



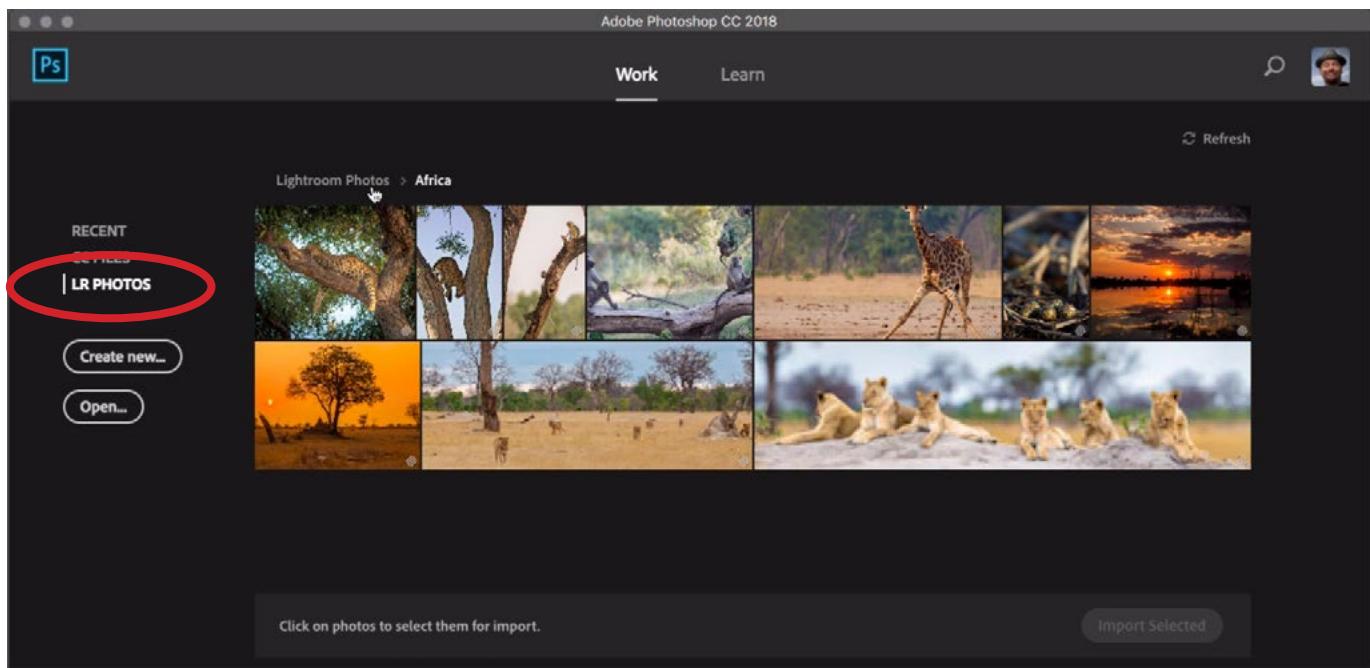
Oct. 2017 Photoshop Changes

October 2017 Photoshop Changes

In this lesson, we're going to review the changes that Adobe recently made to Photoshop in October of 2017. Note that there is a separate lesson that covers the updates to Lightroom, Bridge and Adobe Camera Raw.

The Start Screen

Open Lightroom photos When you launch Photoshop and have no open documents, you will be presented with the Start Screen by default. On the left side of the Start screen, there are now some new options. If you choose the LR Photos option, you'll be presented with a thumbnail view of your photos that have been synced between Lightroom and the Internet. If you use the new Lightroom CC version, all of your images will be stored on the cloud and will automatically appear here. If you are using Lightroom Classic, you will have to manually tell Lightroom to sync specific collections with the Internet. Note that this can only be done with collections and not folders, so you will have to place the images you want



In Photoshop's Start screen, there is now an option to view and open Lightroom Photos.

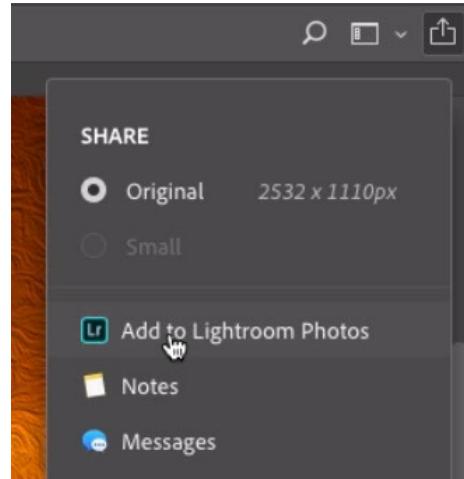
to sync into a collection. The Collections panel can be found on the left side of Lightroom's interface. To sync a collection with the cloud, click on the little square to the left of the collection name in the Collections panel. A double-arrow icon will appear indicating that the collection is set to sync. You will also need to make sure that cloud syncing is enabled and you can do this by clicking on the Identity Plate in the top left corner of the interface and making sure that the "Sync with Lightroom Mobile" option is turned on (and not paused).



