

Teach Yourself
VISUALLY™

Adobe

Photoshop® Elements 12

The Fast and Easy Way to Learn



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Teach Yourself
VISUALLY

Photoshop® Elements 12

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How to Use This Book

Who This Book Is For

This book is for the reader who has never used this particular technology or software application. It is also for readers who want to expand their knowledge.

The Conventions in This Book

1 Steps

This book uses a step-by-step format to guide you easily through each task. **Numbered steps** are actions you must do; **bulleted steps** clarify a point, step, or optional feature; and **indented steps** give you the result.

2 Notes

Notes give additional information — special conditions that may occur during an operation, a situation that you want to avoid, or a cross-reference to a related area of the book.

3 Icons and Buttons

Icons and buttons show you exactly what you need to click to perform a step.

4 Tips

Tips offer additional information, including warnings and shortcuts.

5 Bold

Bold type shows command names or options that you must click or text or numbers you must type.

6 Italics

Italic type introduces and defines a new term.

Fix Keystone Distortion

CHAPTER 9
Enhancing and Retouching Photos

You can use the camera distortion tools in Photoshop Elements to fix keystone effects. *Keystoning* can occur when taking pictures with the camera tilted horizontally or vertically, which can cause rectangular objects — such as tall buildings — to appear trapezoidal.

The Correct Camera Distortion dialog box enables you to stretch and squeeze your image in various ways to eliminate distortion and straighten large objects. It also includes a vignette adjustment that removes shadowing around the edges of an image. Vignetting can be caused by camera or lens limitations.

Fix Keystone Distortion

- In the Editor, open a photo that has keystone distortion.
Note: For more on opening the Editor, see Chapter 1.
- Click **Filter**.
- Click **Correct Camera Distortion**.

The Correct Camera Distortion window opens.

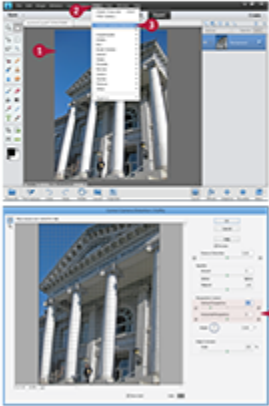
- Click and drag the sliders (☞) to correct the horizontal and vertical perspectives.

- Click and drag the slider (☞) to correct distortion that fisheye lenses can cause.
- You can click and drag the slider (☞) to scale the photo. You can also type values for the horizontal and vertical perspectives, the distortion, and the scale.
- Click **OK**.

Photoshop Elements corrects the photo.

- You can click **Undo** to undo the correction.

TIP
How can I use the Perspective command to correct buildings with keystone distortion?
In some cases, you may want to have more control over how a keystoned image is corrected. Using the **Perspective** command is another way to repair keystoning. Click **Image**, **Transform**, and then **Perspective**. Handles appear on the edges and corners of the image. Drag the top corner handles outward and the lower corner handles inward to fix the distortion. Click **Done** or press **Enter** to commit the changes.



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Chapter 1

Getting Started

Are you interested in working with digital images on your computer? This chapter introduces you to Adobe Photoshop Elements 12, a popular software application for editing and creating digital images. Photoshop Elements also enables you to organize your collection of digital images so you can easily find what you are looking for.



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Introducing Photoshop Elements 12

Photoshop Elements is a popular photo-editing program you can use to modify, optimize, and organize digital images. You can use the program's Editor to make imperfect snapshots clearer and more colorful as well as retouch and restore older photos. With layers, you can isolate objects in your images and apply special effects just to those objects or combine multiple images into a collage. You can also use the program's Organizer to group your photos into albums, assign descriptive keyword tags, discover visually similar images, create slide shows, and more. When you are done with your images, you can use Photoshop Elements to save them for sharing on the web or print them out.

