to destructive Eraser Tool with an Adjustment

Use with Adjustments Panel and Brush Tool

"Paint on Layer Mask with Black or White

To show your Layer Mask press and hold Option/Alt and click the Layer Mask icon in Layers Panel

Working with Layer Masks

Use the Add Layer Mask icon to add Layer Mask

Paint on Layer Mask with Black to hide/conceal/erase

Paint on Layer Mask with White to un-hide/reveal

Be sure Layer Mask is selected

If White doesn't work the way you expected, use black
(50% chance of being right!)

Paint with shades of grey to change Opacity of Layer Mask

Use all characteristics of Brushes when painting on Layer Masks

Size, Opacity, Hardness and Specialty Brushes

Click the Link icon to unlink Layer and Layer Mask

Using Gradients on Layer Masks

Gradients (linear or radial) are used on layer masks to reveal or hide parts of the selected layer with a graduated transition area

Add a layer mask and select the gradient tool (keyboard shortcut - G); make sure you have a black to white gradient and select linear or radial

Apply the gradient to the mask. If it reveals/hides the wrong thing, drag in the opposite direction. If it needs adjustment, just click and drag again until you get the look you want. Add brush adjustments if needed

Long drag - long transition area; Short drag - short transition area; For straight line, hold the shift key while applying gradient

Using Selections on Layer Masks

Selections can be used on layer masks to hide or reveal parts of the layer. Any selection tool can be used to create the mask

Create a layer mask and make sure it's highlighted; Create a selection you want to hide and fill with black (edit>fill>black)

Without a mask, make a selection directly on the layer of what you want to reveal on that layer; click on layer mask icon (bottom of layers panel); mask is created with selection in white

If you get it backwards, you can use Cmd/Ctrl>I to invert the mask and reverse what is hidden/revealed

Layer Mask Properties Panel

Properties panel provides controls to modify the layer mask; click on properties icon to open

Density - similar to opacity; changes black to gray to white

Feather - amount of graduated transition between black and white on the mask

Create selection - selects the white area of the mask

Apply mask - no longer non-destructive editing

Disable/Enable mask - shortcut Shift>Click

Creating a Collage Using Layer Masks

Simple process using gradient tool and brush

Select the photos you want to combine into a collage and open as layers in Photoshop

Move each layer around and free transform as needed to position where you want them, add a layer mask to the top layer

Select the gradient tool and apply to mask; reapply until you get look you want; change blend mode to multiply to add multiple gradients

Add a new layer (fill with white) between layers and use gradient tool to create white space for text layers