



Presented by Robert Sergeant

Lightroom Recent Changes

Lightroom – HOW DID WE GET TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY !!!

Photoshop

Developed 1988 as a graphics pixel editor

File format TIFF, JPEG, BMP, PCX and introduced their own file format - PSD

Digital Camera

Became a consumer product in the late 1990s and early 2000s

They produced raw sensor data but primarily only output JPGs

Lack of standardization in RAW data across different camera brands and even less standardisation in the software to process the files

Photoshop Ver 7.0 - 2002

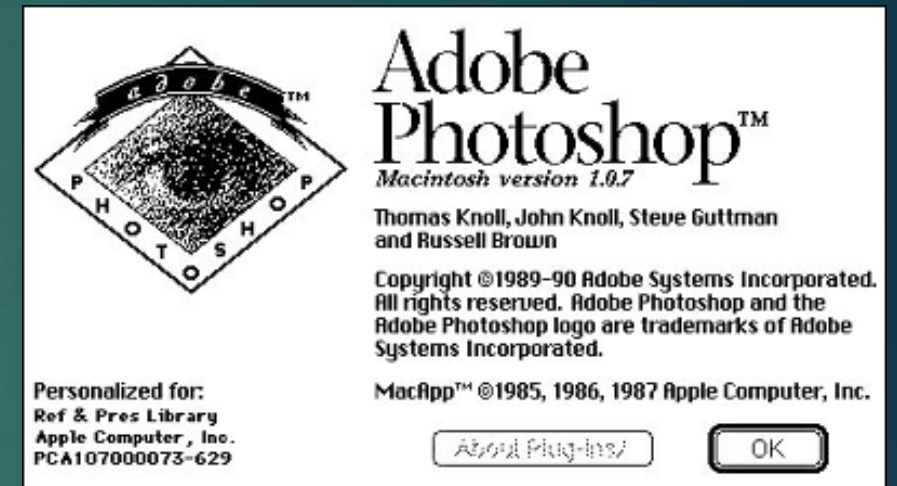
Incorporated Adobe Camera RAW (ACR)

Allowed RAW files from different manufacturers to be opened in Photoshop

Lightroom Ver 1.0 – 2007

Multi module photographers' tool – Library, Develop, Map, Book, Slideshow, Print, Web

Introduce – Non-destructive editing



Lightroom – The EVOLUTION

The expansion years (2008 to 2015)

Shipped a major version every twelve to eighteen months

Ver 1.0 – 5.0 look remained unchanged, each new version brought enhanced features and support for new cameras and lens

Lightroom 6 / Lightroom CC (April 21, 2015)

CC brought cloud storage – reduced functionality

Photographers largely stayed with the original

Lightroom 6 was the last perpetual-license version

2017 split and the great rename and new Licencing

Adobe announced Annual subscriptions – Introduced the Photographers' portfolio – access to Photoshop and Lightroom

Lightroom Classic CC, the desktop app photographers had been using

Lightroom CC, cloud-only application

2021 – major overhaul of Masking

AI takes over (2023 onward)

Most aggressive feature run since 2012

AI Denoise, Advanced object aware Masking, Generative Remove and Expand, Lens Blur, etc.



