

Adobe Photoshop levels–Turn junk into gold by clicking a button

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By Robert Kennedy

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There is no doubt in my mind; Adobe Photoshop is the greatest Photo editing program in the world. Whether you are a novice or an expert Photoshop is the program for you. Photoshop is used by my children and by the movie making industry. So what exactly can I do with Photoshop? The better question is what can't you do with Photoshop?

Today I would like to talk about the simple little function in Photoshop called `Levels', the first step to improving the appearance of a photograph. There are 4 basic steps taken to enhance, brighten or retouch photos are Levels, Brightness, Variations, and Saturation, in that order.

"The Levels dialog box lets you correct the tonal range and color balance of an image by adjusting intensity levels of the image's shadows, midtones, and highlights. The Levels histogram serves as a visual guide for adjusting the image's key tones." Adobe's official description of levels  
Screen example here: [http://www.weprintcolors.com/screens/screen\\_ps\\_levels.htm](http://www.weprintcolors.com/screens/screen_ps_levels.htm)

Use levels to set to darkest and lightest points or sharpen the picture. From the top menu select Image, then select Adjustments, then select Levels, or if you are a ctrl key fan click `ctrl l'. The histogram appears; the sliders at the bottom control brightness and contrast while the sliders above control tonal values. I said we were going to keep it simple so let's use the sliders at the top. They appear as 3 small triangles. Start to play with them. Move them left to right and right to left while watching the changes you are making to the photograph. When you are satisfied the picture appears optimized click OK. Budda boom, you're done. How long did that take?

That was really easy and effective. If you feel adventurous repeat the process above. This time when the levels menu appears double click on the eyedropper and target your tonal areas.

Here's a couple of helpful tips while working with Adobe Photoshop:

Click the `tab key' to clear all tool bars.

To save an image for the web click `cntrl, shift, alt, S'

Learn how to use the 'automate' feature and save valuable time.

## **A Review on "Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS"**

**By Nashville**

### **A Review on "Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS" by Nashville**

If you want to produce outstanding and award–winning movies instantly, you can count on Adobe Photoshop CS software and its integrated web production application software. Photographers, graphic artists, web designers, and video professionals can take advantage of its indispensable features such as new design possibilities, improved file management, a more intuitive way to create for the web, and support for 16–bit images, digital camera raw data and non–square pixels. With it, you can truly create the highest quality results more efficiently than ever before. Truly, Adobe Photoshop CS is destined to become important.

According to the article "Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS" by Michael Ninness which was posted at <http://movielibrary.lynda.com>, the book is a series of movie–based tutorials designed to help Photoshop users to become faster and more productive. Although the tutorials are grouped by topic, each movie is packed with timesaving tips and shortcuts and can be viewed independently. The included topics are palette shortcuts, screen mode shortcuts, navigation shortcuts, selection shortcuts, type shortcuts, dialog box shortcuts, file browser shortcuts, view shortcuts, layer shortcuts, and image adjustment shortcuts.

Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS brings with it many new things. I absolutely don't agree with those people who say that it is difficult to learn Photoshop CS when in fact, it isn't! Tutorials, such as Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS, can help you in the learning process. Those of you who are not afraid of experimentation especially in movie making, this is the perfect time for you to enjoy this great field and become a movie making savvy person. All you need to learn, especially if you're learning on your own, are the desire and passion to improve your digital images, the flair to experiment, and excellent tutorials to guide you along the process.

You'll truly enjoy using Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS because there are endless possibilities to create anything that you desire. Of course, you have to be familiar and must be fairly advanced with the Photoshop CS program - this is a big thing. And, I can only assure you of one thing - Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS is worth every penny that you'll spend for it. I must say that it's one tutorial that's worth buying.

Truly, it's hard to believe that Adobe keeps on producing these kinds of stuff to help its avid users in the completion of their art projects. Now, creating films is very much simple through Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS. Everything about these tutorials is a plus. Definitely! With it, you can totally do loads of other things and you'll surely love Power Shortcuts for Adobe Photoshop CS. Congratulations and more power to Michael Ninness!

For comentaries, explanation and additional info about the article you may contact the author at

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