Adobe® Photoshop CS®2

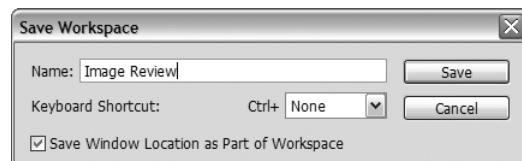Julieanne Kost & Daniel Brown • www.adobeevangelists.com

But wait, there's more!

For all of the big changes that take place in a new version of Photoshop, there are a hundred (or more) minor adjustments that you might miss. You'll never see these items on the back of the box, but they can make Photoshop an even easier place to work. This document is intended to point out some of the more subtle changes between Photoshop CS and Photoshop CS2 so that the more seasoned users can quickly get up to speed.
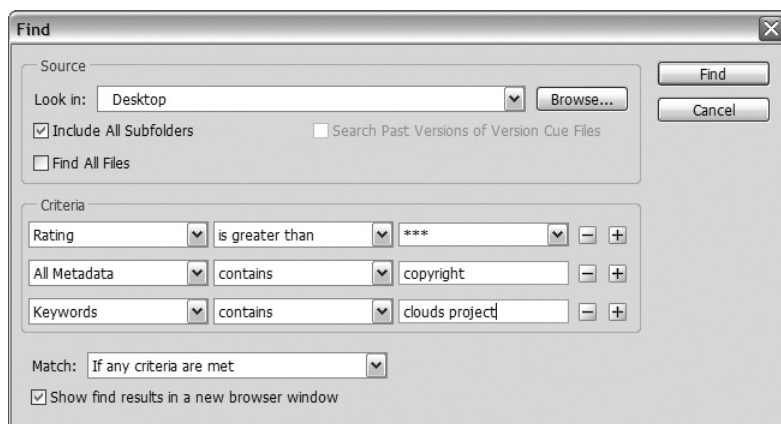
The Adobe Bridge, for example, is full of small shortcuts that will shave hours off of the time you spend reviewing and managing images. For example, the Preset workspaces for the four viewing modes in the Bridge (Lightbox, File Navigator, Metadata Focus and Filmstrip Focus) can be quickly cycled through using Control (Win)/Command (Mac) + \ (backslash). And when you create your own custom workspaces (Window > Workspace > Save Workspace) you can save keyboard shortcuts to access them quickly for various tasks such as image review, applying metadata, or rating images.

You can also open multiple Bridge windows and display them on your primary or secondary monitors. And to quickly toggle between compact and full viewing modes (or ultra-compact and full) simply use Control (Win)/Command (Mac) + Enter. Be careful of a little change that might throw you, Control (Win)/ Command (Mac) +D now duplicates items instead of deselecting them.

If you're like me and sometimes need a simple, clean and organized area to just view your thumbnails in the Bridge, use Control (Win)/Command (Mac) + T to toggle between Thumbnails and Thumbnails with additional metadata (names etc.). You probably noticed that folders are also listed alphabetically in the thumbnail area. And yes, you can now delete folders from the Bridge! You can also choose to only show Graphic, Camera Raw or Vector files if desired.

If you're looking for the search icon in the Bridge, don't panic! We lost the binoculars icon, but you can still search by selecting Edit > Find. In exchange for the binoculars icon, you get increased search criteria and parameters, and the ability to save multiple searches as collections (which repeat the search when selected – like watched folders) Plus, you can always use Control (Win)/ Command (Mac) +F to quickly access the search function!
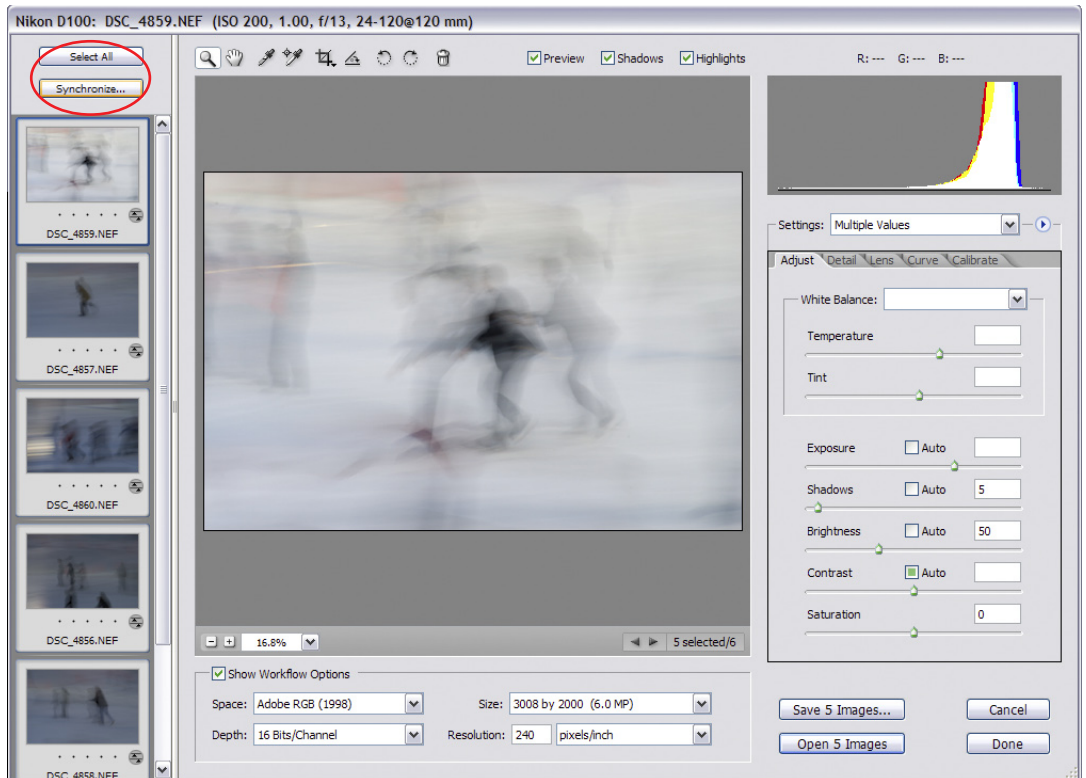

