# An Overview of Adobe Photoshop 7.0

**T**his overview introduces you to the key features in Adobe Photoshop, the professional image-editing standard. Photoshop provides a comprehensive toolset, unmatched precision, and powerful creative options to help you create professional-quality images for Web, print, and emerging media such as wireless devices. And when you use Photoshop in tandem with other Adobe software, you can take advantage of superior Adobe technologies such as cross-product color management tools, Smart Object technology, and transparency.

## Explore state-of-the-art tools

With its comprehensive set of retouching, painting, drawing, and Web tools, Photoshop helps you complete any image-editing task efficiently. And with features like the History palette and editable layer effects, you can experiment freely without sacrificing efficiency.

### Work more efficiently

From file management to workspace controls to editing multiple steps at one time—Photoshop gives you the tools you need to keep the work on track and bring it in on deadline.

**File Browser**  Quickly inspect images before opening them in Photoshop. The easy-to-view File Browser displays thumbnails and metadata such as date modified, dimensions, and EXIF information from your digital camera. You can also use the File Browser to sort files and manage folders.

**Layers**  With layers, you can work on one element without disturbing others. To rearrange elements, simply shift the order in the Layers palette. You can lock layers to prevent accidental changes, hide them to get a clear view of the element you're working on, and link layers to move them as a group. The Layers palette also makes it easy to apply instant, editable effects including blending modes, adjustment layers, and layer effects.

**Options bar**  The tool options bar gives you instant access to different settings for the tool you're using. You can also customize any tool and save the customized version to use again.

**History palette**  Undo or redo multiple steps with the History palette. Or store a snapshot—a temporary copy of the image—in the palette, and continue experimenting. If you don't like the results, simply return to the snapshot. You can also create multiple snapshots, capturing different effects, to compare them easily.

**Customizable workspace**  Personalize your Photoshop desktop by arranging a layout of palettes and saving the arrangement as a workspace. Or create task-specific workspaces—one to provide easy access to painting tools, for example, and another for photo retouching.

**Context-sensitive menus**  Get instant access to commands relevant to the active tool, palette, or selection by right-clicking (Windows) or Control-clicking (Mac OS).

## Edit images with ease

Photoshop delivers high-powered image editing, photo retouching, and compositing tools to help you get professional-quality results.

**Color correction**  Photoshop offers two basic methods for adjusting color in an image. Use the options in the Image > Adjustments menu—including the Auto Color command, which analyzes the image to make instant and reliable color corrections—to change the image permanently. Or use an adjustment layer to apply editable color and tonal corrections.

**Healing brush**  Effortlessly remove dust, scratches, and other flaws with a single tool. The healing brush automatically preserves the shading, lighting, and texture of the original photo.

**Selection tools**  From the click-and-drag marquee tools, to magnetic selection tools that snap to the edges of an element, to the pen tool that lets you define a shape precisely, Photoshop offers a range of shape-selection options. You can also select by color, using the magic wand or the Color Range command. And the Extract command provides a sophisticated way to isolate a foreground object from the background.

**Precision masking**  Masks let you hide part of an image, or protect and preserve one section while you apply color changes, filters, or other effects to the rest of the artwork. You can also use masks to save complex selection borders for reuse.

**Clipping paths**  Use a clipping path to cut a foreground element away from the background—without actually altering the original image.

**Sharpening controls**  Photoshop's sharpening tools include the powerful Unsharp Mask filter, based on traditional film compositing techniques. Use Unsharp Mask after scaling, rotating, color correcting—any process that affects the pixel structure of an image—to bring the artwork into crisp focus.

**Edge smoothing**  Use the anti-aliasing option to smooth the jagged edges of a selection, or apply feathering to create soft edges.

**Contact sheet generation**  Export an entire folder of images on a single page to allow easy cataloging, previewing, and printing. Or use the Picture Package feature to print photos of different sizes on the same page.

**Web photo display**  Showcase your work online by posting a Web photo gallery. You'll find a collection of ready-made templates on the Photoshop CD to make the job quick and easy—and you can stamp each image with copyright text to help protect against illegal downloads.