Left: In Lightroom, click on the little square icon to the left of a collection name in order to sync that collection with the cloud. **Right:** Make sure cloud syncing is enabled by clicking on the Identity Plate and turning on the "Sync with Lightroom Mobile" option.

When viewing your Lightroom photos inside Photoshop's Start screen, click on one of the images to make it active. Then, click on the Import Selected button in the bottom right. If the image came from Lightroom CC (the version that stores all images online), then Photoshop will open a copy of the full-size picture. If the image is coming from Lightroom Classic, then Photoshop will open the file at the same size as the smart preview that comes with the image.

After you're finished working on an image that has been opened from Lightroom, you'll probably want to save it back to Lightroom. You'll first have to save the image somewhere on your hard drive. Then, click on the little Share icon in the top right corner of the interface and choose "Add to Lightroom Photos" from the menu that

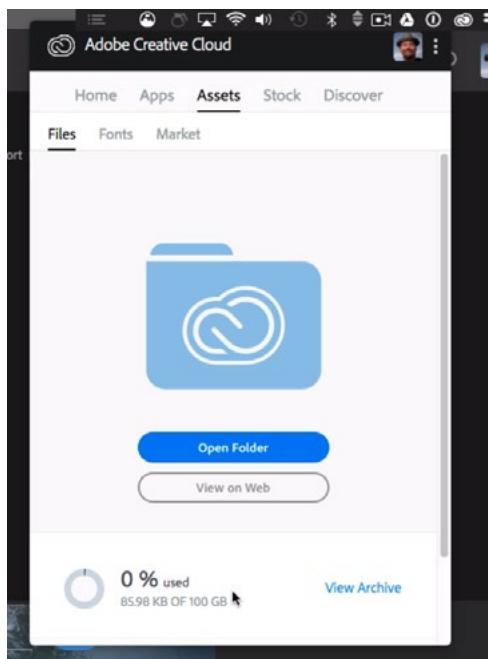


To share an image from Photoshop to Lightroom, click the share icon and choose "Add to Lightroom Photos."

appears. In Lightroom, the image can now be found inside the Photoshop Quick Share tab located within the Folders panel on the left side of the Library Module. You can always drag the image to a different file if you'd like it to be stored in another location.



When an image has been shared from Photoshop to Lightroom, it will appear inside the Photoshop Quick Share tab within Lightroom.



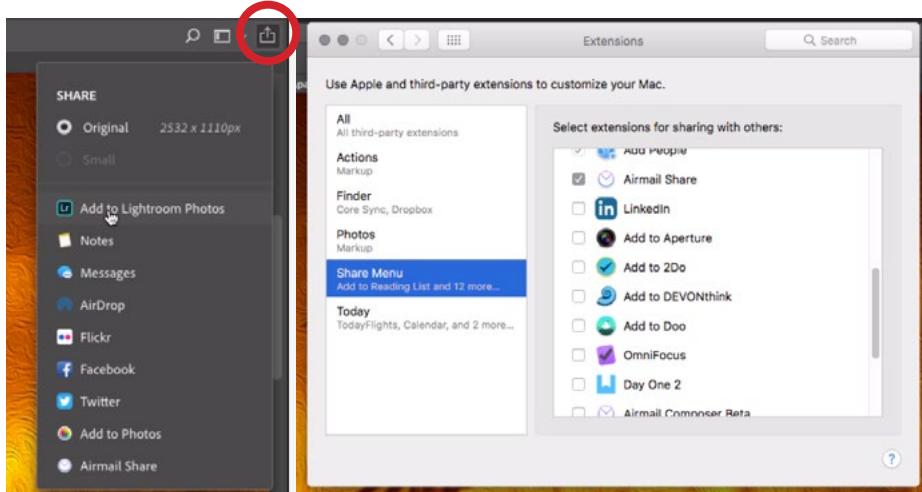
Manage CC files by clicking the Creative Cloud icon in your menu bar and choosing Assets.

Open Creative Cloud files On the left side of Photoshop's Start screen, there is also an option titled CC Files, and this will give you access to all the images you store on your Creative Cloud account with Adobe. If you're not familiar with this service, your Adobe account allots you a certain amount of online space for storing images. The images you store here can be accessed from any computer as long as you're logged in to your Creative Cloud account. To add images to this online space, click on the Adobe Creative Cloud icon at the top right corner of your screen. In the menu that appears, choose the Assets option. Here, there will be a tab titled "Files" and this is where you can open and view your Creative Cloud folder.

