

# 2026 ADOBE PHOTOSHOP BOOTCAMP

Master Photoshop 2026 from the ground up in this intensive bootcamp, covering both fundamental and advanced techniques. From essential tools and AI-powered editing to professional retouching, generative art, and advanced compositing, you'll develop the skills needed to create high-end, production-ready designs. Whether you're new to Photoshop or refining existing skills, this hands-on experience will elevate the way you work.

## Lesson 1: Introduction to Adobe Photoshop

Learn the basics of viewing and navigating the Photoshop interface, along with the fundamentals of working with images.

- What's new in 2026?
- Lecture: Concepts of Raster vs Vector
- Lecture: Artificial Intelligence features in Photoshop
- Creating & Managing A New Document / Workspaces
- Understanding Import/Export in PS 2026
- Non-Destructive Design Techniques 101

## Lesson 2: Fundamentals: Fixing Images\*

Simple Cleanup and Retouching: eliminate red eye, erase facial blemishes, and more in this quick, hands-on guide.

- Content-Aware vs AI: What is the difference?
- Fixing Blemishes using the Healing Tools
- Removing Red Eye, The Clone Stamp Tool
- Working with Artificial Intelligence Tools: Remove + More

## Lesson 3: Power Selections for Creative Design\*

Learn advanced selection techniques for accurately isolating parts of an image.

- Working with Selections & Non-Destructive Design
- What sets the amateurs apart from the pros
- The Primary 3 Selection Tools (AI Infused Selections)
- Erasing/Deleting vs Layer Masks
- Real-world selectoins in Adobe Photoshop

## Lesson 4: Working with Text & Effects

Learn the basics of typography and commonly used effects such as drop shadows, glows, and more.

- Fundamental Typography in Photoshop / Adobe Fonts
- Creating great looking text: Paragraphs vs Titles
- Styling Quotes and credits
- Getting artistic with creative typography

## Lesson 5: Basic Creative Social Media Design

Learn how to isolate and combine images into a custom design for a social media post.

- Basic formatting, design and output for Screen
- Working with Brightness & Contrast
- Working with Color Balance
- Working with Layer Styles and Effects

## Lesson 6: Bringing Everything Together

Create a retro poster that brings together the techniques covered, skills that can be applied to many other projects.

- Basic formatting, design and output for Print
- Design and layout
- Working with Layer Style Effects
- Exporting work for Print,Web,Social and Film/TV

## Lesson 7: Deeper Exploration with Exports

This optional module or lesson will go further into determining what file formats are best for specific situations.

- Project delivery: Print, Social Media, Film/TV & Beyond
- Common File Formats: JPEG / PNG / GIF / TIFF / More
- New File Formats: HEIC / HEVC / WEBP / JPEG-XR/XL / More
- Saving to the Cloud vs Computer

## Lesson 8: Adjustment Layers & FX

Use power features like Adjustment Layers and Masks to non-destructively alter color and manipulate images.

- Color Correction with Basic Color Adjustments
- Color Correction with Basic Adjustment Layers
- Color Targeting and manipulation
- Selection Effects Features for color isolation

## Lesson 9: More Advanced Selection Techniques

Use more features and techniques to clean and refine edges in your selections.

- Cleaning Edges Destructive vs Non-Destructive
- Feathering edges of selection
- Contracting and Expanding Selections
- Fundamentals of Select and Mask

## Lesson 10: Typography in Photoshop

Go beyond type fundamentals and use Photoshop's effects to create titles and creative paragraphs.

- The Character and Paragraph Panels
- Lorem Ipsum, Ligatures and Glyphs / Stylistic alternates
- Detailed Formatting for paragraphs
- Where are all the advanced settings?

## Lesson 11: Pen Tool Fundamentals

Unlock the creative power of the Pen Tool to create amazing effects and art.

- Working with the Pen Tool Fundamentals
- Stroke & Fill Effects across a Path
- Paths as selections or paths as shapes
- Custom Artwork

## Lesson 12: More About Text & Effects

Explore advanced text features, such as Text on a Path, to get creative with type.

