

An Organized Approach to Editing Digital Pictures using PSP

Notes from 11/16/06 Graphics SIG

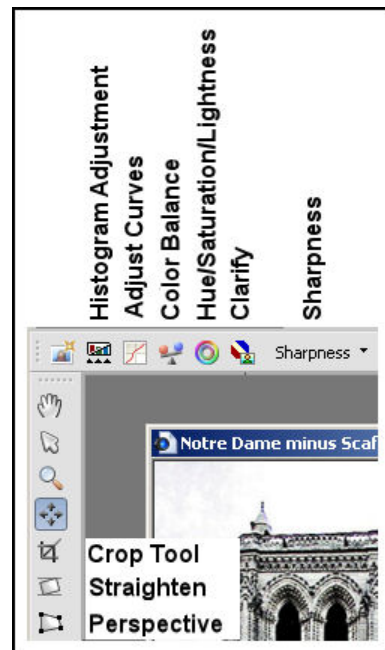
Here are the basic steps of "photo improvement" that might apply to nearly every picture you take. I have avoided "automatic corrections" in order for you to get familiar with the manual operations. Once you have some familiarity with these steps you may want to give Smart Photo Fix a try instead of or preceding steps 3 - 6, but you will have to judge this for yourself.

1. **Download or scan** the photo and open it in PSP.
2. **Geometry:** Straighten, Crop and/or Perspective-Correct the photo as needed.
3. **Exposure Fixes:**
 - a. Use Histogram Adjustment
 - b. and/or Adjust Curves to do major corrections of exposure
4. **Work on Color:**
 - a. Use Color Balance to balance out too-blue or too-orange overall tone.
 - b. Use Adjust Hue/Saturation/Lightness to adjust Saturation to taste and to correct overall brightness.
5. **Use Clarify** to bring out subtle contrast differences. (note, I find it best to purposely make the lightness a bit too bright in step 4b above to compensate or some darkening in Clarify.)
6. **Sharpen:** An easy and fairly safe way to sharpen is with the High Pass Sharpen tool at its default settings except that Overlay is generally safer.

There is not nearly enough space here to give instructions in how to use the various tools mentioned above -- that is a different matter. This is intended simply to give a reasonable approach to getting started in photo editing.

Note: I have customized a tool bar in my own copy of PSP IX in order to place a string of tool icons in the same sequence as called for in steps 3 through 6 above. I had similar workspace setups for versions 9 & X. If you would like a copy of a Workspace file that matches my setup just e-mail me and tell me which version of PSP you are using.

Alex



To Place a Photo and its Location in Google Earth (Geotag) Using Picasa to supply a photo to Google Earth

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Both Picasa and Google Earth may be downloaded **free** from the Google web site. Go to Google/More/Even More and click on the Earth and/or the Picasa icons to start the download process. Here is a brief description of the Geotag process. You will have to read the help files for more specific instructions.



[Earth](#)

Explore the world from your PC



[Picasa](#)

Find, edit and share your photos

1. In Picasa select the photo.
2. Click **Tools/Geotag/Geotag with Google Earth**. This brings up Google Earth with a Geotag window showing.
3. In Google Earth, navigate to the location where you took the picture and position the crosshairs and orient the direction you were looking.
4. Click **Geotag** and then **Done**.
5. Right click on picture and click **Properties**.
6. Now you can set Title, Description, View and all of the other items that apply to a Google Earth Placemark.