In order to eliminate repetitive tasks, you can now select multiple images and add File Info including important metadata to images. In Batch Rename, you can also choose to rename and make a copy of the files at the same time as well as Preserve Current File Name in XMP Metadata.

When I was first starting to editing multiple images in Camera Raw, I kept forgetting to select the desired images in the filmstrip and would only correct one. Luckily, after making changes to one image, you can select the others in the filmstrip that you need to apply the same set-

tings to and click "Synchronize". In the Synchronize settings dialog, you can then fine-tune exactly which setting you want to affect by either checking the options or by choosing presets from the drop down menu. If you ever need to remove all of the settings that you have applied to Raw files, in the Bridge, choose Edit > Apply Camera Raw Settings > Clear Camera Raw Settings. In addition, there is built in support for DNG file format.
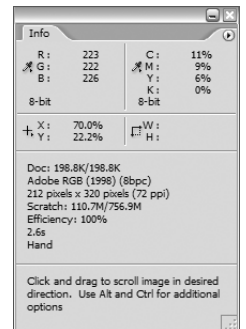
Duplicating layers and layer groups is easier than ever before. Simply hold down the Alt (Win) / Option (Mac) key, and drag one or more selected layers (or groups) in the Layers palette until you see the feedback bar, and let go. Voila, you have duplicates! You can also drag Layer Masks, Vector Masks, and Layer Styles from one layer to another by clicking and dragging the mask or "f" icon. Adding the Alt (Win) / Option (Mac) key, and dragging will duplicate them. Adding the shift key while dragging inverts the Layer mask. Also, by default, when layer effects are applied to a layer, the effects icon appears "collapsed" saving room in the layers palette. To reveal the individual effects, click on the disclosure triangle next to the "f" icon.

The Info palette now displays values in 8, 16, or 32-bit values. Simply click on the eyedropper and tell Photoshop how much detail you want. Use the fly-out menu in the Info palette to display (or hide) your document size as well as other information such as profile, dimensions, scratch size etc. There is also a new area that displays "hints" about how to use the currently selected tool.

For years, the font menu in Photoshop has listed the name of the typeface, but left it up to you to recall what it looked like (or forced you to try different typefaces, one at a time). The WYSIWYG font menu in Photoshop CS2 shows you what the typeface looks like, as well as its format (Open t 1, True Type, etc.) New Type Preferences allow you to change the font preview size between small, medium and large.

A subtle but important change has been made to cursors in Adobe Photoshop CS2. In previous versions, the cursor would mysteriously disappear in front of 50% grey areas of the document. Now, all cursors are visible no matter what the background.

While in the Free Transform mode, using the Place command, or when cropping, you can now change layer opacity, zoom via the Navigator palette and hide and show individual channels with the Channels palette.

The Scripting Support in Photoshop CS2 has been enhanced to allow Photoshop to trigger JavaScript scripts. For example, a script might automatically save a copy of every PSD file as a JPEG image, with a quality of 2, no color profile, etc. You might also scan metadata and EXIF data for a camera make and model, and notify the user of this fact.

There are three new Flash-based templates in Web Photo Gallery which make for much more dramatic presentations. To add a background audio track, rename any mp3 file to "useraudio.mps" and drop it into the template folder.
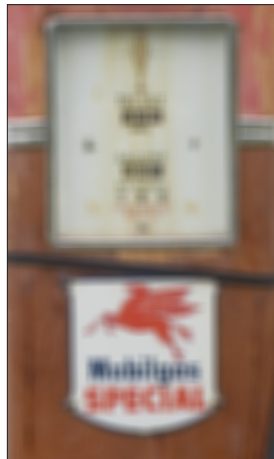
To help make printing easier, color management options are available in the Print Preview dialog box with easy and descriptive choices like "Let Photoshop Determine Colors" or "Let Printer Determine Colors".