Hide Start Screen If you would prefer to not see Photoshop's Start Screen, go to the Photoshop menu and choose Preferences. (On Windows, the Preferences can be found under the Edit menu.) With the General tab active, turn off the "Show Start Workspace When No Documents are Open" check box.

The Share Menu

There is now a Share menu in the top right corner of Photoshop's interface, and this can be used to share the active image with things like Facebook, Twitter, Messages, etc. (We mentioned this briefly when sharing an image back to Lightroom.) The options that appear in this menu are dictated by your operating system. On a Mac, click on the Apple menu in the far left corner of the menu bar and choose System Preferences. In the dialog that appears, click on the Extensions icon and then choose the Share option. Here, you can specify what apps and services should appear in the Share menu.

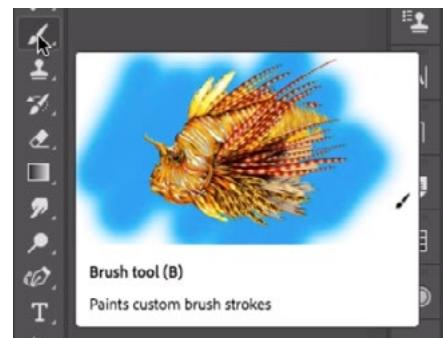


Far left: The Share menu can be found in the top right corner of the Photoshop interface.

Directly left: Control what services appear in the Share menu by going to the System Preferences and choosing Extensions > Share Menu.

Rich Tool Tips

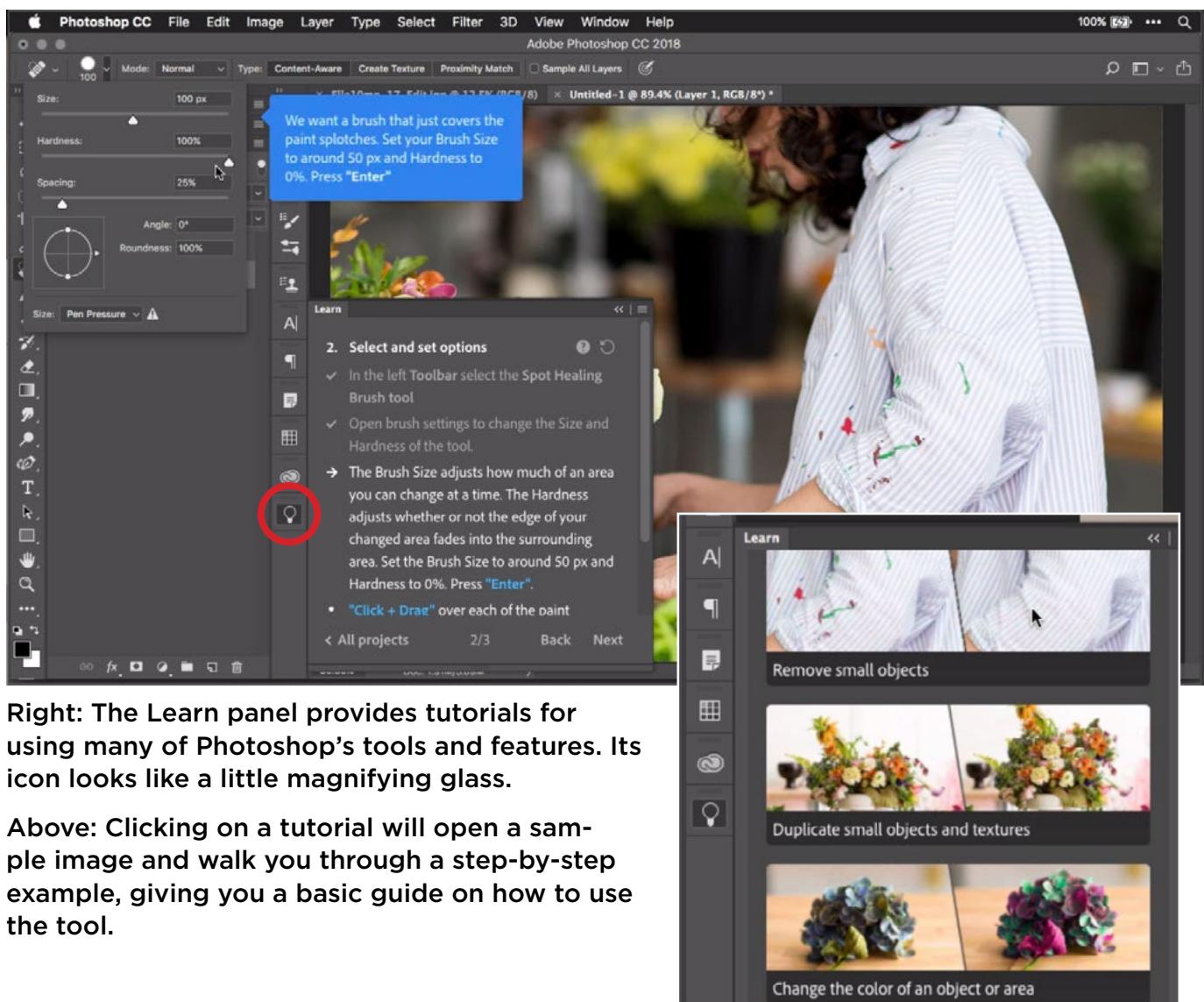
When you hover your cursor over one of the tools within the Tool Bar on the left side of the interface, a box will pop up, showing you a rich tool tip, which gives you an animated visual as to what the tool does. This can be interesting for a period of time, but after while, when you know what each tool does, these animated guides may seem annoying. Note that you can turn them off by going to the main menu and choosing Preferences > Tools. Inside the dialog box that appears, turn off the "Use Rich Tool Tips" check box.



