



Westbridge Camera Club

Lightroom 3 – The Photographer's Workbench

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Background

- ▶ Goal is demonstrate Lightroom's capabilities, not to train you how to use it. That way we can show more of what it is, so please hold questions to understanding what I am doing, now how.
- ▶ Lightroom is not a replacement for Photoshop, but a frontend that does much of the work really easy, leaving the hard stuff to Photoshop for a whole lot less pictures.
- ▶ Most of the material is from a series of Lightroom training videos by Mat Kloskowski, available at WWW.kelbytraining.com. This site has great training videos! (\$24/Month, \$199/Year)
- ▶ See also: www.lightroomkillertips.com
- ▶ Lightroom is available for PCs and MACs, usage is about the same except for different keys.
- ▶ I do not get a commission from Adobe.
- ▶ This Power Point presentation will be posted as a .PDF on the club web site with the Internet links for the items discussed

Import your Images

- ▶ Adds photos to Lightroom catalog, from folders or memory card
- ▶ Left hand side, source
- ▶ Right hand side, what we are going to do to images.
- ▶ File Handling
- ▶ File Renaming
- ▶ Apply during Import
- ▶ Metadata preset
- ▶ Destination
- ▶ From CF Card
- ▶ Tethered Capture – Laptop and long cord.
- ▶ Import Preset
- ▶ Don't use DNG – twice as big. Is long term format proposal from Adobe

Importing Your Images, continued

- ▶ Use standard file and folder naming conventions to specify storage location.
- ▶ Set appropriate defaults to import in program options screen. (e.g. DNG or native RAW format.) I use native RAW (.NEF) as it takes much less room.
- ▶ Select the files to import.
- ▶ Copy, use in place, & backup options
- ▶ Rename the files to something meaningful and sequence them.
- ▶ Apply your personal metadata with your copyright and other personal info you want included in each image.
- ▶ Add keywords appropriate to all the files.

Importing & Managing Your Images – What to use?

▶ Lightroom Image Management

- ▶ Get used to using Lightroom to ALWAYS manipulate your image files. (i.e. Stop using Windows File Explorer!, or MAC Finder)
- ▶ Lightroom uses a catalog to keep track of all the images you have for fast and easy searches.
- ▶ Lightroom allows you to physically relocate images, rename images, and folders. (I used Lightroom to move all my images to my new computer.)
- ▶ Demonstrate it
- ▶ Use keywords

Getting Around Lightroom

- ▶ Panels
- ▶ Top – Modules Library, Develop, Slideshow, Print, Web
- ▶ Left – folders, presets,
- ▶ Bottom – film strip
- ▶ Right operations, keywords, metadata, options
- ▶ Hide left, right, bottom. Set Manual Hide/show
- ▶ Keyboard shortcut in WINDOW menu
- ▶ Develop Solo Mode
- ▶ Shortcuts G & D

Viewing your Photos

▶ Library

- ▶ Grid – Double click for loop
- ▶ Loop
- ▶ Compare – Photo Death Match
- ▶ Survey View – Shows lots, select the ones you want to keep
- ▶ Zoom
- ▶ Navigator Window
- ▶ Shift-Tab Hides all panels

Rating, Flagging & Labeling

- ▶ You've just returned with 750 pictures.
- ▶ We often say digital pictures are free, but the disk space they occupy is not and neither is our time to have to deal with so many images.
- ▶ Once they are in the computer, now what?
- ▶ We first quickly rate and reject images during our first look at them.
 - ▶ Flags (Flagged-P, Unflagged-U, Rejected-X) use auto advanced
 - ▶ Ratings (stars) include 1 to 5, other rating tags (varies based on software in use), and reject-U "bad" images.
 - ▶ Colors – Red, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple (useful for other classifications)
- ▶ Auto Advance
- ▶ Also, now is the time to add those additional image specific keywords.
- ▶ Filter allows to select on ratings, flags, color
- ▶ Sort lots of options – Collections allows user order
- ▶ Goal is to find Keepers and delete rejected

Next steps

- ▶ Then delete all the rejected images and free up the disk space.
- ▶ The next pass through the images, “develop” or enhance the images. PSE and especially Lightroom are good for this.
- ▶ Next edit those needing Photoshop
- ▶ Finally output them for printing or web uploading

Keywords

- ▶ Think about how many images you have in your computer today
- ▶ How easy is it to find specific or subject matter pictures from your growing volume of images?
- ▶ For example, when my D300 was one year old, the click count (found in the metadata) was 14,285.
- ▶ Key-wording has saved me quite a bit of time.
- ▶ Again, it takes some discipline, but once the habit is formed, it's easy and pays off.
- ▶ Start today with your new images and go back and index as you view old images

