

Quick reference for editing in Photoscape X – Lynda Buske Ibuske@sympatico.ca

Easiest way to open Photoscape is to find your photo in Windows explorer, right click and say open with Photoscape X. This will automatically take you to **Editor mode**.

Click on **Editor** in top menu, find photos in your folder you wish to edit.

Pull picture in or click on it. Then click on **Edit** on top right menu.

Straighten – go to second menu line and click on image that is 4th from left that looks like a crooked box with a line through it.



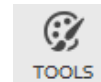
Crop – click on Editor, go to second menu line and click on crop.



Adjust light - brighten, darken, lighten shadows, reduce highlights, add contrast – click on **Color** tab at top and use various slider bars. You can also set a black and white point by clicking on **More** and using slider bars for black and white. This is my preferred way of adding contrast as you have more control than the contrast slider bar.

To convert to black/white, click on **Color** tab and then click on arrow beside **Original color**. Then select Grayscale. Adjust from there with white and black points, etc.

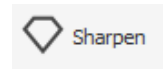
To adjust for **red eye**, **spot healing** or to **soften skin**, click on “**Tools**” on top right menu.



To **dehaze**, click on Edit, Adjustments, Dehaze (fifth one on left).



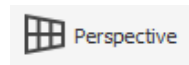
To sharpen your image, click on **Color** tab and use the **clarity slider**. There is also a sharpen tool click on Edit/Adjustments and look for diamond shape icon.



To blur, click on Edit, Adjustments, Blur (droplet).



To adjust for **perspective**, click on Transformations. Sample images: perspective1.jpg to perspective3.jpg



To **clone** – use older Photoscape 3.7 program (tools tab, clone stamp) or purchase Photoscape X for around \$70 CAD.

To get **special effects** (eg kaleidoscope) click on Edit, Effects

For **short videos on most tools**, click on PhotoscapeX logo in top left




corner.

Notes on using a Mask

Click on “Mask” button

PAINT IN (Add+ brush):

1. Select the colour tab, adjustment, effect etc where you want to create a masked effect.
2. Click on “mask”
3. Make sure your brush is set to paint in (plus sign) . 
4. Set the masking brush size with slider bar (or quick key using left and right square brackets). You can also adjust hardness.
5. It will show red as you paint but when release the mouse, the photo it will go clear. But the mask is still there. If you want to see the mask at any time click “Show Mask” further down the mask menu.
6. Drag slider bars to make adjustment to this area, such as sliding “brighten” bar to increase light in an area of your photo.
7. Save photo under a new name if desired.

Note: You can always check where your mask is by clicking on “Show Mask”. If it is the opposite of what you want, you can click on “Invert Mask”. Masks can be used in most areas of Photoscape X such as colour tab, adjustments, effects and transformations, etc.

Replacing a background

Click on **Cut Out** on the top menu. Drag an image into the work area. You have three options to delete unwanted areas and convert them to a transparent background.

- 1) Use the magic eraser to eliminate similar areas of the same colour. If it is taking tones from within the area you wish to keep, pull the tolerance slider to the left.
- 2) Lasso allows you to circle an area that you wish gone.
- 3) Brush allows you to brush out the areas you wish gone and brush back in any that you need to keep.

Once you have the area you want, save the file. It will have a png extension and may not automatically save in the area you were working. Make sure it saves to the right folder.

Go to **Editor** mode in top menu. Find an image you wish to use as a background. Adjust if using *Blur* function if you wish.

Click on **Insert** tab on top right menu. Drag your png cut out image onto the background. Drag corners to desired size. Do NOT try to crop until you have saved this image. To avoid a bug in the program, make sure you are back in **Edit** mode (ie out of *Insert*) drag any image into the work area, then re drag your new layered image. Then you can crop and do any other adjustments to finalize it.

This can be used to replace a busy background or replace a sky.