Lightroom – THE FUTURE FOR CLUB PHOTOGRAPHERS

POSITIVES

Massive User Base

Photographers have invested so much time and learning of the products

Lots of new features besides the AI tools

Known cost for upgrades – no new capital outlay

Lightroom is the base to their editing process

Main Catalogue for many Photographers

Plug in and links to lots of other editing tools

NEGATIVES

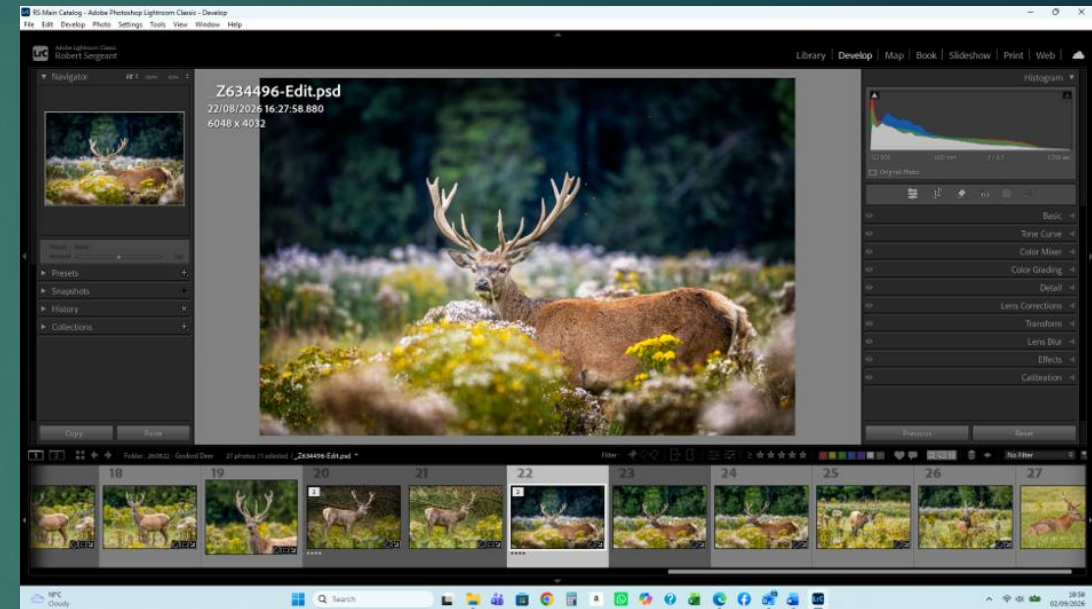
ADOBE no longer the only show in the town

Excellent commercial alternatives

Freeware products getting more functionality to match Adobe

Too much development in AI Tools

Club photographers how this type of editing will be viewed in the future



Lightroom – THE BEST ALTERNATIVES COMMERCIAL

Luminar Neo

Popular Lightroom alternative with strong AI tools, one time purchase option, and beginner friendly workflow – moving to subscription for updates



ON1 Photo RAW

Complete all in one replacement with powerful editing and cataloguing; best without subscription



Capture One

Professional grade colour and studio workflow; ideal for advanced users

DxO PhotoLab

An all-in-one suite of apps

Excellent RAW processing, noise reduction, and low light performance

DXO Pure RAW uses the pre-editing RAW processing



Adobe – THE BEST FREE ALTERNATIVES

Lightroom

Darktable

Open-source, advanced RAW editor; closest free equivalent to Lightroom

RawTherapee

Open-source RAW editor with deep control for advanced users

Photoshop

GIMP

Open-source editor with deep toolset and plugin ecosystem.

Affinity Photo

Recently bought out by CANVA and offered free - Professional raster editor, RAW support, layers, masks; closest full Photoshop replacement





LIGHTROOM RECENT CHANGES

DEMO

Lightroom – FUNCTIONAL CHANGES OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS

