

New in Photoshop CS5

Camera Raw 6.0

Changes to raw processing include better algorithms for color, sharpening, noise, post-crop vignetting. The new algorithms will be used for any raw images you are processing for the first time. If you process a raw file that you had processed in previous versions of the raw converter you may see a white square with an exclamation point in the lower right of your picture. If you want to use the new algorithms, click it. On the Camera Calibration tab you can see the difference between the old and new by changing the selection in the Process field.

Noise Reduction is greatly improved.

Effects panel - Additive Grain; it can be used to mimic TMAX 3200.

Bridge

Export tab/panel. You can create presets such as saving files as small jpps for the web or large jpps for printing, etc. You can then drag multiple photos to a preset and it will perform the export preset on all of them.

Batch Rename now has String Substitution.

HDR Pro

The major part of what makes the new Merge to HDR Pro so unique is the “remove ghosts” feature. Check the Remove Ghosts check box at the top. It allows you to select one of the original exposures as the “master” image. HDR will then remove any “ghosts” from the other exposures (automatic alignment and removal of blur from moving objects).

For a natural blending, move Radius high and Strength low. Also move Detail low.

For a painterly look, move the Detail slider all the way to the right, make Radius low and Strength high.

Note: A single image HDR is possible with a brand new feature called **HDR Toning** (in Adjustments menu in Photoshop). Try presets first then play with individual sliders.

Mini Bridge (in Photoshop)

From full-screen previews (spacebar) of any file (including your DSLR video) to multi-file operations like Panos, the new HDR Pro, batch, etc. Mini Bridge runs in a panel or it can be an icon, stretched panel...even a photo tray – great for multiple monitors.

Refine Edge Improvements

Refine Edge has been redesigned - new preview options, more intuitive controls and the ability to “Remember Settings”. The biggest change is a new underlying algorithm optimized for soft edges.

Start with the Edge Detection slider. Then click on the brush tool and paint on the edge you are trying to select. This, coupled with variable edge masking (Smart Radius) and a very powerful touch-up brush mean that detailed masks are more possible than ever before.

Content-Aware Fill

Sort of a smart Patch tool. Make a selection of the object you would like to remove. Select Edit/Fill and in the dialogue box select Content Aware.

The improvements have also been applied to the Spot Healing Brush if you select Content Aware in the Options bar at the top.

Layer improvements

Paste In Place – in Edit/Past Special

New Make Default button in Layer Style palette.

Automatic straightening

Added the “Straighten” button to the Ruler Tool. Clicking it will crop and straighten a photo. Opt/Alt-clicking it will straighten the photo without cropping it.

New Brushes

There are many new brushes. You can define bristle parameters such as length, thickness, density, making your brushstrokes as natural as possible.

A new brush is called the Mixer Brush that allows you to mix paint rather than just add paint. Attempts to do act like a real paint brush and duplicate features in Corel Painter.