## Enjoy unlimited creative options

With innovative special-effect options and powerful painting and drawing tools, there's no limit to the results you can achieve with Photoshop.

**Painting tools**  The powerful Photoshop paint engine lets you simulate traditional painting techniques, including charcoal, pastel, and wet or dry brush effects. Choose from the many preset brush styles on the Photoshop CD, or use the Brushes palette to create your own unique effects.

**Drawing tools**  Draw resolution-independent vector shapes instantly with the line, rectangle, ellipse, polygon, and custom shape tools. Or use the pen tool to draw just as you would in Adobe Illustrator. Because they're vector shapes, you can edit them easily.

**Layer effects**  Shadows, glows, bevels, embossed effects, and more—with the Layer Styles dialog box, adding three-dimensional effects to a layer is quick and easy. You can apply any combination of layer effects, then save the combination as a style and apply it to other layers instantly. To edit or delete the effect, simply open the Layer Styles dialog box and change the settings.

**Color effects**  Choose solid colors from swatch libraries, define your own colors in Color palette, or use the gradient tools to create a gradual blend between multiple colors. Use the Layers palette to change the opacity of an image or to apply a blending mode that affects the way the color in one layer interacts with the layers below.

**Filters**  Photoshop includes more than 95 special effect filters—from fine-art effects, to motion blurs, to lighting effects and distortions.

**Pattern Maker**  Create seamless patterns automatically. Simply make a selection and apply the Pattern Maker plug-in to generate textures and background patterns.

**Transformation tools**  Scale, rotate, distort, or skew images easily. Apply the 3D Transform filter to simulate three-dimensional effects such as jar labels and boxes. Use the Liquify command to interactively push, pull, pucker, or bloat an image.

# Create compelling Web designs

Produce exceptional imagery for the Web and wireless devices with Photoshop and ImageReady, which ships with Photoshop.

**Slicing**  Use the slice tool to create slices by hand, or generate layer-based slices automatically. Apply slice-by-slice formatting and optimization to keep file size small and image quality high.

**Optimization tools**  The Photoshop Save for Web dialog box and the ImageReady Optimization palette display a side-by-side comparison of format and compression options and let you apply weighted optimization to keep vector edges— type and logos, for example—crisp and clean.

**Rollovers palette**  Use one convenient palette to view the entire set of rollovers, slices, image maps, and animations in a document, making authoring and navigation easier.

**Transparency**  Apply instant transparency to Web page elements by knocking out one or more colors. Or apply dithered transparency to create edges that blend into any Web background.

**Quick GIF animations**  Start with a layered Photoshop file, and use the Animation palette in ImageReady to convert individual layers into frames. Then apply the Tween command to generate additional frames and smooth out the action.

**Link generation**  To create a URL link, simply select an Image slice and enter a URL in the Photoshop Slice Options dialog box or the ImageReady Slice palette.

### Enjoy precise typographic control

Photoshop delivers professional-quality type controls to help you create imagery that communicates with precision and style.

**Editable text**  Text retains its crisp vector edges—and its editability—unless you rasterize it (by applying a filter, for example, or flattening the layers). You can distort it, warp it, and apply layer effects and still use the type tool to retype the text.

**Formatting**  Use the Character and Paragraph palettes for precise control over individual letters and paragraph formatting.

**Spelling checker**  Avoid misspelled words with the built-in spelling checker, which includes search-and-replace functionality. You can even check spelling in multiple languages within the same file—to help you create buttons for multilingual Web sites, for example.

**Convert to Shapes**  Use the Convert to Shapes command to turn type into an instant mask.

## Stay ahead of deadlines

Photoshop helps you streamline your workflow and meet any production challenge with tools like the File Browser that lets you manage files and folders conveniently.

### Automate repetitive tasks

Streamline and simplify the production process by turning time-consuming jobs into automated operations.