Adaptive Profiles

Point Colour

AI Lens Blur

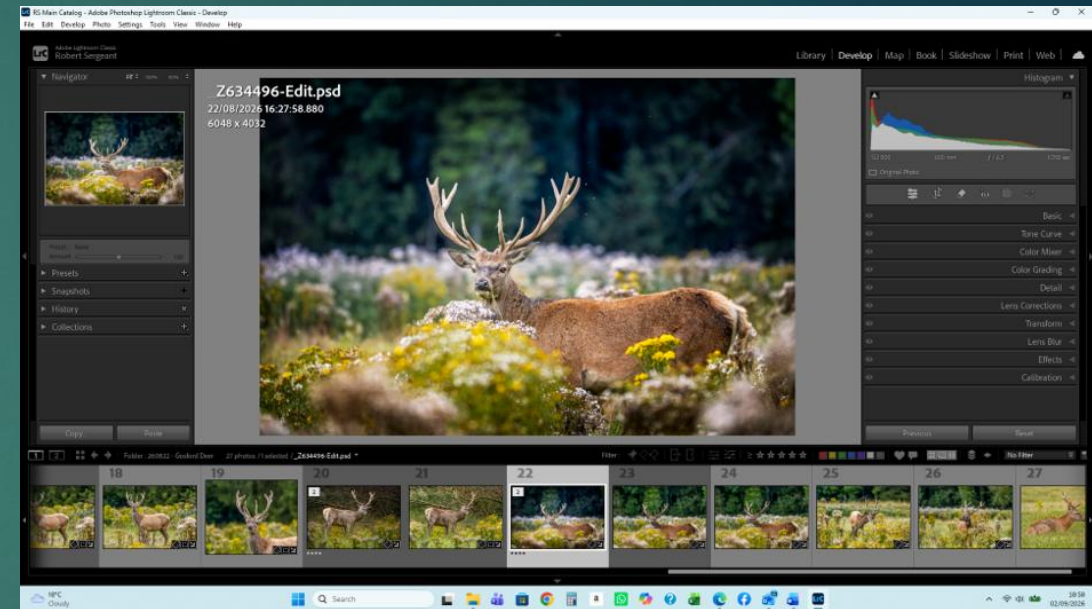
Generative Remove / Remove Distractions

Better Masking with AI processing

AI-powered Enhance features

Refine Masking

Assisted Culling / Faces panel



Lightroom – Profiles

What is the difference between Presets and Profiles

A Lightroom preset applies a saved set of edits, like exposure, colour, and grain, in one click. A Lightroom profile works one level deeper: it sets the foundational colour rendering of the image before any of those adjustments are applied.

Profiles

Profiles in Adobe Lightroom serve as a starting point for your editing journey. They apply a foundational adjustment to your image without affecting the basic editing sliders. Think of Profiles as the underlying character of your photo, setting the tone and atmosphere before you dive into more detailed adjustments. Adobe Lightroom offers a variety of built-in Profiles, ranging from Camera Matching Profiles, which aim to mimic the colour science of your camera, to Creative Profiles, designed to add a unique stylistic touch to your images.

Adaptive AI Profiles

Recently Lightroom has introduced a Colour and a BW Adaptive Profile, these analyse the photos and provides adjustments in colour, tone, and contrast of the raw images, taking into consideration the content of the image.

The intensity of a profile can be adjusted with the slider in the range of 0 to 200, the typical starting position is 100.

Lightroom – Point Colour

Overview of Point Colour

Point Colour is part of the Colour Mixer panel in Lightroom Classic, it provides greater control than the older HSL/Colour panel for more advanced colour editing. It enables you to sample a colour directly from your image and adjust it in three dimensions: Hue, Saturation, and Luminance. Unlike the HSL sliders, Point Colour allows you to control the range of affected colours and apply adjustments both globally and locally via masking.

1. Open the Colour Mixer Panel: Switch to the Point Colour tab within the Colour Mixer panel.
2. Select the Eyedropper Tool: Click the eyedropper icon and hover over the colour you want to adjust. Lightroom shows a pixel-level preview and the sampled colour in the panel.
3. Sample the Colour: Click on the image to add a colour swatch. This swatch represents the colour you will adjust.
4. Adjust Luminance: Use the luminance field to make the colour lighter or darker. Moving the circle in the field updates the Luminance Shift slider, and vice versa.
5. Adjust Hue and Saturation: In the larger colour field, move the circle up/down to change saturation and left/right to shift hue. The corresponding Hue Shift and Saturation Shift sliders move in sync.
6. Monitor Changes: The panel shows both the original colour and the adjusted colour, allowing you to see the effect in real time.

Lightroom – AI Lens Blur

Overview of AI Lens Blur

The new Lens Blur tool in Lightroom Classic adds an aesthetic blur effect to any part of your photo. You can easily apply optical blur and bokeh through an interactive and customizable interface. The effect can blur the background or foreground by making a depth map of the image using Adobe Sensei.

1. In the Develop module, select Lens Blur > Apply. Select one of the Bokeh effects you want to apply. This gives the bokeh an oval appearance.
2. Sliders and their functions:-
 - Blur Amount - To adjust the intensity of the blur effect
 - Cat Eye - To achieve swirling, crescent-shape effect.
 - Boost To adjust the intensity of the chosen Bokeh effect
 - Focus Range - To adjust the depth at which you want the blur effect. You can expand or contract the slider box by holding and dragging it from either side to increase or decrease the range of the effect. You can also select the Subject Focus icon to set a focus range automatically using AI subject detection. Alternatively, select the Point/Area Focus icon to set the focus range manually by dragging a box around the subject.
3. Select the Visualise Depth checkbox to view a depth map of focus areas in the image in cool and warm tones
4. Select Brush Refinement to adjust the depth map by selecting Focus and brushing over the areas you would like to stay in focus, similarly selecting Blur and brushing the areas you want to blur out within the image. You can refine the selection using the Amount, Size, Feather, and Flow sliders.