Collections

- ▶ Photo Albums, quick way to organize a set of pictures for some use from multiple shoots or large shoot.
 - ▶ Pictures to submit to Westbridge
 - ▶ Favorite pictures from a vacation, grandkids, submitted for awards, selected for a course assignment
 - ▶ Pictures for Slide Show
- ▶ Not duplicates, list of photos.
- ▶ As changes are made, the photos reflect changes.
- ▶ Follows all Lightroom functions, Library, Develop, Slide show, Print, Web
- ▶ Can sort order of pictures in plain collections, but not smart collections

Collection Sets

- ▶ Hierarchical organization of photos
 - ▶ Alaska Vacation Picks
 - ▶ Sitka
 - ▶ Glacier National Park
 - ▶ Fairbanks
 - ▶ Denali Railroad
 - ▶ Star Princess

Smart Collections

- ▶ Collections that Manage Themselves
- ▶ Lots of selection options
 - ▶ Flag = Picked
 - ▶ Folder contains part of folder name
 - ▶ Filename contains string

Search with Filter Bar

- ▶ Text
- ▶ Attributes
- ▶ Metadata
 - ▶ Camera
 - ▶ Lens
 - ▶ Lots of stuff

Rename Inside Lightroom

- ▶ Select images
- ▶ Library → Rename Photo
- ▶ Custom Name sequence
- ▶ Custom x of y
- ▶ Other

Export Photos

- ▶ This is what you use to send your pictures somewhere else, i.e. Westbridge Digital Competitions, .jpg for email, printing elsewhere although Print Module has more options.
- ▶ Select photos to export,
- ▶ Output options include .jpg, original, .tif
- ▶ Watermark
- ▶ Presets
- ▶ Output to folder or CD/DVD
- ▶ Lots of options.

Camera Calibration

- ▶ Only Applies to RAW images
- ▶ Set up Presets for each calibration
- ▶ Does not read setting from camera

Non-Destructive Editing

- ▶ Lightroom does NOT change the photo, it keeps records of what you did to it.
- ▶ You can create virtual copies of an image at any point and make different changes to each, still only having one image file
- ▶ If you send a file to Photoshop, then your changes are made to the file that is sent and the resulting .psd file is a new image that you can change in the same way.
- ▶ For example, you can try B&W on the same image that you leave in color.
- ▶ If you change an image and it is in a collection, those changes are implemented in the collection image.
- ▶ So order of changes does not matter.

Crop & Straighten

- ▶ Use Lighthouse in Misc collection
- ▶ R shortcut
- ▶ Crop on the screen
- ▶ Can set the aspect ratio based on where the file is going – Print size 5 x 7
- ▶ Angle to straighten, really easy to use.
- ▶ Non destructive, so can re-crop when later

White Balance

- ▶ Use the boat picture
- ▶ Has full preset just like the camera for RAW files
- ▶ Use eye dropper to click on grey
- ▶ Look at Navigator to see result
- ▶ Another reason to use a grey card with one image
- ▶ Look at navigator on top left.
- ▶ Can then use sliders to adjust creative taste
- ▶ Can Sync to other photos
- ▶ Use waterfall which is RAW

Setting the Exposure & Recovery

- ▶ Use mosque between pillars
- ▶ Look at Histogram and show clipping warning
- ▶ White balance it on pillar
- ▶ Increase Exposure and then use recovery to r
- ▶ Recover highlight detail
- ▶ Use Waterfall increase exposure and recover water highlights
- ▶ Use last portrait to show hair bring back detail in hair.
- ▶ Better to overexpose and bring back detail in digital photography

Fill Light and Blacks

- ▶ Use Gabby with flower in right hand.
- ▶ Look at histogram, no blacks.
- ▶ Use blacks to bring out better photo and bring out color.
- ▶ Pillar in center of Arch
 - ▶ White balance
 - ▶ Up Black point
 - ▶ Fill lights, brings out shadows. Recovery increase detail in shadows
- ▶ Coast Sunset with Big Rock
 - ▶ Camera calibration – landscape
 - ▶ Color balance ok
 - ▶ Recovery OK
 - ▶ Fill light – brings out detail
 - ▶ Really like the way it is, but can add noise.

Brightness and Contrast

- ▶ In Misc folder – Grey Bars
- ▶ Increase exposure, blow out highlights
- ▶ Brightness, only at very high, brightens the photo mid tones. Exposure increases everything
- ▶ Show in sunset at beach.
- ▶ Lots of midtones in photo, brightness
- ▶ Contrasts, boost the color, don't use it!

Vibrance & Saturation

- ▶ Girl with flower on right side
- ▶ Saturation, use sparingly, adds too much color
- ▶ Vibrance, adds “pop” to color mid-tones, much better.
- ▶ Misc – Folder → white boat
- ▶ Saturation → Makes it yellow/ too warm
- ▶ Vibrance → 30-40 increases colors that need it.

