

Adobe Photoshop: Beginner to Pro

GoSkills online course syllabus

Monday, September 1, 2025

Skill level

Beginner

Lessons

58

Accredited by

CPD

Pre-requisites

None

Versions supported

2024

Estimated study time

28h for all materials

Instructor

Eric Vasquez

Getting Started

1

Creating a New Document

Overview of the New Document screen (Presets, standard sizes, etc)

2

Standard Print Sizes vs Digital Sizes

Creating a New Document (Presets, standard sizes, etc)

3

Differences Between RGB vs CMYK

Share some of the color differences and when to choose one over the other

4

Resizing and Cropping Your Canvas

Learn how to resize and crop your Photoshop documents

Navigating Photoshop

5

Overview of the Toolbar

See how to dock and undock the toolbar and general overview of the tools

6

Overview of the Panels

See how to access and customize the panels based on which tools you use the most

7

Overview of the Menus

See an overview of the menus and what each one contains

8 Workspaces
Learn how to set up your own workspaces and save them as a preset

9 Useful Tips for Navigating Your Documents
Look at the Hand Tool and the Zoom Tool to quickly navigate around your document

Basic Shape Tools

10 Marquee and Shape Tools
Show the different ways you can create basic shapes and fill them with color

11 Editing and Transforming Shapes
Show how you can resize, reposition, and edit your shapes

Basic Color Tools

12 Paint Bucket Tool
See the Paint Bucket Tool in action and learn how to fill selections with solid colors

13 Gradient Tool
Learn about the different types of gradients that can be made using the Gradient Tool

14 Custom Gradients
Learn how to create, save, and load custom gradients

Opening and Importing Photos

15 How to Bring Photos into Photoshop
Before diving into more intermediate tools and techniques, we will learn how to open and import photos

16 Raster vs Smart Objects
Now that we've seen different ways to open or import a photo, let's talk about the benefits of working with a Raster image vs a Smart Object

17 Editing and Transforming Photos
Learn some basic transformation tools that you can use to scale, rotate, skew, distort, and warp your images

Basic Selection Tools

18 Selecting Objects with the Lasso Tool
Show the regular Lasso Tool, the Polygonal Lasso Tool, and the Magnetic Lasso Tool

19 Selecting Objects with the Magic Wand
Show the regular Magic Wand, Object Selection Tool, and Quick Selection Tool

Understanding Layers

20 How Layers Work
Overview of how layers work and using the Layer Panel. Important to start here rather than going through all of the tools.

21 Grouping Your Layers
Looking at how to make Group Folders for your layers. Duplicate the Group Folder, name them both, and then show how you can search for layers based on label color or other variables.

Adjustment Layers

22 Adjustment Layers - 1
Overview of the first section of the Adjustment Layers Panel and what they do. (Solid Color - Pattern)

23 Adjustment Layers - 2
Overview of the second section of the Adjustment Layers Panel and what they do. (Brightness - Exposure)

24 Adjustment Layers - 3
Overview of the third section of the Adjustment Layers Panel and what they do. (Vibrance - Color Lookup)

25 Adjustment Layers - 4
Overview of the fourth section of the Adjustment Layers Panel and what they do. (Invert - Selective Color)

Blending Modes

26 Blending Modes - 1
Overview of the first section of Blending Modes covering 'Normal' through 'Lighter Color'.

- 27 Blending Modes - 2
Overview of the first section of Blending Modes covering 'Overlay' through 'Luminosity'.

Layer Masks

- 28 Layer Masks - 1
Understanding the basics of layer masks - regular and inverted.
- 29 Layer Masks - 2
Show how Layer Masks can be used with Adjustment Layers to choose which parts of an image you want to be affected.

