

Basic Tweaks (No, Not Tweets): Taking Your Photos from Capture to Family Album

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Scanning Digital Workshop Leaders
Using Photoshop Elements 8

Genealogical Principles of Digital Images

- First – do no harm
- Preserve originals and digital originals
- Save as much information about the image as possible
- Save as much digital data as possible
- Save in a nonproprietary format
- Back-up
- Notate significant changes to the photo

Pre-adjustment considerations

- Using Photoshop Elements vs. online edit/storage sites
- You will be selecting only *some* of your images for adjustment. You'd be overwhelmed trying to do them all!
- It's OK to have the same photo in different sizes and formats saved in several places for varying purposes.
- You have archived your original scans or digital photos in at least 2 places (1 copy on DVD preferred)
- Minimum standards for archiving are standardizing sizing, cropping and labeling

Standardize Sizing, Cropping, Labeling

Scanning vs. camera work flow

Standardize sizing

Image> Resize> Image Size

Make sure Resample Image is *UNCHECKED*

Change Resolution of anything < 300 pixels/inch to 300

Archival cropping

extra white or black strips, *none* of the image itself

Labeling

give as much information about the photo as you would
have wanted Grannie to do

Image> Resize> Canvas Size

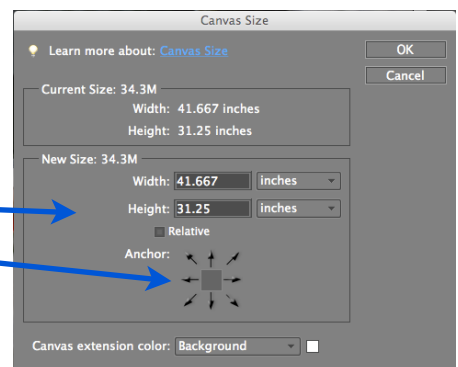
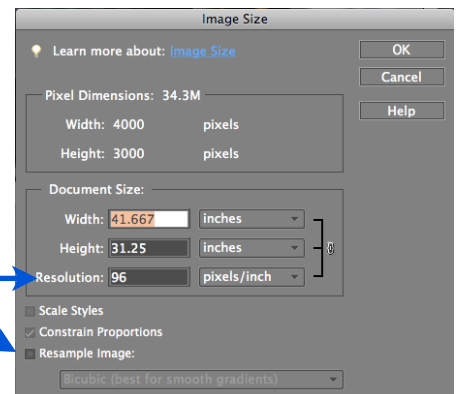
Add at least .5 inch to height

Anchor - point arrows down to put label on bottom

Text Tool – click cursor on the white space

Photoshop Elements will automatically make a new layer

Select all the text and choose font, size, alignment



Type in the information you want – you will be able to edit later

Making a Master Adjusted Copy (corrected archival image)

Open from your DVD to your computer.

This will force a Save As to go to your computer.

Layers

Permanent vs. non-permanent corrections

Use layers for corrections and adjustments

Some publishing programs and the web have trouble with
layered photos - need to have a flattened copy

Save often as you are working

Auto Corrections

EDIT Full, EDIT Quick and EDIT Guided

Layer > Duplicate Layer > Rename as desired

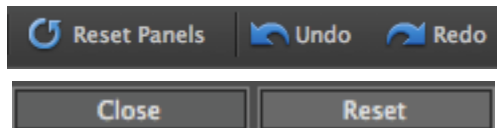
Delete non-photo portions (white space for text)

EDIT Full > pulldown to EDIT Quick

View: Before & After - Horizontal

Try out the auto functions and see if you like the results –
you don't have to save it.

Undo, redo, reset buttons



Smart Fix

“one size fits all” approach – fixes *everything* – sort of

Lighting

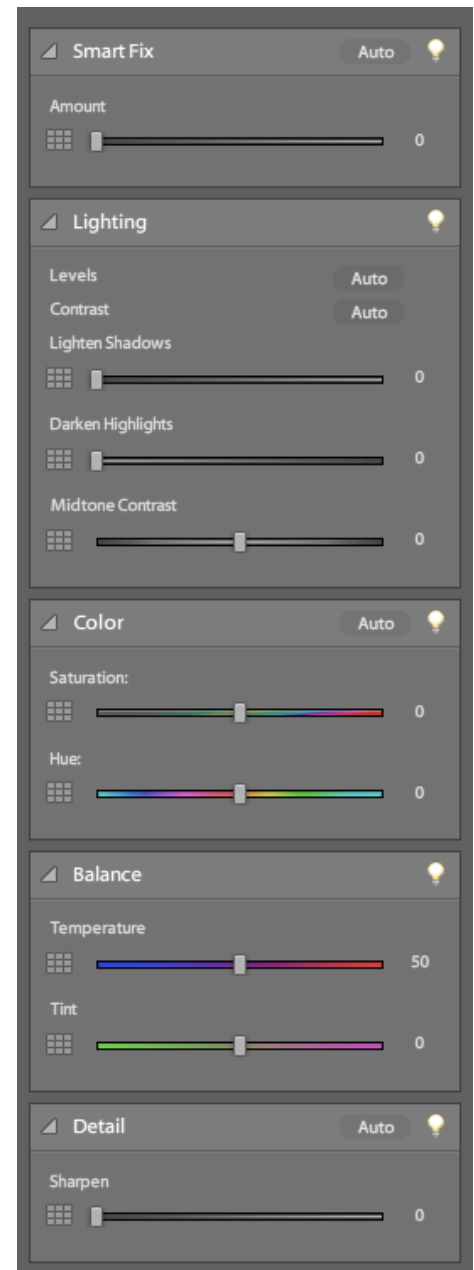
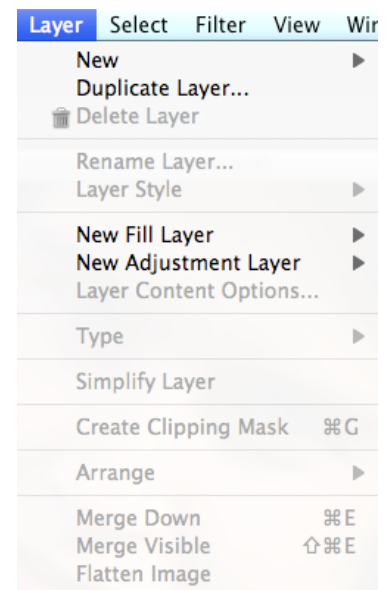
Levels