Rich Tool Tips will now appear when you hover over a tool icon.

The Learn Panel

The Learn panel is a new Photoshop feature that can be accessed by going to the Window menu and choosing Learn. This panel is designed to help you learn Photoshop on a basic level. You can scroll down to see the different topics and click on one of the subjects to expand it and view related topics. When you click on a specific tutorial, Photoshop will open a sample image, list how-to steps within the panel and provide tips in pop-up blue boxes that will help you follow along.

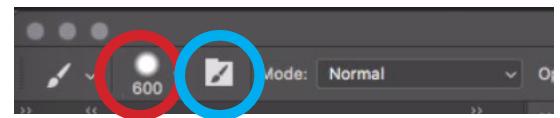


Right: The Learn panel provides tutorials for using many of Photoshop's tools and features. Its icon looks like a little magnifying glass.

Above: Clicking on a tutorial will open a sample image and walk you through a step-by-step example, giving you a basic guide on how to use the tool.

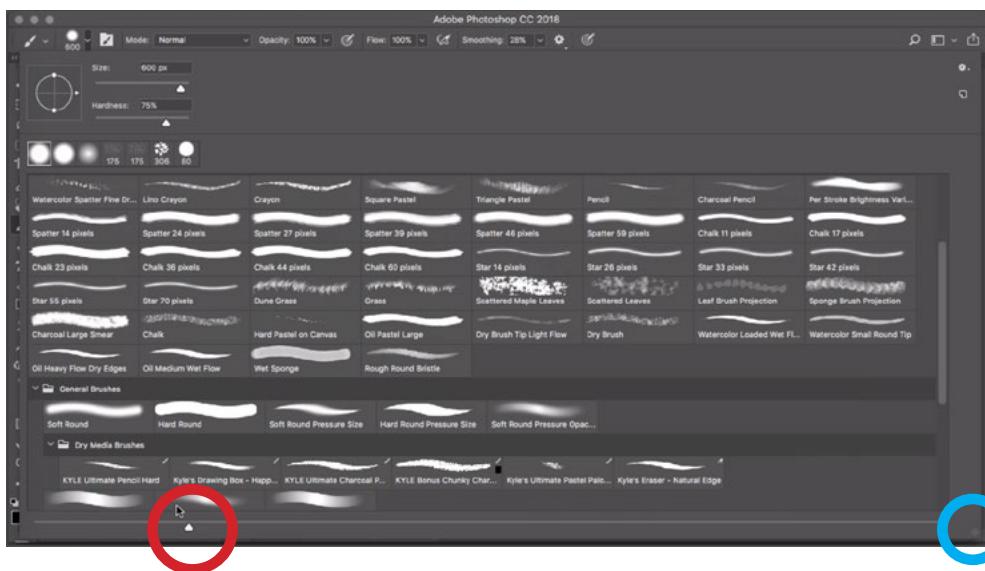
The Brush Tool

Up until now, there were two panels relating to the Brush Tool: The Brush panel and the Brush Presets panel. The Brush panel has now been renamed the Brush Settings panel. It can be accessed by clicking on the folder icon near the left side of the Options Bar above the image window. The Brush Presets panel has now been renamed to the Brushes panel and it can be accessed by clicking on the brush tip preview icon in the Options Bar.