Lightroom – Generative Remove

Overview of Generative Remove

Powered by Adobe Firefly generative AI, you can easily remove distractions and unwanted objects in a photo. Once you identify and highlight an object using the brush mask or rectangle selection, Adobe Firefly automatically analysis and removes the object and the shadow around it and generates a fill that blends with the rest of the frame.

1. In the Develop module, select Remove 
2. Brush over the object you want to remove. If Detect objects is selected, Lightroom Classic will also identify the shadow and reflections (if any) around the object and include it in the selection.
3. In the Selected panel, you can use the following options to refine the selection:
 - Add - Add areas to the selection.
 - Subtract - Subtract areas from the selection.
 - Size - Adjust the brush size for a more accurate selection.
4. Select Remove. Lightroom Classic will use Adobe Firefly to generate three different variations. You can select a variation or click Generate to create three new variations.
5. Select the brush  icon to make further refinements or select  icon to delete the selection.

Lightroom – Remove Distractions

People

1. Select a photo with distracting people and open it in the Develop mode. Select Remove, In the Distraction Removal panel, select People.
2. Lightroom Classic will automatically detect people in the background and create a mask overlay (red by default) with individual pins over them.
3. To exclude someone from the removal, select the pin over them and then select Delete – When happy hit Delete.
4. Select the arrows to cycle through the variations generated by Lightroom Classic using Adobe Firefly. You can also select the **Generate** button to develop three new variations.

Reflections

Dust

1. Select a photo with distracting people and open it in the Develop mode. Select Remove, In the Distraction Removal panel, select Dust.
2. Lightroom Classic will automatically detect dust spots, click visualise check box to see the spots and apply check box to remove them.

Lightroom – Masking tool

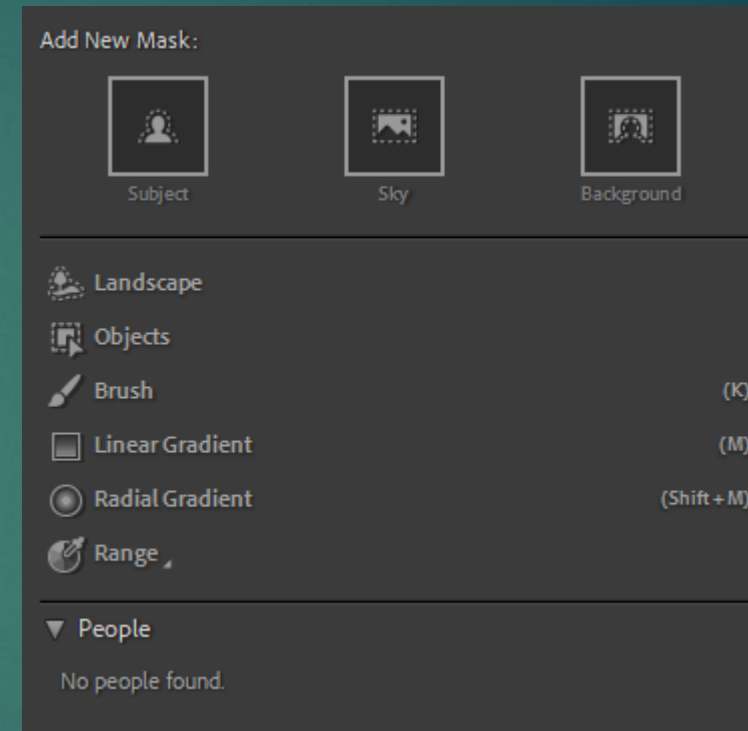
Overview of the Masking tool

These allow local editing.

Controls in the Develop Module let you affect the colour and tone of an entire photo, but sometimes you don't want to adjust the whole photo globally. You want to make corrections to a specific area of a picture. For example, you may want to lighten a face to make it stand out in a portrait or enhance the blue sky in a landscape. You can apply colour and tonal adjustments using the Masking tool to make local corrections in Lightroom Classic.