Contrast

Color

Balance - no auto button (actually included in Color)

Detail (Sharpening)



Semi-Automated Corrections

Still in **EDIT Quick** – slider controls

Smart Fix

Amount

Lighting

Lighten Shadows

Darken Highlights

Midtone Contrast

Color

Saturation

Hue

Balance

Temperature

Tint

Detail

Sharpen

Return to **EDIT Full**

Healing Tool (correcting spots, tears, scratches)

Spot Healing Brush



Healing Brush

Dust and Scratches Filter

Filter > Noise > Dust & Scratches

Lasso



Invert Negatives

Make new layer background copy

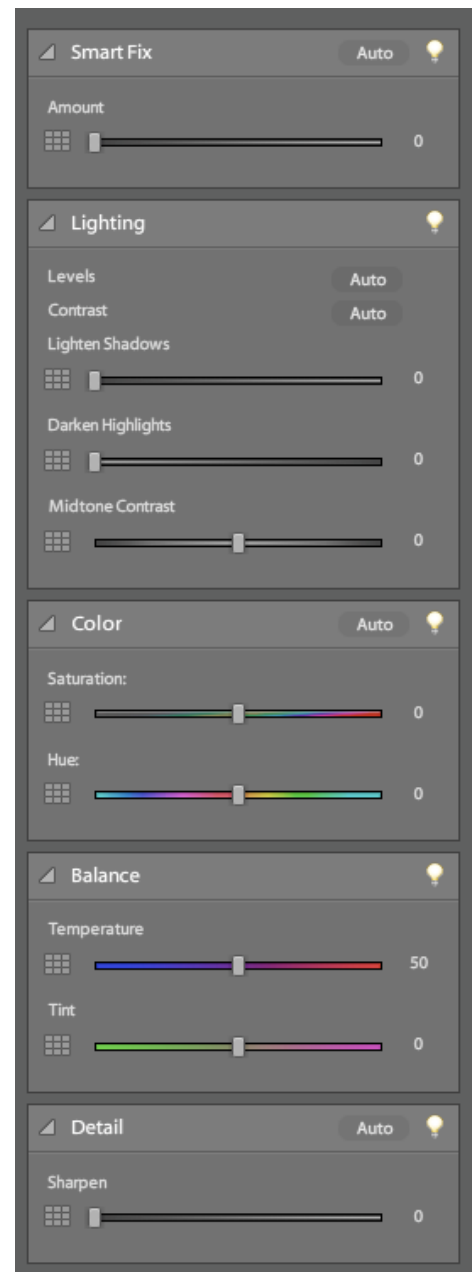
Select the photo part of the image

Filter > Adjustments > Invert

Save Your Master

make plenty of back-ups of your master just as you did for the original

this *adjusted or corrected master* is what you will use for sizing and formatting copies for web, print, scrapbook, poster, genealogy program



We will have a follow-up at the CIG Workshop April 12. There will be NO Scanning/Digital in June.

Web Resources

Tutorials - search online for "Photoshop Elements online tutorials"

<http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter>

<http://graphicssoft.about.com/od/pselements/>

[Photoshop_Elements_Tutorials_and_User_Resources.htm](http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter/Photoshop_Elements_Tutorials_and_User_Resources.htm)

http://www.pixel2life.com/tutorials/adobe_photoshop_elements/

<http://www.peachpit.com/>

Books

Adobe Photoshop Elements 8 Classroom in a Book by Adobe Creative Team

Photoshop Elements 8 for Windows: The Missing Manual by Barbara Brundage

Photoshop Elements 8 For Dummies by Barbara Obermeier and Ted Padova

Photoshop Elements 8 Digital Classroom by Aquent Creative Team

Teach Yourself Visually Photoshop Elements 8 by Mike Wooldridge