

# Adobe Photoshop CC - Key Terms

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Quick Selection Tool	A selection method that allows you to paint an area of an image, and the tool automatically finds the edges.
Layer	Layers are like stacked, transparent sheets of glass on which you can create images. You can see through the transparent areas of a layer to the layers below. You can work on each layer independently.
Layer group	A tool to organize layers into a logical order and reduce clutter in the Layers panel.
Filters	Actions that enhance or modify an image with special effects (Blur, sharpen, artistic, distort, noise, stylize, texture, etc)
Liquify filter	A filter that causes the image to appear melted by pushing, pulling, rotating, reflecting, puckering or bloating pixels in the image
Vanishing Point filter	A filter that effectively edits images that have perspective planes (rectangular surfaces that seem to get smaller as they approach the horizon)
Photomerge	A command that automatically combines several photographs into one continuous, panoramic image by using layers and masking
High Dynamic Range (HDR)	A command that combines photos of different exposure to create a composite with a much larger range of tonal detail than can be captured in one photo.

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Auto enhance	An option for the Quick Selection tool that creates better quality selections, with edges that are truer to the object.
Elliptical Marquee tool	Select ovals or perfect circles.
Zoom Tool shortcut	Press Z to activate the zoom tool.
Tolerance	Determines the similarity or difference of pixels selected
Anti-aliasing	Anti-aliasing smooths the jagged edges of a selection by softening the color transition between edge pixels and background pixels.
Refine edge	Option to soften the edges of a selection by adjusting such options as smooth, feather and decontaminate colors
Blending	A series of options for adjusting the way colors appear when one layer overlays another layer.
Feathering	A command that softens or blurs edges by building a transition boundary between a selection and its surrounding pixels.
Watermark	A partly visible message that marks the image as belonging to you.
Lasso tool	The lasso tool makes freehand selections.
Polygonal Lasso tool	The polygonal lasso too makes straight-edge selections.
Magnetic Lasso tool	You can use the Magnetic Lasso tool to make freehand selections of areas with high-contrast edges. When you draw with the Magnetic Lasso tool, the selection border automatically snaps to the edge between areas of contrast.
Resolution	Refers to the number of pixels that describe an image and establish its detail, measured in pixels per inch (ppi).
Copy	A command that copies the selected area on the active layer.

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Paste	A command that pastes a cut or copied selection into another part of the image or into another image as a new layer.
Quick Selection tool	A tool that's selection expands outward from where it is clicked to automatically find and follow defined edges in the image.
Clipping mask	An object or group whose shape masks other artwork so that only areas that lie within the shape are visible.
Shape layer	A vector layer that contains either a shape (including fill and stroke), pixels, or a path.
Smart object	Smart objects are vector objects that you can place and edit in Photoshop without a loss of quality regardless of how often you scale, rotate, skew, or otherwise transform it.
Contiguous	Selects only adjacent or touching areas that use the same colors
Gradient map	An filter effect that applies a range of colors based on the lightest and darkest areas of an image.
Non-destructive editing	Using masks and layers so the original image(s) data is not lost
Adjustment layers	Applies color and tonal adjustments to your image, layer or layer group without permanently changing pixel values
Blending modes	lighten, darken, color dodge, hue, blends only apply where layers overlap
Retouching tools	Spot Healing Brush tool, Red Eye tool, Patch tool, Content-Aware Move tool, Smart Sharpen, Camera Shake Reduction
History panel	A panel that restores the image to a previous state, up to 20 undo steps
Puppet warp	An set of options that allow an image to be drastically distorted in some areas while leaving others intact

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Workspace	The working area in the Adobe programs including the Main menu, Options bar, Document window, Tools panel, Workspace switcher menu and Panels
Image retouching	Correcting imperfections or photo damage
Constrained proportions	The option in the Image Size dialogue box, represented by a chain icon, that indicates a fixed width/height ration when icon is active
Color correction	A general term the type of editing to correct color or contrast (Hue/Saturation, Levels, Curves, Selective Color and Desaturate)
Crop	The process of removing portions of an image to create focus or strengthen the composition
Transform	The tool used to scale, rotate, skew, distort, apply perspective, or warp an image or layer
Opacity	A layer's degree of transparency; you set layer opacity through the Layer Style dialogue box
Tonal range	The range of brightness levels in an image from the darkest to the lightest
Stacking order	The arrangement of layers top to bottom in the layers panel
Resampling	Changing the total number of pixels in an image.
Layer Filters	A tool in the layers panel that allows the user to sort by kind of layer (for example, text layer, etc)
Composite Image	Image which was created from several separate images.