For web designers, slicing functionality has been enhanced within Photoshop to allow selection of multiple slices. This allows changing multiple slice options/attributes at a time and for distributing, combining, and aligning of slices. There is also a new contextual menu for slices via the slice tools.

Photoshop CS2 also gives you a variety of new blur options. Box blur creates a more square effect than Gaussian and is also very fast. Surface Blur needs to be seen to be believed, but it's great for softening skin and giving images that "dreamy soft-focus" look. Shape Blur blurs an object based on a particular shape. It's a tiny bit like light passing through an aperture of a given shape – try it, I think you'll like it.

Original Image **Box blur** **Surface Blur** **Shape Blur**

The number of presets that appear in the Color Settings drop down has been shortened. In order to display additional settings, click the More Options button (which has been changed from "Advanced"). Clicking this will display the full list of presets as well as allow for custom setting for all working color spaces.

16-bit files are now saved with compression. As long as you save files with Maximize Compatibility turned off, you should see some noticeable savings in file size. However care must be taken with this option as saving with Max Compatibility turned off results in files not being compatible with previous versions of Photoshop. If you give clients a file saved this way, they may not be able to open it. Maximize Compatibility should be turned on if the file is going to be used with another product since not all products read layer data from PSD/PSB correctly. If max compatibility is on, you've always got the composite image to fall back on. Also, having maximize compatibility on will speed preview generation in Bridge considerably.

The Exchangeable Swatches feature allows users to save their swatches from one CS2 application into a file that can be loaded in another CS2 application. Color swatches (RGB, Lab, CMYK, and Gray modes) can now be moved between applications for consistent swatches throughout the CS2 applications. There are some limitations however: gradients and patterns can't be imported into Photoshop and some of the color modes and bit depths can't be exported out of Photoshop to be used in other applications because they are not supported. The procedure is similar to saving swatches out of previous versions of Photoshop except that the "Save swatches for Exchange" menu item (consistent throughout the Suite) is used (from the Swatches palette fly out) and a .ase is saved. These files can be loaded via the Swatches fly-out menu. They can also placed in the Photoshop swatches folder so that they will automatically load on launch an appear in the list of different swatch books.

One liners (or the Quick List):

• Variables are now available in Photoshop (Image >Variables). Variables have been in ImageReady for the past two versions, enabling you to create an unlimited series of graphics for any use, dynamically generated with no programming knowledge required.

• You can now choose to create Animations using the Layers palette in Photoshop (not just ImageReady).

- To make the most of systems running 64-bit processor, Photoshop CS2 can now address more than 2 GB of RAM. (The total varies between platforms and operating systems.)

- PhotoMerge now works in 16 bit as do the following filters: Radial Blur, De-interlace, Lens Flare, Fibers, NTSC Colors.

- Shadow/Highlight works in CMYK mode (Image > Adjustments).

- Palettes that are hidden behind other palettes (not just grouped) will display a (-) next to its name in the Window menu.

- Window Tiling can be oriented either horizontally or vertically.

- Using the Place command (from Photoshop or the Bridge) now automatically creates a Smart Object.

- Zooming in and out on an image can be performed with a mouse Scroll Wheel (assuming you have a device that supports it).

- You can show the edges of a layers under View > Show > Layer Edges.

- In Full Screen Mode, you can set the canvas color by shift-clicking with the Paint Bucket tool.

- The Color Replacement Tool has been relocated to nest with the Brush and Pencil Tools.

- "Assign Profile" and "Convert to Profile" have been relocated to the Edit Menu.

- Support for the DNG file format is now built in. You can save as DNG from either Photoshop or directly from the Camera Raw dialog in the Bridge.

- The target file size for Save For Web Photo Gallery been raised from 999K to 1800K (1.8 megabytes.) as some of the national art shows have gone to a digital jury system that requires the 1.8 megabyte file limit.

- In some of the Web Photo Gallery templates (but not all), the large image size was increased from 800 to 16,000 pixels.

- You can now send a video preview to a device using the Fire Wire Video Preview (File > Export > Video Preview). Note that this is a one-shot command (i.e. each paint stroke is not automatically sent to the external monitor). However, customizing a keyboard shortcut for this command will allow it to export via a keystroke.

- The Actions palette now displays the keyboard shortcut assigned to the Action.

- Dragging a folder to the Bridge Preview Panel will redirect the Bridge to that folder.

Changes and Additions to the Preferences

General

- Change the preferences for the display size (small medium or large) of your fonts within the application.

- Choose not to view any custom menu colors.

- Choose to resize an image during paste/place.

- Automatically launch Bridge when opening Photoshop.

- Zoom in and out with a scroll wheel on your mouse (assuming you have a device that supports it).

Display & Cursors

- Show Full Size brush tip (Normal only shows 50% opacity and greater which can be misleading).

- Show Crosshair in Brush Tip (for additional precision) .

Guides, Grids, and Slices - Change the color of Smart Guides.

Type - Set the Font Preview Size to either Small, Medium, or Large (for WYSIWYG font feature)