

Adobe Photoshop CS6

The Fast and Easy Way to Learn



Mike Wooldridge Brianna Stuart

Photoshop® CS6

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Photoshop® CS6

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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

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.

Icons and Buttons

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

1 Tips

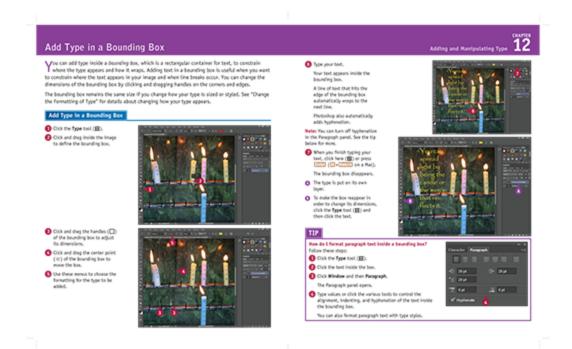
Tips offer additional information, including warnings and shortcuts.

6 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.



Chapter 1 Getting Started

Are you interested in creating, modifying, combining, and/or optimizing digital images on your computer? This chapter introduces you to Adobe Photoshop CS6, a popular software application for working with digital images.



Work with Images

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Start Photoshop on a Mac

The Photoshop Workspace

Find Images for Your Projects

Set Preferences

Save a Workspace

Open an Image

Browse for an Image in Bridge

Sort and Filter Images in Bridge

Display a Slide Show in Bridge

Import Images from a Camera in Bridge

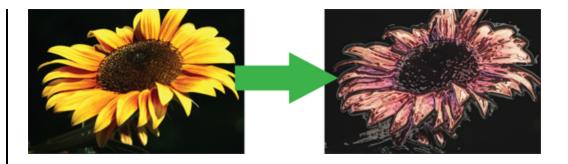
Create a New Image

Exit Photoshop

Work with Images

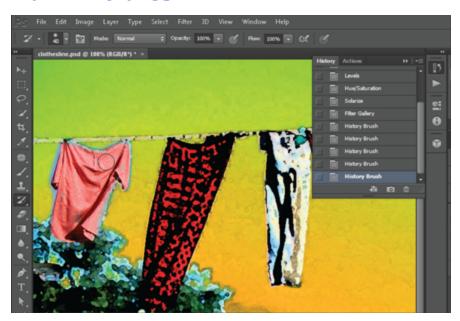
Photoshop is a popular photo-editing program you can use to modify, optimize, and organize digital images. You can use the program to make imperfect snapshots clearer and more colorful, as well as retouch and restore older photos. With layers, you can isolate objects in your images and apply special effects just to those objects, or combine multiple images into a collage. After you are finished editing your photos, you can save the images to print, share via e-mail, publish online, or view on a mobile device or tablet.

Manipulate Photos



As its name suggests, Photoshop excels at editing 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 adjusting color and Chapter 10 for more on filters.

Paint Pictures



Photoshop's painting features make it 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 6 for more on applying color. In addition, you can use the program's typographic tools to integrate stylized letters and words into your images. See Chapter 12 for more on type. You can also create geometric shapes, which are covered in Chapter 11.

Create a Digital Collage



You can combine different image elements in Photoshop. Your compositions can include photos, scanned art, text, and anything else you can save on your computer as a digital image. By placing elements in Photoshop onto 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 13.

Access, Organize, and Display Photos



Photoshop's Bridge interface offers an easy-to-use tool to access and preview images stored on your computer. See the section "Browse for an Image in Bridge." With Bridge, you can easily tag your images with descriptive information, such as where or when they were taken. You can then use that information to sort your photos. Photoshop also offers useful ways to display your images after you edit them. You can display them as a group in a web photo gallery or combine them on a printed page as a contact sheet. See Chapter 13 for more.

Put Your Images to Work

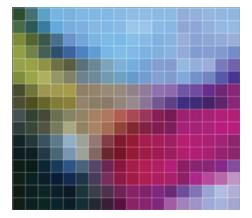


After you edit your work, you can utilize your images in a variety of ways. Photoshop enables you to print your images, save them in a format suitable for placement on a web page or e-mailing, or prepare them for use in a page-layout program. By using the program's optimization settings, you can ensure that your image files are small in size but still look good. See Chapter 14 for more on saving images in different formats, as well as printing them.

Understanding Photoshop

Photoshop's tools enable you to move, color, stylize, and add text to your images. You can optimize the contrast and lighting in photographs or turn them into interesting works of art by applying filters.

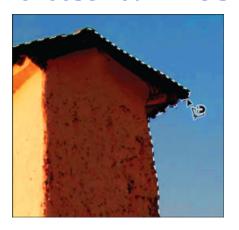
Understanding Pixels



Digital images in Photoshop consist of tiny, solid-color squares called *pixels*. Photoshop works its magic by rearranging and recoloring these squares. You can edit specific pixels or groups of pixels by selecting the area of the photo

you want to edit. If you zoom in close, you can see the pixels that make up your image. For more on the Zoom tool, see Chapter 2.

Choose Your Pixels



To edit specific pixels in your image, you must first select them by using one of Photoshop's selection tools. You can make geometric selections by using the marquee tools or free-form selections by using the Lasso tool. See Chapter 4 for more on the selection tools. Photoshop also has a number of commands that help you select specific parts of your image, such as a certain color or range of colors. Special brushes in Photoshop enable you to select objects in your image based on how the colors of those objects contrast with the background.