Making Batch Changes

- ▶ Go get girl with flower.
- ▶ Make changes, warm, reduce exposure, recover, blacks up, Vibrance up, Effects Panel
→ post crop vignette
- ▶ Select other photos to sync
- ▶ Sync, check none, turn on things changed.
- ▶ Watch the film strip photos change.
- ▶ OR – Use Autosync and all change at same time. Remember when it is on.
- ▶ Copy Settings from pull down,

Tone Curve

- ▶ Get the girl with flower
- ▶ Crank up the blacks
- ▶ Now, tone curve, try the presets (linear, medium, strong)
- ▶ Set medium, then can update the shadows.
- ▶ Option, if you like to mess with the tone curve, you can just like Photoshop. Click on curve icon and have fun.

HSL / Color

- ▶ Get Dubai temple dome
- ▶ Fix color balance first with eye dropper
- ▶ Now HSL color, modify hue, saturation, lumance.
- ▶ Hue - Move the blue slider
- ▶ Saturation – dark to b&w
- ▶ Luminance - brightness or darkness of color
- ▶ Pick necklace photo
- ▶ Use the tool with hue, saturation and luminance-look at the sliders

History Panel and Snapshots

- ▶ Shows all changes and can undo
- ▶ Better than Photoshop as it keeps the history when you get back in Lightroom.
- ▶ Reset button is in put history
- ▶ Snapshot at any point and can go to it.

Black and White

- ▶ Get red tree.
- ▶ Don't use saturation, but B&W panel
- ▶ Use the target adjustment tool-don't have to remember the colors in B&W
- ▶ Use presets
- ▶ Use Basic tools, white balance, exposure, blacks.
- ▶ Works with Nik software silver efex Pro.

Split toning

- ▶ Tints highlights and shadows.
- ▶ Good mainly for B&W
- ▶ Use color patch to set
- ▶ Shadows used more often.

Virtual Copies

- ▶ Great for doing multiple things to same photo
- ▶ Does not make new disk copy, just use file of changes.
- ▶ Right click to make.
- ▶ Use bridge over pond, make changes and show in Library mode.
- ▶ Keeps original photo

Effects, Post crop Vignetting, and Grain

- ▶ Pick waterfall
- ▶ Post Crop, means it does it after the crop
- ▶ Options → highlight, color, Paint Overlay (black, don't use)
- ▶ Vignette it midpoint, round, feather
- ▶ Grain – Adds Grain, usually for B&W.
- ▶ Anti-noise reduction.

Before and After Views

- ▶ Y-Y button, click on side by side, split, top-bottom
- ▶ “/” Key

Sharpening

- ▶ Use Dubai brown building.
- ▶ Order not important in LR
- ▶ Zoom to 300%
- ▶ Looks at edges to make come out.
 - ▶ Amount
 - ▶ Radius
 - ▶ Detail – how much more detail does it do
 - ▶ Masking – hides flat areas – most useful.
 - ▶ Hold down the alt key

Noise Reduction

- ▶ Get picture of ship
- ▶ Zoom
- ▶ Much better with RAW
- ▶ Color noise first
- ▶ Detail fixes edges that get grey
- ▶ Lumaniance not too high lose detail, and use detail slider to restore edge
- ▶ Before and after

Presets

- ▶ Lots there
- ▶ Easy to use
- ▶ Easy to create
- ▶ Get the Girl photo
- ▶ Show some examples
- ▶ More at www.lightroomkillertips.com

Removing Spots & Call to Photoshop

- ▶ MOAB photos
- ▶ All photos have sensor spot.
- ▶ Show in grid view multiple select
- ▶ Select spot removal tool, 100% opacity.
- ▶ Click. + sign where spot is, circle where take from.
- ▶ Use heal option most of the time. Clone for edge.
- ▶ Sync others
- ▶ Edit in → Merger to Panorama in Photoshop., it returns to Lightroom
- ▶ Save in Photoshop and it appears in Lightroom as .PST
- ▶ Not a retouch tool, that's Photoshop
- ▶ Stack pictures using the Folder not the collection, put panorama on top

Enhancing skies with Graduated Filter

- ▶ Load sunset at beach
- ▶ Use brightness to make darker
- ▶ Lots of other things to use
- ▶ Graduating between lines
- ▶ Select what effect we want to modify
- ▶ Can have multiple gradients
- ▶ Letter "H" show pin toggle
- ▶ Man with bike, portraits in Dubai
- ▶ Graduate from bottom to lead eye to face by darkening body

Adjustment Brush

- ▶ Waterfall
- ▶ Bring down exposure of waterfall
- ▶ Brush – darken water
 - ▶ Size
 - ▶ Feather
 - ▶ Flow (opacity)
- ▶ Abdu Dhabi arch
- ▶ Auto Mask – Keep target in circle to keep mask away from sky – Brighten
- ▶ Hover over and show mask