- Fonts and your rights to use them / Free / Licensed
- Create Text in a Path and linking
- Create and manipulate Text on a Path
- Hidden Text Warping Techniques
- Text Path Effects

## Lesson 13: Working with Presets

Learn how to create, save, and manage presets to preserve your creative tools and designs.

- What are Presets / Styles / Swatches / Gradients / Shapes / Brushes / More
- Preset Management
- Create Custom Shapes, Patterns, Swatches
- Importing and Exporting Presets

## Lesson 14: Design Tricks & Tidbits

Explore practical design tricks, overlooked tools, organizational strategies, and powerful review and sharing features.

- Fringe Editing Techniques
- Getting More Creative with tools people ignore
- Useful organizations and internal notes
- Amazing Review and Sharing features

## Lesson 15: Graphics for Screen (Social, Web, TV)

Use Photoshop to create and format graphics for video and web projects.

- Prepping for various screen formats and color accuracy
- Youtube Covers, Title Screens, Lower 3rds and more
- Presentations / Pitchdecks
- Prepping your Photoshop exports for video editing
- Adobe Premiere, Blackmagic Resolve, Media Composer

## Lesson 16: Understanding Color Settings

Use advanced Photoshop color and formatting features to create and deliver accurate color in your projects.

- Color Settings and Color Syncing
- Working with Color Libraries (Pantone & More)
- Setting for working with Print
- Settings for working with Screen (social, film/tv, etc)
- Fundamental color tweaking

## Lesson 17: Working with Brushes 101

Create, manipulate, and apply creative brushes for artistic and practical design purposes.

- The different types of Photoshop brushes
- Organic, utility, cosmetic and creative brushes
- Creating your own brushes
- 3rd Party Free & Paid Resources

## Lesson 18: A Quick Guide though Filter Effects

Use some of Photoshop's most popular filter effects on images and artwork.

- Motion & Radial Blurs
- Lighting & Distortion Effects
- Generateed Effects: Flame, Trees
- Useful Legacy Effects
- Notable 3rd party effects

## Lesson 19: AI Power Effects\*

Use Photoshop's AI-powered effects to create, manipulate, and repair images using the latest tools.

- Working with Neural Filters & AI FX
- Tweaking Neural Effects
- AI Upscaling & Denoising New features
- The Future of Neural Effects

## Lesson 20: Digital Marketing Media Design

Use your new found tools and techniques to create a digital marketing ad!

- Learn and work with masks and the Frame Tool
- Collage designs and building templates
- Interactive feature potential
- Designing Dimensions (IG,TW,FB,etc)
- Create Artwork for Instagram & Twitter
- Working with formats / GIF / WEBP / JPEG / PNG

## Lesson 21: Working with Generative Art\*

Explore generative art workflows, tools, and limitations across Adobe and other AI platforms.

- Introduction to Generative Art (Adobe, Midjourney, ChatGPT, and beyond)
- Limitations of generative art
- Adobe versus the Others
- What is prompting?
- Generative Fill and Generative Extend
- Stylizations / References
- Altering reality in the best and worst ways

## Adv. Lesson 1: Generative Art & Compositing\*

Using Photoshop tools and techniques advance work with generative art.

- A review of Generative Art / Generative Fill & Extend
- Isolate and remix
- Generating layered content
- More about Prompting
- The new Midjourney 3D and implications
- Notable AI services that work well with Photoshop

## Adv. Lesson 2: Fix Color with Levels & Curves

Use Levels and Curves, Photoshop's most powerful color correction tools.

- Color Workflows Defined
- Correcting Tone & Color
- Repairing Images with Curves
- Color repair techniques
- Repair photo workflows

## Adv. Lesson 3: Retouching Techniques 1

Learn advanced healing tools for removing facial blemishes, including acne and scarring.