Using The Brush Tool

- 30 Introduction to the Brush Tool
An overview of the Brush Tool - how to change the color, size, flow, and opacity. We will also see how to use the Eyedropper Tool to sample colors from an existing image and learn some handy keyboard shortcuts for some of these functions.
- 31 Brushes Panel - 1
Go through the different types of brushes that are available in Photoshop as well as how to access the Legacy Brushes.
- 32 Brushes Panel - 2
Go through the Brush Settings to show all of the different ways you can customize brushes in Photoshop in order to create a broader range of looks.
- 33 Brushes Panel - 3
Here we will see how to save and import custom brushes so that we can build up our own library of presets, or use brushes that have been downloaded online.

Other Functions of the Brush Tool

- 34 Adjustment Brush Tool
As an alternative to using an Adjustment Layer, here we will see how the Adjustment Brush Tool can be used to make non-destructive adjustments to an image. Instead of continuously adding new Adjustment Layers, this allows us to use the same selection we paint in, but quickly change the type of adjustment we want.
- 35 Pencil Tool
The Pencil Tool can be used to sketch or draw small, hard-edged lines. It can also be used with the Symmetry Mode to draw identical lines and shapes at one time.

36 Color Replacement Tool

Another function of the Brush Tool is the Color Replacement Tool. This tool can be used to change the Hue, Saturation, Color, and Luminosity of a shape or an image.

37 Mixer Brush Tool

One of the most fun versions of the Brush Tool is the Mixer Brush Tool. Here you will learn how it works and see how to mix and sample colors in a more realistic way.

38 History Brush Tool

Here we will learn about the History Brush Tool. This is a great tool that can be used to help restore parts of an image to an earlier state.

Using the Eraser Tool

39 Introduction to the Eraser Tool

The Eraser Tool can be used to erase all or part of an image. This tool also gives you access to the same modifications and adjustments you can make when using the Brush Tool.

40 Background Eraser Tool

Learn how to adjust the settings of the Background Eraser Tool to easily remove backgrounds from your images.

41 Magic Eraser Tool

Use the Magic Eraser Tool to remove blocks of color that are similar in a photograph.

Using the Pen Tool

42 Introduction to the Pen Tool

Here we will cover the basics of how to use the Pen Tool in Photoshop and when you should use the Pen Tool vs the Brush Tool.

43 Modifying Points

See how to add, remove, or modify anchor points when using any of the Pen Tools.

44 Using the Freeform Pen Tool

Here we will cover the Freeform Pen Tool and how it can be used to trace a shape or a photo.

45 Using the Curvature Pen Tool

Here we will cover the Curvature Pen Tool and how it can be used to trace a shape or a photo.

Making Precise Selections

- 46** Using the Pen Tool
Learn how to use the Pen Tool with Layer Masks to create selections and Work Paths.
- 47** Using the Brush Tool
Learn how to combine the Brush Tool with Layer Masks to create selections.
- 48** Select Similar Colors
Use the Select Similar option to select a color, and then similar colors in order to remove a background.
- 49** Color Range
Use the Color Range option to remove a background from an image.
- 50** Calculations
Use the Calculations method to make complex selections.
- 51** Select and Mask
Harness the power of Photoshop's built-in AI to make selections. Here we will see how to make and modify selections using the Select and Mask features.

Basic Photo Retouching

- 52** Clone Stamp Tool
Learn how to use the Clone Stamp Tool to cover up imperfections in part of an image.
- 53** Healing Brush Tool
Learn how to use the Healing Brush Tool to cover up imperfections in part of an image.
- 54** Blur, Sharpen, and Smudge Tool
Learn how to use these three important tools to modify parts of a photo.
- 55** Other Methods for Sharpening
Here we will look at the Filter Menu and how these Sharpening Tools can also be used in retouching.
- 56** Dodge and Burn - 1
Learn how the Dodge and Burn Tools work to bring out shadows and highlights in parts of a photo once we remove a background. We also cover the pros and cons of using this method.
- 57** Dodge and Burn - 2
Learn the better, non-destructive method for Dodging and Burning your photos to add contrast to your images.

58

Photo Retouching Exercise

We will wrap up the course with a short retouching exercise where we apply some of the techniques we have learned throughout the course. We will retouch the photo and add a few Adjustment Layers with masks where we can use the Brush Tool to hide or reveal certain parts of the adjustments.

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