**Data-driven graphics**  Automate the production of repetitive artwork—such as business cards or Web banners—with the Variables feature. Design a template in Photoshop, set elements in the template as variables, and then generate an unlimited number of unique variations quickly by using scripts to replace the variable elements.

**File browser**  Use the File Browser to quickly organize and retrieve images from your hard drive, external drives, CDs, and disks directly. Rotate images before opening them, batch rename, sort files, and manage image folders—all within the File Browser. The File Browser also displays image metatada, such as date created, date modified, and Exchangeable Image File (EXIF) information from digital cameras.

**Actions**  Automate routine tasks such as batch processing by recording the steps as an action. Then simply click a button in the Actions palette to apply the action to other projects. For everyday jobs, turn the action into a droplet. Save the droplet on your desktop so that you can simply drag-and-drop to apply the action to individual files or folders of images.

**Metadata support**  Repurpose, archive, or automate files in a workflow using XMP (Extensible Metadata Platform) format to embed metadata into a document. You can also ensure that image information—such as caption, credits, and copyright—travel with the file.

### Develop a reliable workflow

Keep files moving efficiently from the beginning of the process to the end.

**Cross-platform compatibility**  Complete cross-platform support ensures a smooth workflow between Windows and Mac OS systems.

**WebDAV support**  Connect Photoshop to a WebDAV server, and enjoy the benefits of workgroup management. You can streamline collaboration by making sure the entire team has access to the files they need—with no fear that anyone will overwrite updates.

**Annotation tools**  Attach non-printing review comments or production notes to your Photoshop file with the notes tool, or use the audio annotation tool to record a voice message.

**PDF security**  Protect your images by assigning passwords to Photoshop PDF files. Use passwords to keep unauthorized people from opening a document or to disable printing and editing.

## Maintain color precisely

Keep color consistent across different devices and count on reliable output to any media.

**Color management**  Photoshop simplifies color management by gathering the controls into the Color Settings dialog box and providing predefined settings for the most common workflows.

**Color options**  Whether you're creating artwork for print or Web, Photoshop lets you choose the color mode that's best for the job. When you're creating imagery for four-color printing, you can work more efficiently—and use a wider range of filters—by creating the art in RGB mode. Use the Gamut Warning command to identify colors that can't be reproduced in CYMK so you won't be disappointed with the results when you convert the finished, flattened file to CMYK.

**Precision print controls**  Photoshop gives you precise controls for printing full-color images, spot colors, duotones, or grayscale and black-and-white art. For high-end prepress workflows, there are even controls for dot gain, black-plate generation, and more.

## Take advantage of tighter-than-ever integration

Work more efficiently, thanks to tight integration between Photoshop and the latest releases in Adobe's family of professional graphics software.

**Illustrator**  Move files freely between Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator—layers, masks, transparency, and compound shapes are preserved. Maintain rollovers and animation information when you import Photoshop files into Illustrator, and export Illustrator HTML tables with CSS layers to Photoshop.

**InDesign**  Paste or drop native Photoshop files into Adobe InDesign—even layered images. Paths, masks, and alpha channels in the Photoshop file can be used to remove image backgrounds or to create text wraps in the InDesign document.

**GoLive**  Design and slice your Web page in Photoshop and then bring the sliced file directly into GoLive. Use the GoLive Smart Objects feature to generate variable designs automatically from Photoshop templates.

**LiveMotion**  Drag and drop layered Photoshop files into a LiveMotion composition and quickly convert them into animation-ready independent objects, groups, or sequences. Photoshop blending modes, layer masks, and effects are preserved, and the Photoshop artwork stays editable as you animate and code.

**Acrobat**  Include transparency information in PDF files saved out of Photoshop, add password protection to secure your Photoshop PDF files, and use the Include Vector Data option to preserve text and vector graphics as resolution-independent objects.

**AlterCast**  When you want to automate the production of dynamic data-driven graphics, Adobe AlterCast is the perfect tool. This new image server software (available only in English) automatically replaces the variables—both text and graphics—in your Photoshop templates.