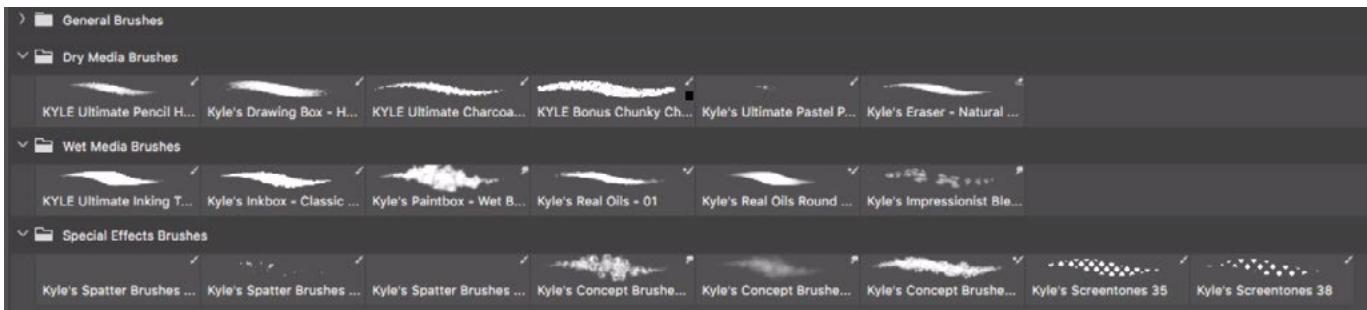
The Brush Settings panel can be accessed by clicking the folder icon circled in blue. The Brushes panel can be accessed by clicking the brush tip preview icon circled in red.

The Brushes Panel When viewing the Brushes panel, you can click and drag on the bottom right corner of the panel in order to expand it and get a much larger view of all the available brush presets. Use the slider at the bottom of the panel to make the preset views larger or smaller. You can also now drag and drop to change the order of the presets. The brush presets can also be organized into groups, or folders. To create a new folder, click on the gear icon in the top right corner of the panel and choose “New Brush Group” from the menu that appears. You’ll be prompted to give the new brush group a name and then click OK. To move brush presets into the group, simply drag them over the folder name within the Brushes panel.



You can expand the Brushes panel by clicking and dragging the bottom right corner (circled in blue). Change the size of the brush preset previews by dragging the slider at the bottom of the panel (circled in red).

New default brushes The set of default brushes has been updated as well. If Photoshop's default brushes are not currently available within your Brushes panel, you can access them by clicking on the gear icon at the top of the Brushes panel and choosing "Restore Default Brushes" from the menu that appears. Note that the default brushes will be added at the bottom of your current brush preset list. The first folder of default brushes contains the same default brushes that you're used to. These have not changed. The Dry Media Brushes, Wet Media Brushes and Special Effects Brushes have changed. You'll notice that they begin with the name Kyle and that's because Adobe hired a brush specialist (Kyle) to create these custom brushes for Photoshop.



There are new default brushes within the Dry Media, Wet Media and Special Effects folders.

Get more brushes You can get more brushes by clicking on the gear icon at the top of the Brushes panel and choosing "Get More Brushes" from the menu that pops up. If you choose to get more brushes, Photoshop will open your Internet browser and give you a list of additional brushes that are available for download. If you click to download one of these brushes, the files will appear in your Downloads folder. When you double-click to open the file, the brushes will automatically be added to your brush list within the Brushes panel.

Tool-specific brushes When looking at your brush presets within the Brushes panel, you'll notice a small icon in the upper right corner of the brush preview thumbnail. This icon represents the tool that the brush was designed for. If you click on a certain brush tip, it will automatically activate the tool that brush was created for.



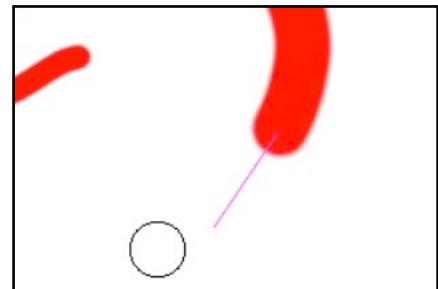
The circled icon indicates what tool the brush preset was designed for.

Expand brush folders When you have your brushes organized into folders, you can easily expand one or more folders at a time. If you hold down the Command key (Ctrl on Win) and click on the disclosure triangle to the left of one of the brush folders (or groups), you will expand all of the base level folders (but not the sub-folders included inside of them). If you hold down the Option key (Alt on Win), it will expand that single folder as well as all of the subfolders within it.

Orange outlines around brush presets If you ever see an orange outline around a brush preset in the Brushes panel, it means that you are using the brush that this preset was based on, but you have made changes to it.

Brush options now saved within brush presets In the past, when saving a brush preset, it could not save the foreground and background colors along with that preset. It also could not save the choices found in the Options Bar (Blending mode, etc.). Now, these choices can be saved within your brush presets.

Brushes & smoothing When using the Brush Tool, there is now an option found within the Options panel called Smoothing. This is a slider that will try to give you much smoother curves and transitions when you paint. The higher the slider setting, the smoother the strokes will be. When you're using the Brush Tool with the Smoothing setting turned on, you will notice a thin pink line appears in the middle of your brush stroke. The higher the smoothing value, the longer the pink line will be and the more stroke smoothing will occur. To change the Smoothing setting using keyboard shortcuts, hold down the Option key (Alt on Win) and use the number keys on your keyboard to specify the smoothing setting. For example, holding down the Option key while clicking the 5 key will set the Smoothing setting to 50%.