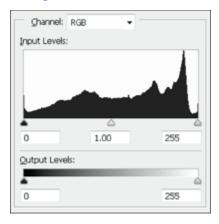
Paint



After selecting your pixels, you can apply color to them by using Photoshop's Brush, Mixer Brush, Paint Bucket, and Pencil tools. You can also fill your selections with solid or semitransparent colors, patterns, or pixels copied from another part of your image. Painting is covered in Chapter 6.

Special painting tools help you seamlessly cover up objects in your image or eliminate dust specks, tears, and other imperfections from a scanned picture.

Adjust Color



You can brighten, darken, and change the hue of colors in parts of your image with Photoshop's Dodge, Burn, and similar tools. Other commands display interactive dialog boxes that let you make wholesale color adjustments so you can correct overly dark or light digital photographs. See Chapter 7 for more. You can also add adjustment layers to your image that enable you to make changes to the color commands later on. See Chapter 8 for more about layers.

Apply Styles and Filters



Photoshop's layer styles let you easily add drop shadows, frame borders, and other effects to your images. You can also perform complex color manipulations or distortions by using filters. Filters can make your image

look like an impressionist painting, sharpen or blur your image, or distort your image in various ways. Chapters 9 and 10 cover styles and filters.

Add Text



Photoshop's type tools make it easy to apply titles and labels to your images. With the Character and Paragraph panels, you can control the size, spacing, and alignment of your text. You can combine these tools with the program's special effects commands to create warped, 3-D, or wildly colored words and characters. You can learn more about adding text in Chapter 12.

Start Photoshop on a PC

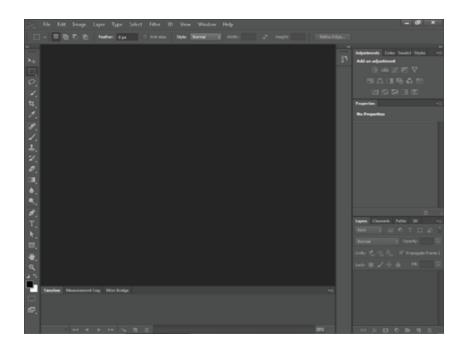
After you install Photoshop, you can start it to begin creating and editing digital images. Common ways of obtaining and installing the program include from DVD disc or by downloading it from Adobe over the Internet. On a PC, you can access Photoshop as you do other programs — through the Start menu.

Start Photoshop on a PC



- Oclick the Start button.
- Olick All Programs (All Programs changes to Back).
- **10** Click **Adobe Photoshop CS6**.

Note: Your path to the Photoshop program may be different depending on how you installed your software.



Photoshop starts.

Note: To learn how to open an image and start working, see the section "Open an Image."

Start Photoshop on a Mac

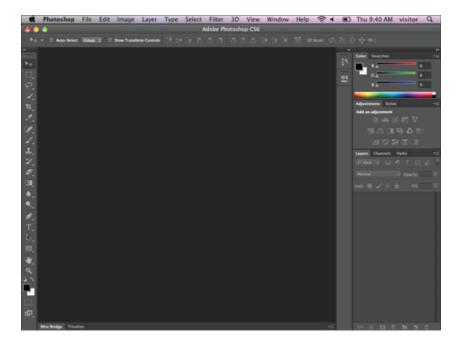
After you install Photoshop, you can start it to begin creating and editing digital images. Common ways of obtaining and installing the program include from DVD disc or by downloading it from Adobe over the Internet. On a Mac, you can access Photoshop through the Finder in the Applications folder or by using the LaunchBar.

Start Photoshop on a Mac



- 1 In the Finder, click Applications.
- Click the Adobe Photoshop CS6 folder.
- Ouble-click Adobe Photoshop CS6.

Note: The exact location of the Adobe Photoshop icon may be different depending on how you installed your software.



Photoshop starts.

Note: To learn how to open an image and start working, see the section "Open an Image."

The Photoshop Workspace

In Photoshop, you open your digital images in a main image window and then use a combination of tools, menu commands, and panel-based features to edit the images.



A Application Bar

Displays menus that contain most of Photoshop's commands and functions.

B Options Bar

Displays controls that let you customize the selected tool in the Toolbox.

C Title Tab

Displays the name, magnification, and color mode of an open image. You can switch between images by clicking their respective tabs.

D Image Window

Displays the images you open in Photoshop.

E Toolbox

Displays a variety of icons, each one representing an image-editing tool. You click and drag inside your image to apply most of the tools. Also displays the current foreground and background colors.

F Status Bar

Displays the magnification of the current image and the amount of computer memory that image is using.

G Panels

Small windows that give you access to common commands and resources. You can click the tabs and icons to display and hide panels.

Find Images for Your Projects

You can get raw material to work with in Photoshop from a variety of sources.

Start from Scratch



You can create your Photoshop image from scratch by opening a blank canvas in the image window. Then, you can apply color and patterns with Photoshop's painting tools or cut and paste parts of other images to create a composite. See the section "Create a New Image" for more on opening a blank canvas.

Digital Camera Photos



Digital cameras are a great way to get digital images onto your computer. Most digital cameras save their images in JPEG, TIFF, or RAW format, all of which you can open and edit in Photoshop. The program's color adjustment