Legacy Tools

1. Brush
2. Linear Gradient
3. Radial
4. Range
 - Colour Range
 - Luminance Range
 - Depth Mask – Few cameras produce a compatible file format



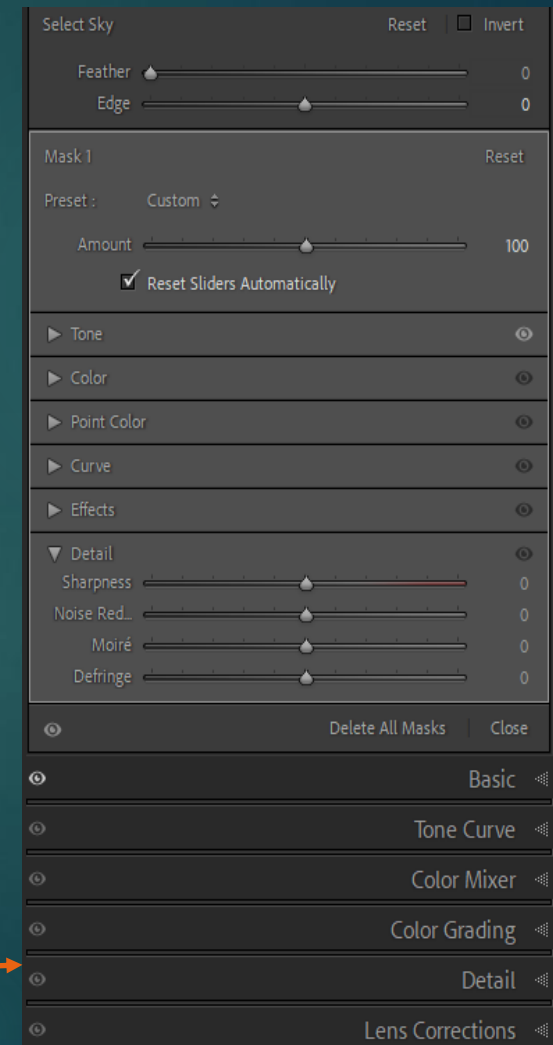
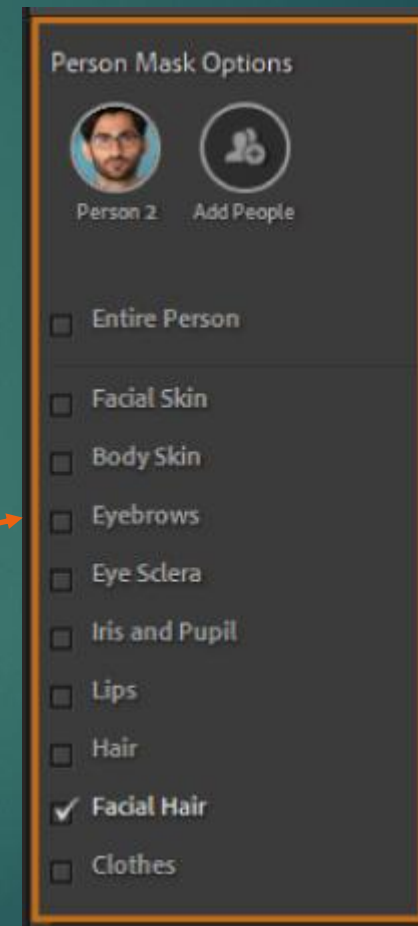
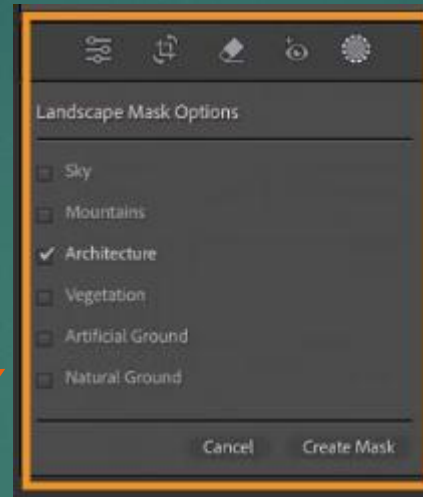
Lightroom – Masking tool

Overview of the AI Masking

automatically select the subject in the photo and allows specific edits.

AI Masking Tools

1. Subject
2. Background
3. Object
4. Sky
5. Landscape
6. People



Subtle change to the Interface

Mask tools panels collapses to the LEFT

Generic tool panels collapses to the RIGHT

Lightroom – AI-powered Enhance features

Overview of AI-powered Enhance features

Enhance provides features such as Denoise, Raw Details, and Super Resolution to help improve image quality using Camera Raw.

