

# What is Photoshop?

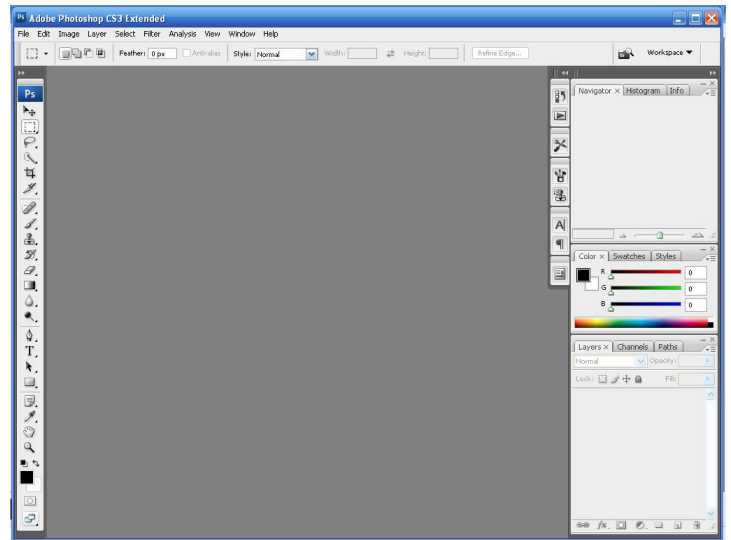
In the graphic design industry several tools are used to edit and create various types of media such as pictures, video, and animation. One of the most famous and widely used tools of the trade for editing images is Adobe Photoshop software. Through the growth and development of the software, the significance of the program and its impact on the design community has also grown.



Thomas Knoll created the first version of Photoshop in 1987 to display gray-scale images. These were images that had no color, just black, gray and white. He later turned it into a larger-scale program. In 1988 he demonstrated the program for Adobe. Adobe purchased the rights to Photoshop in the same year and Thomas Knoll continued to write code for the first official

release. In 1990, Adobe released Adobe Photoshop 1.0 exclusively for the Macintosh system.

In your class you are using Photoshop CC. this is an advanced version of the original Adobe Photoshop. It is software that has revolutionized the way that people take pictures and the way that these pictures are edited and published. The most recent version of Photoshop is CC 2020. It changes every year now since it's based on a subscription. Don't worry though; the changes between the versions are minor.



# Significance

Adobe Photoshop has grown into one of the most widely used photo editing programs in the graphic design industry. All major printers, designers and publishers work with file types exported by Photoshop. Due to its entire suite of products that work together, Photoshop has become an industry standard. Adobe Photoshop and the digital camera revolution grew at the same time. Photoshop is the premiere photo editing software. It is extremely rare to find a magazine or newspaper publication room without this software.

The program has become so synonymous with editing and creating effects that the term, "to Photoshop" has become a verb that means to enhance or alter an image.



We can “Photoshop in” new outfits, accessories or even people to a shot where it was just not possible before. So if you want a picture of you shaking hands with the president, you don’t have to go to Washington to get it, just “Photoshop” your image into the image of the president and it will look as real as if you had been there.

Similarly, we can “Photoshop” out things from a picture we don’t want to see there anymore. So if you have a physical flaw, it can be removed. You can even remove a distracting person from the background of the shot. The program is so sophisticated that these images are possible and you really cannot tell the alteration has been made.

Photoshop has become such a de facto standard for photo processing that if you are setting up a photography studio or business, a copy of the software is as necessary as Microsoft Word or PowerPoint.

You can create original artwork in Photoshop, or you can import images into the program from many sources, such as:

- Photographs from a digital camera.
- Commercial CDs of digital images.
- Scans of photographs, transparencies, negatives, graphics, or other documents.
- Captured video images from a web cam.
- Artwork created in drawing programs.



Original artwork made with Photoshop

## Function and benefits

Photoshop's primary use and function is a photograph and image editor. This means you can change pictures to make them look different. Photoshop supports a wide range of files in order to achieve this function. The software allows a designer to alter a photo and touch up images either fully created digitally or taken with a camera.

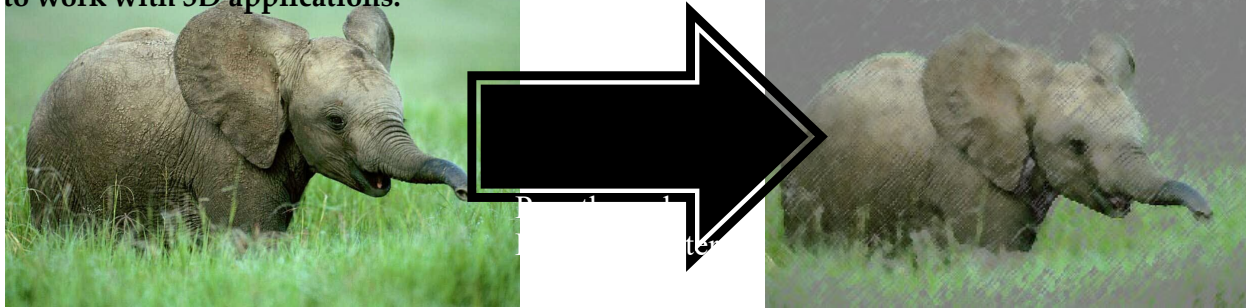
Although Adobe has other programs---like InDesign---to do desktop publishing, Adobe Photoshop is likewise capable of creating magazines and books.



Oprah uses Photoshop for her magazine

# Features

Photoshop is integrated into Adobe's suite of media software to increase the power of all programs within the suite. This allows items to be transferred between programs quickly and efficiently. Other Adobe programs include: Adobe Illustrator, Dreamweaver, InDesign or Acrobat. In addition to the built-in integration with other Adobe software, Photoshop has many pre-built tools to help a designer achieve a needed or wanted effect. These tools are known as filters and are powerful enough to allow a designer to change the appearance of a photo by adjusting filter settings that alter the appearance of each filter. Newer versions of Photoshop have introduced tools to work with 3D applications.



By using Photoshop, designers ensure that they are following a design standard and also ensuring that the formats they create with their artwork will adhere to the various needs of the many facets of the design industry. Photoshop supports many file types and can edit any image that it can open. Photoshop gives the benefit of years of development and hundreds of tools to aid a designer.

## Review Question

Answer in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper:

1. What is one of the most famous and widely used tools of the trade for editing images?
2. Who developed Photoshop and for what purpose?
3. What does Photoshop do?
4. Which version of Photoshop does your classroom use?
5. Who uses Photoshop? What are three careers/jobs you know that might use Photoshop?
6. What does “to Photoshop” mean?
7. Give two examples of what you might use Photoshop for.
8. Where can you get images to import into Photoshop?
9. Look at the numbered pictures in the reading, how was Photoshop used in those pictures?
10. What are other Adobe software available that can interact with Photoshop?
11. Why do designers use Photoshop?