



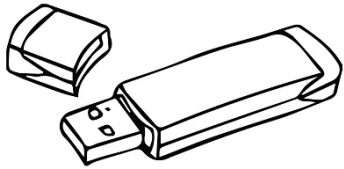
# How to: Edit Your Photos

(In Adobe Lightroom)



## Tips:

- So you took your photos, now what? Time to **EDIT!**
- *Why Editing is Important* - Even when you may feel like you have the “perfect” image, there can always be corrections that can be made to make you files cohesive and photos blemish-free.

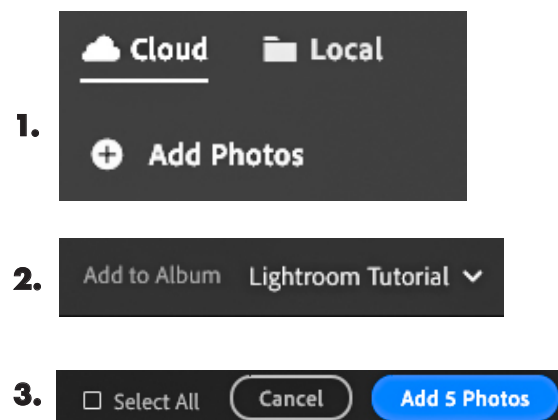


## Preparing & Accessing LR

- Organization is key!
- Backing up your files - always have at least two copies of your work, whether that is on Flash Drives, External Hard Drives, and/or an Internet-based backup.
- Lightroom VS Photoshop. Lightroom gives you **non-destructive editing**, which means you can come back to your image and keep editing where you left off, or change edits from before.
- **Lightroom** (aka “Lightroom CC” or “Photoshop Lightroom”) is cloud-based and can be accessed from any device (and is what this tutorial is based on) **VS Lightroom Classic** which is more advanced and is based off of local files, so if you want to switch between devices you have to make sure everything is on a Flash Drive or Hard Drive.
- **TIP:** Access your free Adobe Creative Cloud while at PAFA!
- When you graduate you can buy the “Photography Plan” that gives you Lightroom and Adobe Portfolio (to create a website!) for \$0/month.

## Get Started!

- **Add your Photos!** This uploads them to the Cloud so you can access them over multiple devices. You have a lot of cloud storage through your PAFA plan. I would recommend editing the **RAW** files you took (they often have a file name that ends with .NEF or .CR2). I would add them to an **Album** (it’s like a folder in LR) to keep things organized.
- **Note:** With Lightroom, you are not editing the original image. Rather, you are editing a copy/preview of the image.





# How to: Edit Your Photos (In Adobe Lightroom)



## Start with These Steps:

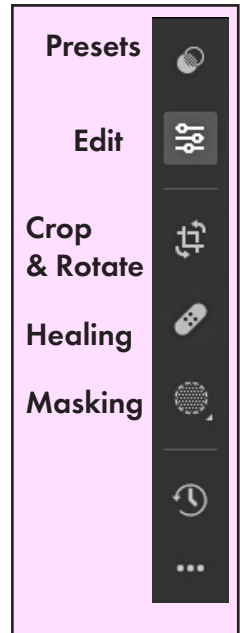
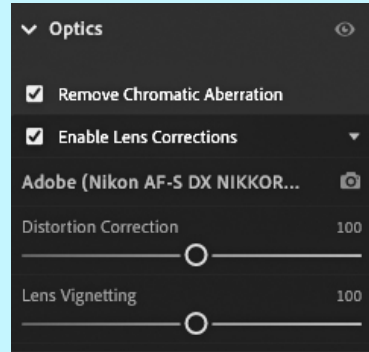
-Start in the "Edit" Module, and then we will use the "Crop" Module

## 1. Optics

### OPTICS

- **Remove Chromatic Aberration:** Check  (the camera will sometimes will add a stray color line in an area of high contrast. This will remove it)

- **Lens Corrections:** Check  This is incredibly important to **remove warp**. If you were zoomed out (below 30-50mm zoom) then you may have a slight fish-eye warp.



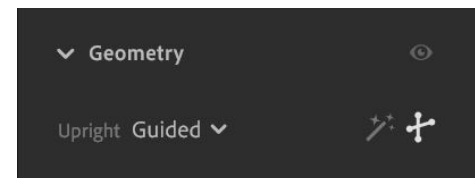
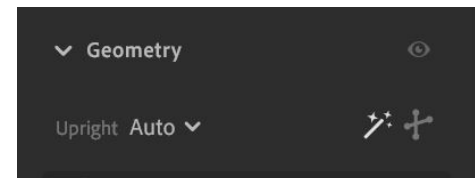
## 2. Geometry

-Use this tool for 2D work!

-The "Geometry" section is under the "Edit" Module in older versions and under "Crop" Module in new versions of Lightroom.

-Use this tool to make sure the perspective of your 2D work is flat. If your camera is not completely parallel to your work there will be skew. If you try to crop it before fixing this, you may have to cut off part of the painting.

- **Next to "Upright,"** first try "Auto", but if that doesn't make your work look even, you can try "Guided" and follow the steps below. This is where you draw a line on each edge of your work and it will make your work even and flat. This is similar to the "Perspective Warp" tool in Photoshop.