Adjustment brush, More

- ▶ Use the same temple in the arch.
- ▶ Zoom 2:1
- ▶ Sharpness 100% - Paint the rail around the spire. Then add Clarity & Show before and after
- ▶ Use light house on right – (Turn off AUTO MASK)
- ▶ Add some blacks, straighten
- ▶ Get brush and set exposure to -1 stop and Brush whole picture.
- ▶ Then Erasure tool and pop the lighthouse. Before and after.
- ▶ Good for portraits
- ▶ Great Tool

Adjustment Brush - Retouch

- ▶ Close up lady with black on right
- ▶ Select negative clarity
- ▶ Smooth skin, erase on eyebrow.
- ▶ Headshot on guy with mustache
- ▶ Exposure and brightness up & Saturation down, removing red from eyes by lower saturation.
- ▶ Can use to whiten teeth

Photoshop Interface

- ▶ Easy to send to PS
- ▶ Easy to do Panoramas – Can Stack with return as top of stack – Auto SYNC.
- ▶ Easy to do HDR, PS, Photomatix, NIX
- ▶ Can send multiple photos as separate layers
- ▶ Photos come back to LR by a save (not save as)
- ▶ There are lots of things PS does that LR does not do.

Printing

- ▶ One of the best printing software tools
- ▶ Go to Page Setup first to set paper size
- ▶ Zoom to fill for borderless if picture does not match paper aspect ratio
- ▶ All based on cell size
- ▶ Change margins if want white space
- ▶ Identity plates
- ▶ Will print all images selected – PS CS5 will only do one at a time.
- ▶ Change page grid to show multiple
- ▶ Set border, sizes,
- ▶ Click and can move in window
- ▶ Select template with overlap and drag some pictures into it

Picture package and Custom.

- ▶ Use templates or make your own with single pictures – Photographer's deliveries
- ▶ Custom → layout any way you want.
- ▶ Pick Page setup to set paper size and printer
- ▶ Change background color
- ▶ Add Stroke
- ▶ Identity Plate
- ▶ Can save template as preset if you want to use it the future
- ▶ Can save it as a .jpg to send somewhere else
- ▶ Set Print sharpening Standard
- ▶ Media type – Glossy or mat
- ▶ Color Management
- ▶ Print to file, will do all of them

Slideshow

- ▶ Will use what is in the film strip or what is selected in the film strip.
- ▶ Use the Westbridge February entries
- ▶ Show it
- ▶ Show parameters on right and show slide show

Slide Show More

- ▶ Go to Winner Collection and show image order feature & Metadata changes
- ▶ Back to slideshow, pick template & talk about titles
- ▶ Slideshow → Add text overlay and options
- ▶ Show Winners
- ▶ Talk about templates
- ▶ Can add music, fit slides to music
- ▶ Can export as video with music or .pdf without music

Web Gallery

- ▶ Use templates
- ▶ A good bit of options
- ▶ Creates web pages
- ▶ Can upload to web server
- ▶ Export to folder to send to web master
- ▶ Lots of customization
- ▶ Will not discuss further tonight

Summary

- ▶ Lightroom is a great tool to manage your images
- ▶ It does most anything a photographer could have done in a Darkroom much easier and better.
- ▶ Most of your images will never need to go to Photoshop
- ▶ With non-destructive editing, it significantly reduces the need to have multiple copies of an image in your computer.
- ▶ It does not replace the need for a Photoshop capability, but significantly reduces the need to use Photoshop.
- ▶ Photoshop Elements has many of the same manage tools as Lightroom, but not the easy to use image correction tools.

Questions?



Thank You!

Why Lightroom?

- ▶ In case you haven't guessed, I like Lightroom.
- ▶ Lightroom was developed for the professional photographer whose time is valuable and needs to process images quickly but in a quality manner.
- ▶ It does have a learning curve.
- ▶ In many ways, PSE 8 Organizer is just as good or better and has a much more "user-friendly" interface. Without some study or training in Lightroom, one could use PSE Organizer and do for about two years. One would not use Adobe Bridge with its present functionality if they were using keywords
- ▶ Lightroom's features of note:
 - ▶ Image organization tools
 - ▶ Develop module
 - ▶ Fix one picture, copy that fix to the others that have it
 - ▶ It has most of the image adjustment capabilities of Photoshop editor
 - ▶ Non-destructive editing, your digital negative does not change, there is a change file "sidecar." Can always remove changes and "go back,"
 - ▶ Virtual copies to allow trial of changes or cropping various parts.
 - ▶ Provides folder and file physical moves and renames
 - ▶ Integration with Photomatix
 - ▶ Presets

Importing Your Images (Lightroom Example)