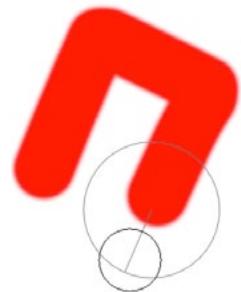
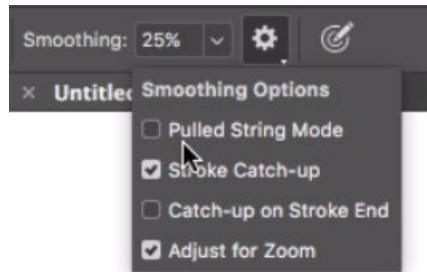
The pink line connecting the brush tip to the stroke appears when smoothing is turned on. The higher the smoothing setting, the longer the line will be.

If you prefer to not see that pink line while using the Smoothing setting, go to the main menu, choose Preferences > Cursors and turn off the "Show Brush Leash While Smoothing" check box.

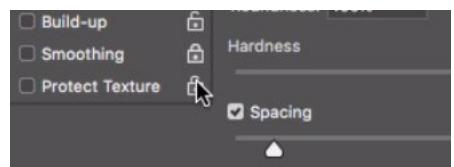
In the Options Bar, there is a gear icon to the right of the Smoothing setting. If you click on it, a small menu will appear. In this menu, if you turn on the “Pulled String Mode” check box, the Brush Tool will display an overlay guide that will help you change directions and slow down when painting. This can be especially helpful when you’re trying to make sharp corners. Within

the brush smoothing settings is also the Stroke Catch Up check box. Turning this on will cause the stroke to eventually catch up to the guide that is displayed as you create a brush stroke using a high smoothing setting. (This is best demonstrated by watching the video that goes with this PDF.) The Adjust to Zoom setting will adjust the amount of smoothness based on how far zoomed in or out you are on your image. When you’re zoomed out, a small brush stroke will make a larger change in the document than when you’re zoomed in, so it’s nice to have this setting adjust accordingly.

Turning off Smoothing If you would like Photoshop to work in the way that is used to before the smoothing feature was added, you can accomplish that by turning off smoothing completely. Click on the little folder icon located in your Options Bar above the main image window. This will bring up the Brush Settings panel. One of the check boxes on the left side of this panel is the Smoothing check box. If you would like the Smoothing setting to be turned off completely, turn this check box off and then click the little lock symbol to the right of the word Smoothing so that smoothing remains turned off regardless of which brush preset you use.



The gear icon to the right of the Smoothing setting will provide options relating to how the smoothing works. At right, you can see a preview of the Pulled String Mode.

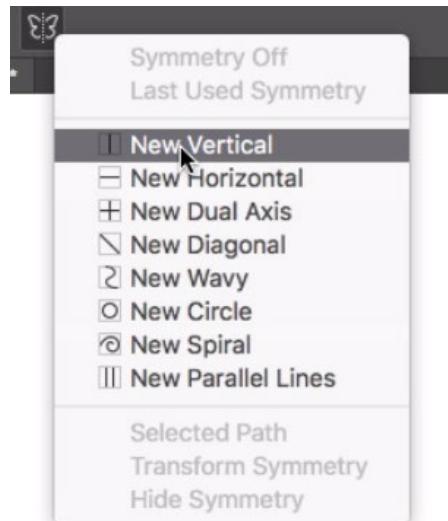


Disable smoothing by turning off the Smoothing check box in the Brush Settings panel and clicking the Lock icon.

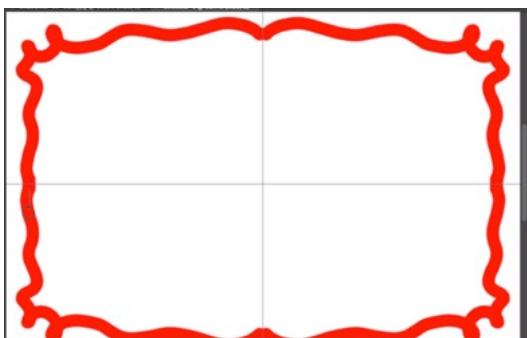
Enable Paint Symmetry This next feature we're going to cover is one that needs to be manually be turned on. You can do so by going to the main menu and choosing Photoshop > Preferences > Technology Previews. In the dialog that appears, you'll need to turn on the "Enable Paint Symmetry" check box. If you have this feature turned on, then a new icon will appear in the Options Bar whenever you are using the Brush Tool. The icon looks like a butterfly and when you click on it, a menu will appear that presents you with options for how the Brush Tool can be used to reflect what you're painting. For example, if you choose the Vertical option, a vertical reference guide will appear in your document and it will have transform handles around it. These handles will allow you to move and/or rotate the line around

which your paint strokes will be reflected. Hit Enter to lock in the symmetry line. Now, anything you draw on the right side of the line will also be reflected on the left side, and vice versa. If you chose the Dual Axis option from the Paint Symmetry menu, then the strokes you paint will be reflected in all four quadrants. (Remember that you first have to click enter to lock in the transformation of the guides.)

