

Multiple-RAW conversions of the same image

When: Use on Wide-Dynamic-Range --- Wide-Brightness-Range Images
Or mixed contrast images

Why: To get the most efficient DIGITAL conversion of the RAW image

How:

- 1) Do a raw conversion protecting the Highlights – Get them all....!!!
This is usually a “Reduced Exposure” Setting (- Stops)
This is the darker image.....

Open the RAW file into Photoshop.

Save it as a PSD (Photoshop file) (name.psd)

- 2) Go back to the RAW converter and do a 2nd digital conversion of the same image for all the shadows

This will be an “Increased Exposure” setting (+Stops)

This will be the lighter image

!! The highlights in the image will (may) be SATURATED!!

Open this RAW file into Photoshop, it will be called: (name.RAW)

Copy this entire image (Select/All, Edit/Copy) (name.RAW)

Select the file (the PSD) with the darker image, and File/Paste the copied image on Top of the existing dark image.

- This will be a new layer and it will completely mask (cover or hide) the Darker (lower) Background Layer.

- Close the second opened File (Name.RAW) because both files now look alike and you no longer need it.

- 3) To the upper layer, Layer 1,

Add a Layer mask

- i. From the layer menu (Layers/Layer mask/Reveal All) or
- ii. From the icon at the bottom of the layers palette

On this Mask, Black Paint hides the layer that it is on – revealing the layer below (the background layer), White reveals the layer that it is on. Notice that when you open the MASK on Layer 1 that it is filled with WHITE, (fully revealing layer 1 and fully masking the “Background layer”)

Paint on this Mask with Black to Hide the blown out highlights on Layer 1!

Note: you can paint with partially transparent Black (lower brush opacity) to blend.

- 4) To complete the image, flatten the image (in the Layers palette fly-out menu)