- Understanding Healing & Awareness
- Revisiting the Healing Tools
- Removing Blemishes & Stray Hairs
- Cross Project Cloning
- More About Cosmetic Brush Sets

## Adv. Lesson 4: Retouching Techniques 2

Take retouching to the next level by using professional techniques to remove blemishes, even out skin tone, and replace skin texture.

- Frequency Separation Methods
- Isolating Skin Tone & Texture
- Re-combining Layers
- Techniques for Re-applying
- More Frequency methods



## Adv. Lesson 5: Retouching Techniques 3

Become a digital plastic surgeon with one of Photoshop's most powerful distortion tool - Liquify!

- An Overview of the Liquify Panel
- Brush Tool Options
- Liquify Filter: Bloat, Pucker, Forward Warp and more
- Real world liquifying

## Adv. Lesson 6: Displacement

Learn to use the Displacement filter to map one image onto another.

- What is Displacement? Professional Uses
- Displacement Workflow
- Mapping graphics and text on difficult objects
- Improving the Distortions

## Adv. Lesson 7: Blending Effects

Explore techniques to alter human skin using blending modes and masking methods.

- About Blending Modes and the Classes
- Blending Modes as utilities
- Getting creative with Blending Modes
- Using the Color Blending Mode to Tint an Image
- Mask Blending

## Adv. Lesson 8: Working In Perspective

Learn how to use Photoshop to map images accurately while matching a scene's perspective.

- Manually Editing Perspective
- Using Perspective Filters
- Cloning and healing in perspective
- 3D conversions using Vanishing Point

## Adv. Lesson 9: Color Matching Techniques

Learn methods to match one image's color to another, making them appear as if they belong in the same scene.

- A Over B / It's All About Selections
- Matching Color and Contrast Matching
- Edge Lighting Tips and Tricks
- Working with Shadows
- Lighting Effects
- Atmospheric effects

## Adv. Lesson 10: Cross-Application Design

Explore Photoshop's integration with Adobe and non-Adobe applications.

- Photoshop and Illustrator Relationship
- Photoshop and After Effects Relationship
- Photoshop and Premiere Relationship
- Photoshop and InDesign Relationship
- Photoshop and Other non-Adobe applications

## Adv. Lesson 11: Even More Tidbits, Tips & Tricks

Learn to make text appear more organic using mapping techniques and filters.

- Amazing Extensions you might want to try
- Technical Previews and Photoshop Beta
- Remapping shortcuts
- Useful preferences and settings
- 3D Substance Viewer (beta)

## Adv. Lesson 12: Pro Selections

Learn advanced techniques for creating complex selections.

- Going off-road with Procedurals
- It's All About Channels
- Working with Levels to create contrast maps
- Putting Channel selections to work
- Removing Distractions or unwanted things in images
- Replacing skies / Breaking down the layers

## Adv. Lesson 13: Camera Raw Fundamentals

Learn the power of Photoshop's companion application, Camera Raw, for editing RAW files and many other formats.

- What are Raw formats and how do they work
- Does Photoshop even handle raw files?
- What exactly is Camera Raw and what does it do?
- Two ways to work with Camera Raw
- Fundamental Camera Raw editing and output

## Adv. Lesson 14: Deep Dive in Camera Raw\*

Use AI-powered Camera Raw to process RAW images from your camera and more.

- Opening & Editing Raw Files
- Breaking down the advanced raw workflow
- A guide to every tool in Camera Raw
- Fixing Exposure Issues / Blemishes and more
- Selective Corrections, Noise, Haze and more
- Working with the new AI profiles and layering
- Camera raw for non-raw formats
- Batch editing in Camera Raw
- Preset collections, profiles and so much more
- Snapshots and other versioning tricks

This outline represents a general overview of topics covered in class. Lesson order and content may be adjusted or combined as needed to create the most effective learning experience. Due to frequent application updates, provided books and materials may not always reflect every feature discussed in class, including Adobe's own documentation, which can occasionally lag behind current versions. We will always strive to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information available. Students are encouraged to take notes during class and to take full advantage of Training Connection's audit option, which allows you to retake the course at your convenience.