When creating symmetrical paint strokes, you're not restricted to the guides presented in the Paint Symmetry menu. You can instead create a custom path (using the Pen Tool) that you would like your paint strokes to be reflected around. Then, as long as that path is active, you can choose Selected Path from that Paint Symmetry menu and everything you paint on one side of the path will be reflected on the other side, regardless of the shape of the path.



The Paint Symmetry menu in the Options Bar.



An example of the Dual Axis symmetry mode in use.

Text Tool Updates

Expandable typeface menus In the past, Photoshop would list every version of every typeface in the Type menu. Now, the menu is a bit more organized in that each typeface that has multiple versions will have an expandable disclosure triangle to the left of the name. Clicking on this triangle will expand the typeface list to show you every version of the chosen font. For example, there will only be one list item for the American Typewriter font. Clicking to expand that font menu will present you with all the different versions of the font such as Condensed Light, Regular, Bold, etc.

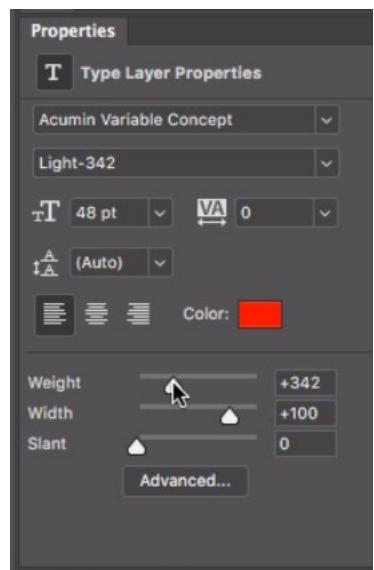


Fonts are now organized with expandable typeface menus.

New special fonts & the Properties panel Looking at the font menu, you'll notice different icons to the left of the sample text. There are now some additional fonts that have the letters VAR on the icon. This stands for Variable Typeface. If you click to expand the list of typeface varieties within one of those fonts, you'll find that there are a huge amount of choices. If you have one of these fonts chosen and the Text Tool is still active, you'll find that there are also some new options in the Properties panel. At the bottom of the Properties Panel, there are sliders for Weight, Width and Slant. Using these sliders will adjust the font accordingly, switching between the multitude of options available within the font.



Above: The new special fonts can be identified by the VAR to the left of the sample text.



Right: When using a VAR font, you can adjust the weight, width, etc. by using the settings in the Properties panel.

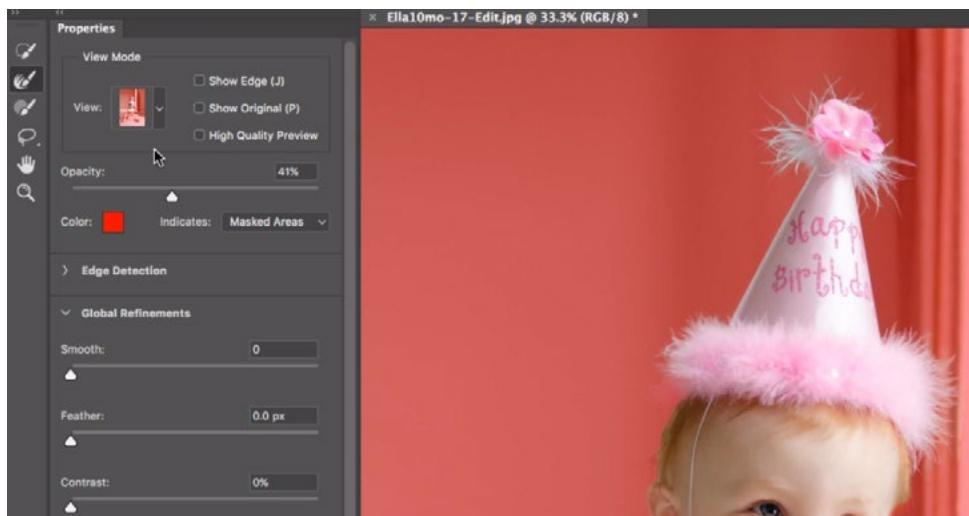
Paste Without Formatting In general, when you copy and paste text, you're also copying the formatting of the text. If this is not your desire, there is now a way to get around it. If you would like to paste the text, but not the formatting, go to the main menu and choose Edit > Paste Special > Paste Without Formatting.

Select & Mask Updates

The Refine Edge Tool When using the Select and Mask feature, you'll generally start with the Quick Selection Tool to make a general selection of the subject. Then, you'll use the Refine Edge tool to paint over areas where the foreground and background are intermixed. This will give Photoshop more control and help to better mask things that are fuzzy, furry or hairy. In the newest update, Adobe made improvements to this feature so the tool does a better job when masking a subject whose color closely matches the background.

