



Core Tools & Navigation

Selection Tools

Marquee Tool (M)	Selects rectangular or elliptical areas.
Lasso Tool (L)	Freehand selections. Polygon Lasso for straight lines.
Magic Wand Tool (W)	Selects areas based on color similarity.
Quick Selection Tool (W)	Paints a selection using edge detection.
Object Selection Tool (W)	Automatically select an object inside a defined region.

Navigation & Zoom

Zoom Tool (Z)	Magnifies or reduces the view. Ctrl + '+' to zoom in. Ctrl + '-' to zoom out.
Hand Tool (H)	Drags the image within the window.
Fit on Screen	Ctrl + 0 (zero)
Actual Pixels	Ctrl + 1

Essential Keyboard Shortcuts

Undo	Ctrl + Z
Step Forward	Ctrl + Shift + Z
Step Backward	Ctrl + Alt + Z
Copy	Ctrl + C
Paste	Ctrl + V
Cut	Ctrl + X
Save	Ctrl + S

Layers & Adjustments

Layer Basics

New Layer	Ctrl + Shift + N
Duplicate Layer	Ctrl + J
Delete Layer	Select layer, then press Delete key.
Merge Layers	Ctrl + E (Merge Down), Ctrl + Shift + E (Merge Visible)
Group Layers	Ctrl + G
Ungroup Layers	Ctrl + Shift + G

Adjustment Layers

Non-destructive image adjustments.
Common Adjustments:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brightness/Contrast Levels Curves Exposure Vibrance Hue/Saturation Color Balance Black & White Photo Filter
To create an adjustment layer, go to Layer > New Adjustment Layer or use the Adjustments panel.

Blending Modes

Controls how layers interact with each other.
Common Blending Modes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal Multiply Screen Overlay Color Dodge Color Burn Difference Exclusion
Cycle through blending modes with Shift + '+' or Shift + '-' while a layer is selected.

Color & Retouching

Color Adjustments

Hue/Saturation (Ctrl + U)	Adjusts the hue, saturation, and lightness of specific color ranges.
Color Balance (Ctrl + B)	Adjusts the balance of colors in shadows, midtones, and highlights.
Curves (Ctrl + M)	Adjusts the tonal range of an image with precise control.
Levels (Ctrl + L)	Adjusts the brightness and contrast of an image by modifying the distribution of tonal levels.
Black & White	Converts a color image to grayscale with customizable color mixing.

Retouching Tools

Spot Healing Brush Tool (J)	Removes blemishes and imperfections by sampling surrounding pixels.
Healing Brush Tool (J)	Paints with sampled pixels to repair imperfections.
Clone Stamp Tool (S)	Paints with a sample of an image.
Content-Aware Move Tool (J)	Allows moving or extending a selected object to another area of the image, and Photoshop fills the gaps.
Patch Tool (J)	Repairs imperfections in a selected area using pixels from another area or a pattern.

Brush Tool

Brush Tool (B)	Paints brush strokes. Adjust size, hardness, and blending modes.
Increase Brush Size] key
Decrease Brush Size	[key
Increase Brush Hardness	Shift +] key
Decrease Brush Hardness	Shift + [key

Filters & Effects

Common Filters

Blur: Gaussian Blur, Motion Blur, Radial Blur
Sharpen: Unsharp Mask
Distort: Wave, Twirl, Shear
Noise: Add Noise
Pixelate: Mosaic
Render: Clouds, Lens Flare

Filter Gallery

Access a variety of artistic and special effects filters.
Filter > Filter Gallery

Layer Styles

Accessing Layer Styles	Double-click a layer in the Layers panel, or right-click and choose Blending Options .
Common Styles	Drop Shadow, Inner Shadow, Outer Glow, Inner Glow, Bevel & Emboss, Color Overlay, Gradient Overlay, Stroke
Copy Layer Style	Right-click layer > Copy Layer Style
Paste Layer Style	Right-click layer > Paste Layer Style