Before "Geometry"

Start Drawing Lines



**Painting  
Perfectly Flat.  
Ready to  
be Cropped.**



# How to: Edit Your Photos (In Adobe Lightroom)



## 3. Editing Light & Color

- Double-Click Photo to Start Editing. You can go back and change these edits at any time.
- **CROP:** I like to start with "Crop & Rotate" so that any necessary changes don't distract us when we are editing.
- **EDIT:** Next go to "Edit." You can click "Auto" to start or just add a few tweaks. In the Edit module:

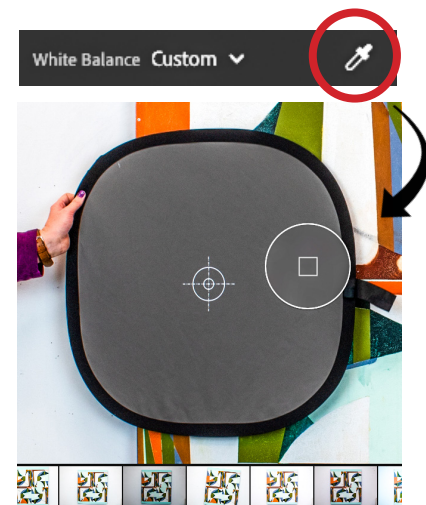
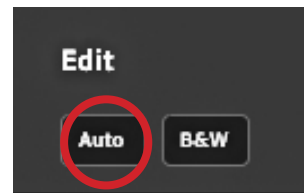
### LIGHT

- Exposure** - The overall brightness or darkness of your image. Change this first if your image is too light/dark.
- Contrast** - You can add some contrast if your image is feeling flat. I usually add about +5 to +10 if needed.
- Highlights** - You can decrease the highlights if they are too bright.
- Shadows** - You can increase the shadows to bring out details that may be lost.
- Whites** - You can increase the Whites.
- Blacks** - You can decrease the Blacks to add more contrast.

*Tip: You can adjust these corrections based on what looks right to you and how to create the best digital representation of your art.*

### COLOR

- White Balance** - Temperature and Tint  
*Tip: This is where your Gray Card comes in handy. On the Gray Card picture, select the eyedropper. Click on the Gray Card with the Eyedropper, and then copy the White Balance to your other picture*
- Temperature** - If your image is more Blue or Yellow, move the slider to make it even
- Tint** - If your image is more Green or Pink, move the slider to make it even
- Vibrance** - Vibrance is a great way to add more color but not overload it. It increases the saturation of neutral colors and a tiny bit of the vibrant colors.
- Saturation** - Saturation adds more color to all parts of your image. It's great to use sparingly, but can overload the already vibrant colors if used too much.



### How does a Gray Card Work?

*(The eyedropper wants to find a Neutral Color to calibrate the white balance to, and the Gray Card is a scientifically accurate color that the computer can recognize. This is important for paintings where you want the color to be accurate.)*



# How to: Edit Your Photos (In Adobe Lightroom)



## 4. Editing Effects & Details

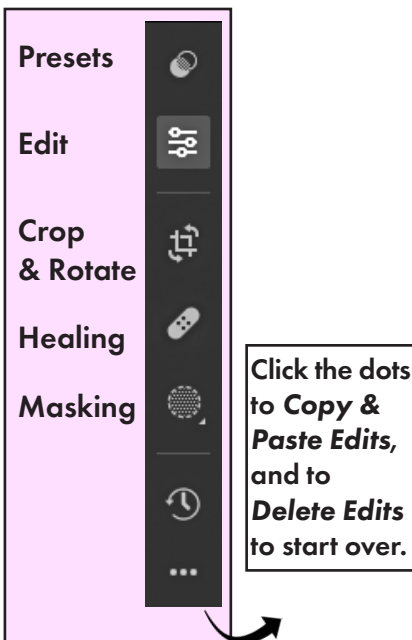
- **Tip: Zoom In** to see these changes on your image.

### EFFECTS

- Texture:** Can enhance or reduce texture in an image
- Clarity:** Can provide more or less contrast

### DETAIL

- Sharpening:** helps to enhance details, to give your photo a sharper, crisp look. Great to do for printing large. But if you overdo it, your photo may look flat and fake.



## Copy & Paste Your Edits

Something that is great about lightroom is that you can just Copy & Paste your edits from one image to multiple images.

- Copy Edit Settings** (Or *Command - Shift - C*) and choose what settings to copy
- Select One or Multiple Images
- Paste Edit Settings** (Or *Command - Shift - V*)
- You can also see these options in the dots on the right side.

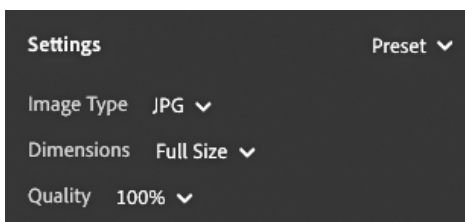
Copy Edit Settings



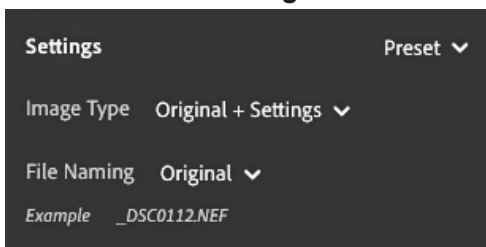
Paste Edit Settings



Normal:



For Printing:



## Exporting & Saving Files

Lightroom automatically saves your edits to your account.

-However, you have to EXPORT your file in order to use your edited file to share, post, submit, etc.

-Select the Photos you want to Export, then go to **File > Export**

-I recommend exporting as a JPG for everyday use.

However, if you are saving the file for printing, export as "Original" or as a "TIFF," because both will make sure nothing in the image is compressed.

-Then "Export Photo(s)" and Save in a folder (I would recommend saving them in a folder that says "Edited")