Fluid Opacity settings When using Select & Mask, I always find it useful to be able to change the View Mode in order to get a better idea of how effective my masking job is. The View Mode can be found at the top of the Select & Mask dialog and you can choose between views like On Black, On White, Overlay, etc. In the past, the Refine Edge Tool's Opacity slider would be sticky. It would stay the same regardless of which View mode you were using. I found this to be rather annoying.

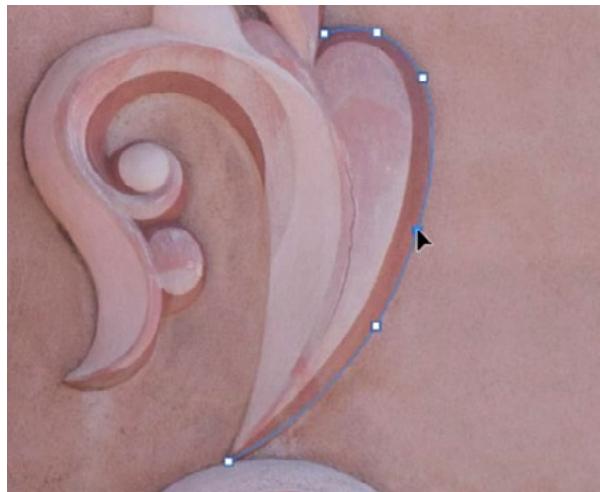
Now, you can have a different Opacity setting for every view mode. I find this to be much more useful.



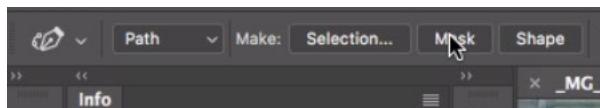
You can now have a different Opacity setting for every View mode in the Select & Mask dialog.

The Pen Tool

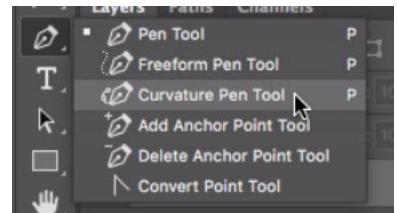
The Curvature Pen Tool When you click and hold on the Pen Tool icon in the Tool Bar on the left side of the interface, you'll notice a new tool is now available to use. It's called the Curvature Pen Tool and it's quite different from the regular pen tool. Unlike with the regular Pen Tool, you don't click and drag with this tool. With the Curvature Pen Tool active, the first two clicks will give you a straight line, but the third click will attempt to create a curve out of those three points. Every subsequent click will create curves based on the locations of the points. To create a sharp corner, double-click on any one of the points and it will convert to a sharp transition. If you double-click when creating a point, you will also get a sharp transition.



The Curvature Pen Tool is being used to create a path around this shape.



After creating a path, choose how it should be used by clicking on Selection, Mask or Shape in the Options Bar.



The Curvature Pen Tool can be found by clicking and holding on the Pen Tool icon in the Tool Bar.

With the Curvature Pen Tool active, you can click and drag on any curve in order to transform the shape. When you click and drag, the curve will change and an additional point will be added.

After you've created a path using the Curvature Pen Tool, you can choose what to do with it by using the options located in the Options Bar above the image window. You'll have the choice between creating a Selection, a Mask or a Shape. In the video example, we created a Mask. Note that when you turn the path into a mask, the Pen Tool outline will still be visible unless you deactivate the mask by clicking on its thumbnail in order to remove the brackets from the mask's thumbnail in the Layers panel.

Copy/Paste features

Copy/Paste entire layers In the past, if you wanted to copy something from one document to another, you would need to first make a selection around the content you wanted to copy. That is no longer the case. If you have no selection active and you tell Photoshop to copy, it will copy the entire layer. You can also do this with several layers at once (as long as you have them all selected in the Layers panel). You can even copy an entire layer group by clicking on the group name in the Layers panel and then clicking Edit > Copy. Then open your target document and choose Edit > Paste. When you do this, it not only copies the contents of the layers, but it also copies any effects and layer styles that have been applied to them.

Paste in Place You can now opt to paste copied content into a new document in the same position it was in its original document. To do this, go to the Edit menu and choose Paste Special > Paste in Place.

HEIF file support

Adobe now supports the HEIF file format (High Efficiency Image Format). This is the format the newer iPhones shoot in (iPhone 7+ or newer) and it's a more efficient format than jpeg. This file format is not limited to 8-bit. It can have 16-bit as well. It can also have transparency and it even contain more than one picture (ex: the iPhone burst). Note that you must be using the Apple OS High Sierra or newer in order for Photoshop to have this capability.