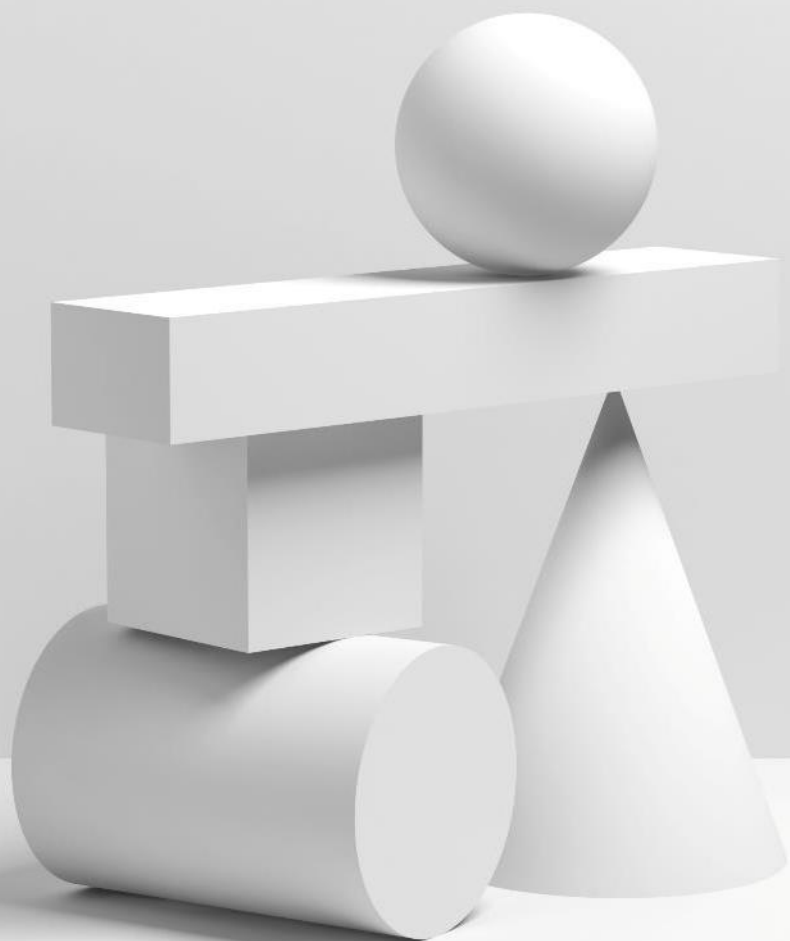
1. **Denoise** easily removes noise from photos captured with high-ISO settings or in low light. You can process the supported file types using artificial intelligence to reduce noise without losing the image's fine details.
2. **Raw Details**, previously called Enhance Details, produces crisp detail and more accurate renditions of edges, improves colour rendering, and reduces artifacts. The resolution of the enhanced image stays the same as the original image. This feature is handy for large displays and prints where fine details are visible.
3. **Super Resolution** helps create an enhanced image with similar results as Raw Details but with 2x the linear resolution. This means that the enhanced image will have 2x the width and 2x the height of the original image or 4x the total pixel count. This feature supports the same file types as Raw Details, plus additional file types such as JPEG and TIFF. Super Resolution is especially useful for increasing the resolution of a cropped image.

Lightroom – Refine Masking

Overview of Refine Masking

The new Feather and Edge sliders in Lightroom Classic are designed to refine the shape of the edge of masks used for targeted adjustments. These sliders provide a simple yet effective way to improve the quality of many masks by adjusting the transition between the masked and unmasked portions of the photograph. The Feather slider softens the transition, making it more gradual, while the Edge slider changes the size of the masked area, allowing for expansion or contraction. These controls are particularly useful for fixing issues like thin ridges, boundary extensions, or abrupt transitions after using AI masking tools.

1. **Feather** softens the transition between the masked and unmasked portions of the photograph. As you increase it, the boundary becomes more gradual. The adjustment blends across a wider area rather than ending abruptly. Use Feather when the transition is too hard.
2. **Edge** changes the size of the masked area. Move it in one direction and the mask expands. Move it in the other direction and the mask contracts. Use Edge when the mask includes too much or too little of the photograph.



Q & A