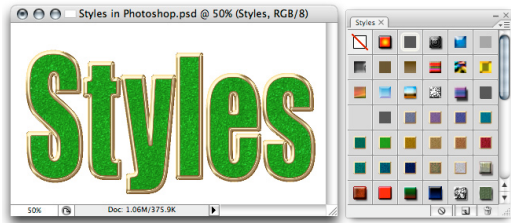


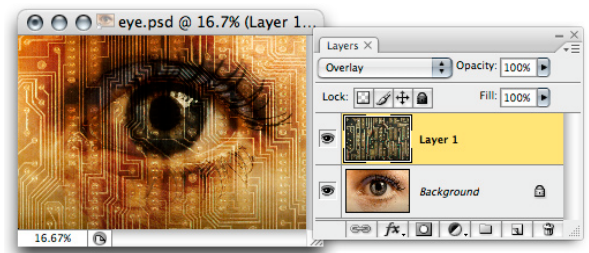
Photoshop Whiz, Bang, Wow Tips & Tricks

#1 Zoom Tool and Hand Tool - Double-clicking on the Hand tool will make your active image window as large as it can be at your current monitor settings. With the Zoom Tool selected, clicking-and-dragging will marquee a rectangle that will be shown magnified. Double click on the magnifier to reset to 1:1 (100%). Notice that the Zoom Tool will keep the window dimensions and zoom within those boundaries, whereas the Zoom In/Out function under the View menu will actually change the window dimensions as well as the zoom status. Keyboard Shortcuts: Command “-” and Command “+” (Windows: substitute Ctrl key for Command)

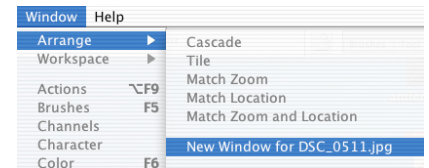


#2 Styles - Photoshop's Styles are simply a grouping of layer effects (like Bevel/Emboss, Drop Shadow) that can be applied quickly to any object on a layer including text. The wonderful part about Styles is that they can quickly be customized to fit your desired look. Photoshop includes a large number of Styles that can be loaded from the Styles Palette pull-out menu. Start by applying a Style from the Styles Palette and then change the individual effects in the Layers Palette to customize the look.

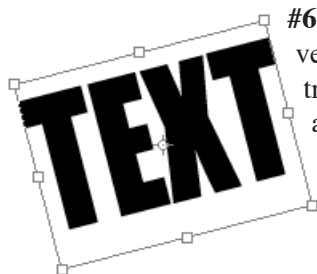
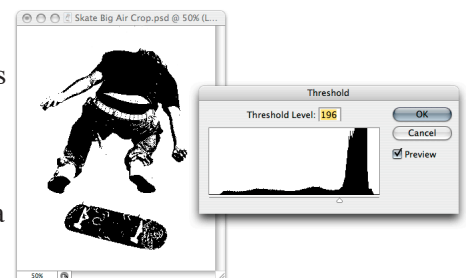
#3 Layer Modes - Ah, the mysterious world of Photoshop Layer Modes. Don't worry, you don't have to understand them to be able to use them. Layer Modes simply control how a layer interacts with the Layer or Layers below it. You can change the Layer Mode at the top of the Layers Palette (where it says Normal) and it's all totally changeable and non-destructive. Don't forget that you can also control the opacity of any layer above the background layer.



#4 New View - It seems the real use of the New View command has passed by a few people. The idea is to create a true clone second window (not a duplicate copy in another untitled window, but just another view of the very same file) and then change what is being looked at in that second window. Example: Zoom one window in as much as you wish, leave the other in 1:1 true scale. All changes will be reflected instantly in both, allowing you to work in the detailed view and see the overall effect at the same time.

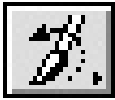


#5 Threshold for High Contrast - Photoshop offers you an easy way to quickly make any photographic image into a high-contrast graphic. Photoshop's Threshold command is available under the Image > Adjustments menu or can be applied as an adjustment layer. Threshold makes every pixel in your image either black or white (not even any grays). The slider simply controls the cut-off point between black and white. For added control you might need to make a rough selection of your subject before moving to Threshold.

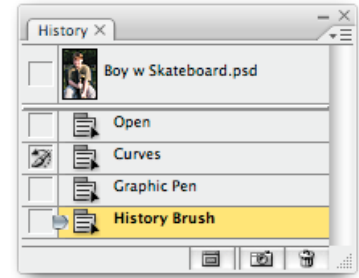


#6 Transform Text - One cool thing about creating text in Photoshop is that text layers are vector-based objects that can be stretched, squished, rotated and even flipped using the Free transform command (Keyboard Shortcut Cmd/Ctrl + the T key). Simply create your text at any size, then activate your text layer and select Free Transform from the Edit menu. Grabbing any of the handles surrounding your text will allow you to stretch the text to any size and shape. To rotate the text just move outside a corner handle and you'll see a curved arrow that will allow you to click and rotate the text object. When you're done simply double-click to confirm the transformation.