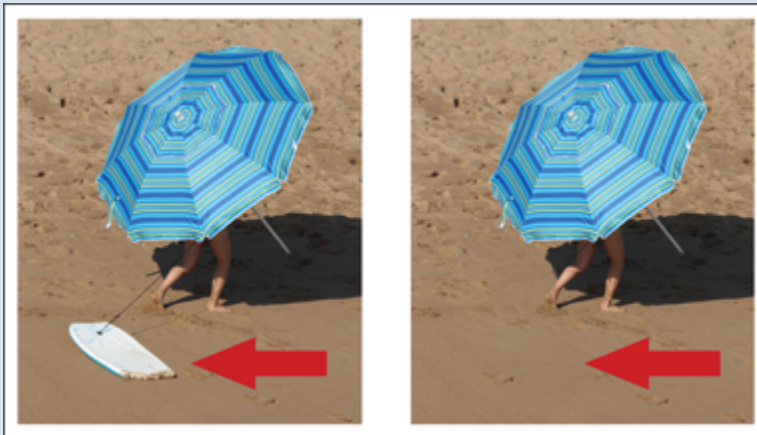
Manipulate Photos



As its name suggests, Photoshop Elements excels at enabling you to edit elements in your digital photographs. The program includes numerous image-editing tools and commands you can apply to manipulate the look of your photos. Whether you import photos from a digital camera or a scanner, you can apply a wide variety of editing techniques to your images, from subtle adjustments in

color to elaborate filters that make your snapshots look like paintings. See [Chapter 7](#) for more on manipulating selected parts of your photos. See [Chapter 12](#) for more on painting and drawing, and see [Chapter 13](#) for more on using filters.

Retouch and Repair



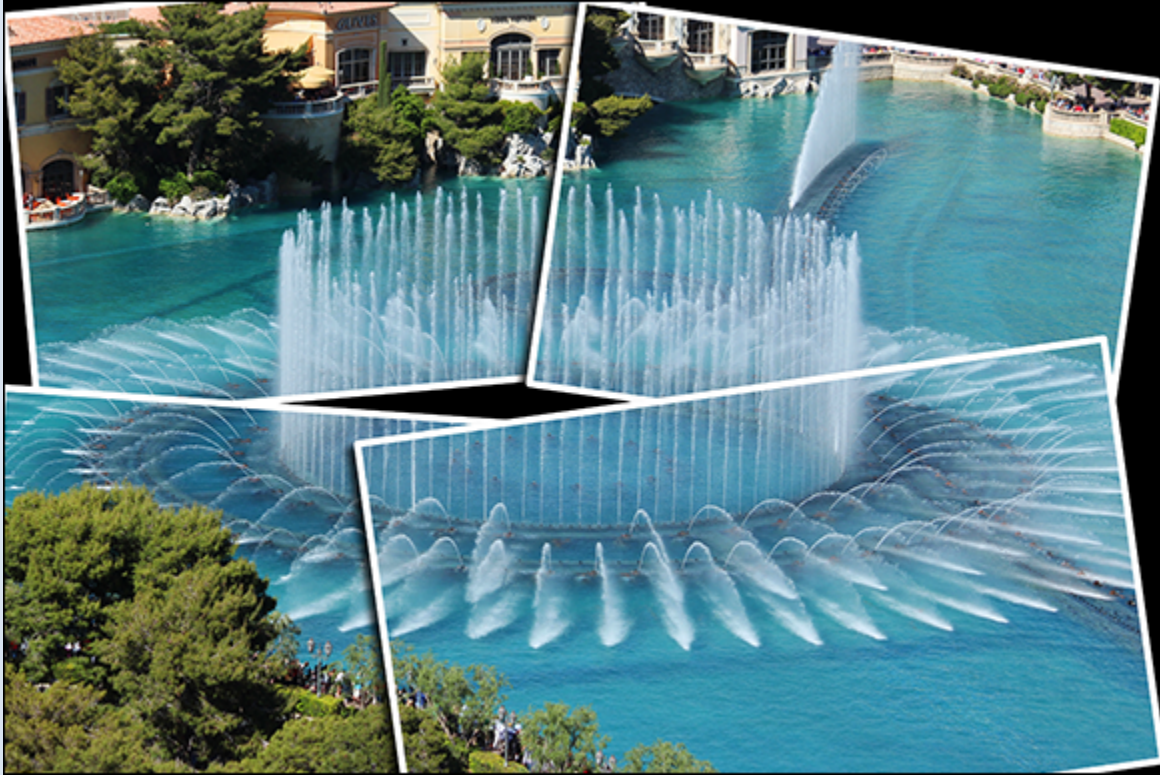
You can use Photoshop Elements to edit new photos to make them look their best as well as retouch and repair older photos that suffer from aging problems. For example, you can restore a faded photo by using saturation controls to make it more vibrant, or you can use the Clone Stamp tool to repair a tear or stain. You can also use the program's exposure commands to fix lighting problems as well as edit out unwanted objects with the Healing Brush. See [Chapter 9](#) for more on retouching your photos.