#7 Nudging - You can use the arrow keys to move objects on a layer one pixel at a time, called nudging. Invaluable when you work on small objects, or aligning text by baseline. Add Shift to move 10 pixels each time. (If you keep the Option key down, you will move a copy of the selection) (Windows users substitute Alt key for Command). Very precise, no jitter.

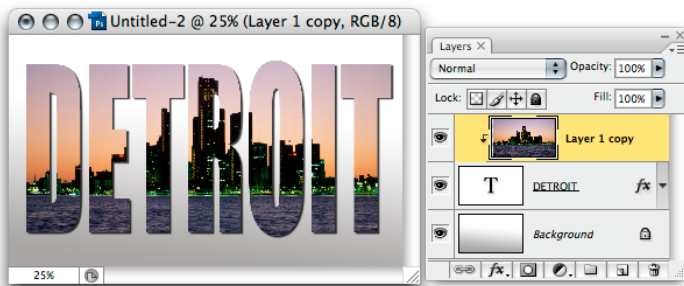
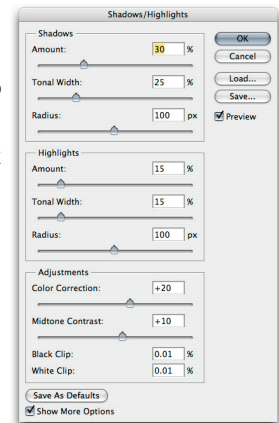


#8 Making Some History - This little Photoshop gem can save you tons of time and open up so many creative possibilities you might never turn your computer off. You can make a change, or multiple changes to your image, then select the History Brush and "magically" paint portions of the image back to the way they were when you opened the image file. If you select the History Brush without designating a specific "step" wherever you paint will simply be reverted to how it looked when you opened the file. You can also select a "step" in the History Palette and paint from that specific step. Remember that you can also control the opacity of the History Brush with the control located in the tool options bar at the top of the window.



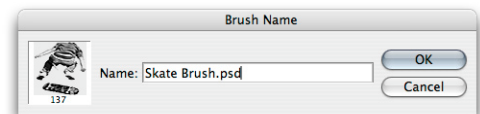
#9 Easy RedEye Fix - On-camera flash photography can often cause the people in our images to suffer from a severe case of zombie red eye. In most of those images just simply changing the color of the eye will fix all or most of the problem, and Photoshop offers an easy way to fix it, the Red Eye Tool (under the Patch and Healing brushes). Simply click with the Red Eye Tool inside the red area of the eye and presto you have cured the zombie red-eye syndrome (Disclaimer Statement: Does not work on actual Zombies).

#10 Adjustments > Shadow Highlight - In many cases we need to lighten the shadow areas of an image in order to make sure that those dark areas don't get too dark when the image is printed. Photoshop CS introduced a great new easy way to lighten the shadow areas of a photo without making a selection. Go under the Image pulldown Menu and select Adjustments, and then select **Shadow/Highlight**. The Default settings for the Shadow/Highlight controls are not a good choice for most images. You will find that you get much better results if you increase the Radius value for both the Shadows and Highlights to a value of 100. Then try lightening the shadow area of your image by setting the Amount and Tonal Width settings in the 20-30 range (the default settings of 50 and 50 are usually way too strong). You need to click on the Show More Options button at the bottom of the dialog box to access the advanced controls that allow far greater control with this wonderful new tool. For more information be sure to search Shadow/Highlight in the Photoshop Help Menu.



#11 Clipping Masks - Here's the fast and easy way to put one or more photos inside the outline of some type characters. The photo must be in a layer above the type or object that will serve as the mask. The type must be on a layer surrounded by transparency (type does this automatically) above the background layer. Activate the top (photo) layer and then from the Layers menu select **Create Clipping Mask**.

#12 Custom Brushes - You can turn anything into a custom brush in photoshop, including a photo. Simply open the image that you wish to be a brush shape and go to the **Define Brush Preset** command under the Edit menu, then give it a name. Keep the image size of the brush small so it won't be too large when you use it. Select any paint tool and your brush will be available at the bottom of the Brushes Palette.



#13 Better Greyscale Conversions - When you have a color (RGB) Photoshop image file and what you really need is a grayscale (black and white) image, don't just take the easy way out. Sometimes you can get a much better grayscale version of your image by using the new **Black and White** dialog. With the color image file open go to **Image > Adjust > Black & White** command. This will give you a dialog box where you can "mix" a new image from different amounts of the data from six different colors. You can use the six color sliders to control how much of each color will be used to create the new grayscale image. When you are done click the OK button. Important: you must then convert your image to a Grayscale image file by going to back to the Adjustments menu and selecting Image>Mode>Grayscale. CS2 users will have to use the **Channel Mixer** dialog box to do the same type of conversion.