Add Decoration



The painting and drawing tools in Photoshop Elements make the program a formidable illustration tool as well as a photo editor. You can apply colors or patterns to your images with a variety of brush styles. See [Chapter 12](#) to discover how to paint and draw on your photos. In addition, you can use the application's typographic tools to integrate stylized letters and words into your images. See [Chapter 14](#) for more on adding text elements.

Create a Digital Collage



You can combine parts of different images in Photoshop Elements to create a collage. Your compositions can include photos, scanned art, text, and anything else you can save on your computer as a digital image. By placing elements on separate layers, you can move, transform, and customize them independently of one another. See [Chapter 8](#) for more on layers. You can also merge several side-by-side scenes into a seamless panorama, which is covered in [Chapter 9](#).

Organize and Catalog

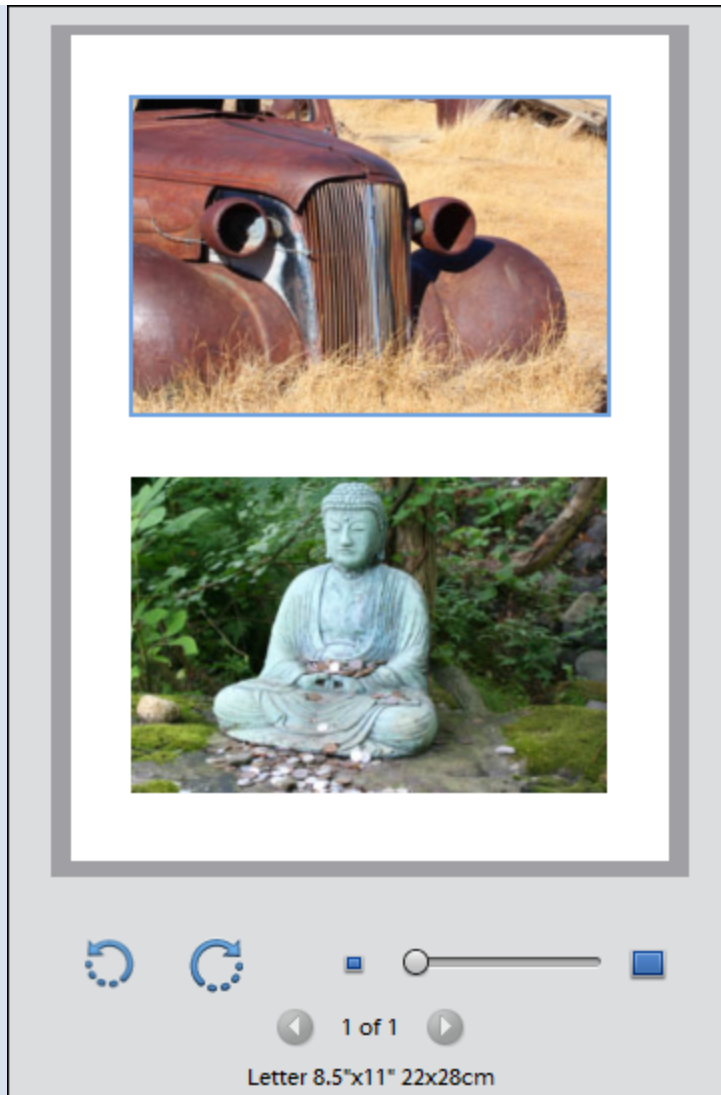


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As you bring photos into Photoshop Elements, the program keeps track of them in the Organizer. In the Organizer, you can place groups of photos into theme-specific albums, tag your photos with keywords, and search for specific photos based on a variety of criteria. You can also define the people who are in your photos, the places where photos were taken, and the events during which they were taken. See [Chapters 3](#) and [4](#) for more on the Organizer.

Put Your Photos to Work



After you edit your photographs, you can use them in a variety of ways. Photoshop Elements enables you to print your images, save them for the web, or bring them together in a slide show. You can share your photos on Facebook or Twitter directly from the Organizer. You can also create photo books, calendars, and other projects. For more on creating and printing your photo projects, see [Chapter 16](#).