

Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part I: Element-ary School</i>	9
Chapter 1: Braving the Elements	11
Chapter 2: Dissecting Your Desktop	23
Chapter 3: “Open!” Says Me	37
Chapter 4: Pixels: It’s Hip to Be Square	55
Chapter 5: Over (and Under) the Rainbow	75
<i>Part II: Be Prepared</i>	91
Chapter 6: Get Organized (Before It Gets <i>You</i>)	93
Chapter 7: Saving with Grace	121
Chapter 8: It’s Perfect. No, Wait! Okay, Print.	139
Chapter 9: Making Selections on the Pixel Prairie	153
Chapter 10: Fifty Ways to Love Your Layer	179
<i>Part III: Realer Than Life</i>	193
Chapter 11: The Midas Retouch	195
Chapter 12: Darkroom Déjà Vu	213
Chapter 13: The Rainbow Correction	231
<i>Part IV: Unreality Programming</i>	257
Chapter 14: Startling Style	259
Chapter 15: If a Picture Paints a Thousand Words . . . Then Shut Up and Paint ...	277
Chapter 16: Painting with the Digital Stencil	303
Chapter 17: Type Righter	319
Chapter 18: Can Photoshop Elements Do <i>That?</i>	331
<i>Part V: The Part of Tens</i>	359
Chapter 19: Ten Shortcuts to Commit to Long-Term Memory	361
Chapter 20: Ten Reasons Why You Might Want to Upgrade to Photoshop Someday	367
<i>Index</i>	377

Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	1
About This Book	3
Conventions Used in This Book	4
What You're Not to Read	4
Foolish Assumptions	4
How This Book Is Organized	5
Part I: Element-ary School	5
Part II: Be Prepared	5
Part III: Realer Than Life	5
Part IV: Unreality Programming	5
Part V: The Part of Tens	6
Icons Used in This Book	6
Where to Go from Here	7
<i>Part 1: Element-ary School</i>	9
Chapter 1: Braving the Elements	11
The Bland but Benevolent Dr. Jekyll	12
The Dynamic but Dastardly Mr. Hyde	13
The Two Elements of Photoshop Elements	13
Painting without the mess	14
Editing existing image detail	15
Psychiatric Help: The Doctor Is Built In	17
The Welcome screen	17
Adobe Help	19
The How To palette	20
Chapter 2: Dissecting Your Desktop	23
Giving Elements the Electronic Breath of Life	23
Working with Windows	26
Switching between Elements and Macintosh Finder	27
Maneuvering through Menus	28
Talking Back to Dialog Boxes	30
Playing Around with Palettes	32
Opening Your Toolbox	34
The Photo Bin	36



Chapter 3: “Open!” Says Me	37
Don’t Just Sit There — Open Something!	37
Opening with the File Browser	38
Opening the ordinary way	41
Creating an image	43
Behold the Image Window	43
The Screen Is Your Digital Oyster	45
Using the hand tool	46
Using keyboard shortcuts	47
Zooming in and out on your work	47
Navigating by palette	50
Tools for the Terribly Precise	52
Switching on the rulers	52
Turning on the grid	53
Information, please	53
Chapter 4: Pixels: It’s Hip to Be Square	55
Welcome to Pixeltown	55
Screen Pixels versus Image Pixels	56
Image Size, Resolution, and Other Tricky Pixel Stuff	58
Resolving resolution	59
Changing pixel dimensions	61
Changing the physical dimensions of the image	63
Keeping things proportionate	64
Using the Image Size dialog box safely	64
What Does This Canvas Size Command Do?	66
Trimming Excess Gunk Off the Edges	68
The sharp edges of the crop tool	68
More good news about cropping	71
The Divide Scanned Photos command	72
Image Gymnastics	73
Chapter 5: Over (and Under) the Rainbow	75
Looking at Color in a Whole New Light	76
Managing Photoshop Elements Color	78
Gimme good gamma	79
Choosing your color settings	81
Choosing Color the Mix-and-Match Way	82
Juggling foreground and background colors	82
Defining colors	83
Going Grayscale	88
The road to grayscale	89
A few more tips in black and white	90

Part II: Be Prepared 91**Chapter 6: Get Organized (Before It Gets You) 93**

Getting Photos into Organizer	95
Importing existing photos	96
Scanning photos	99
Organizing your cell phone photos	99
Getting photos from an online sharing service	100
Organizing Photos	100
Correcting the date	100
Tags — you're it	102
Collections	105
Stacks and version sets	105
Captions and notes	106
Viewing and Finding Photos	107
Reviewing and comparing photos	108
Searching by date	111
Searching by tags and collections	113
Searching by caption or note	114
Searching by filename	114
Searching by history	114
Searching by media type	115
Searching by the rest	115
Editing Your Photos	115
Backing It All Up	117
Backing up your catalog	118
Making copies or moving files	118
Printing Your Photos	119

Chapter 7: Saving with Grace 121

Save an Image, Save a Life	121
Saving for the very first time	122
Joining the frequent-saver program	124
The Elemental Guide to File Formats	125
What is a file format, anyway?	125
TIFF: The great communicator	125
Photoshop PDF: The can-do kid	127
BMP: The wallpaper glue for PC users	127
What about Elements' native Photoshop format?	128
What format to use when	128
Saving for the Web	129
Hey — what about PNG?	129
The Save for Web command	130
JPEG: The best choice for photos	131
GIF: The choice of choosy Web designers	133
The Preview menu	136
File Association Manager	137
Good Night, Image — and Don't Let the Programming Bugs Bite	138

Chapter 8: It's Perfect. No, Wait! Okay, Print.	139
Time Traveling	140
Exploring the Undo History palette in nine easy steps	140
Travel restrictions	142
The Undo History palette	142
Abandoning Edits en Masse	144
The Command Formerly (and Currently) Known as Print	144
This May Be All You Need to Know about Printing	145
Choosing a Printer in Windows	146
Choosing a Printer on a Mac	147
Getting Image and Paper in Sync	147
Sending the Image to the Printer	150
Chapter 9: Making Selections on the Pixel Prairie	153
Learning the Ropes of Selecting	154
Throwing lassos	156
Using the marquee tools	161
Wielding the wand	163
Greatness with a brush	166
Selecting everything	167
Deselecting everything	168
Saving and Loading Selections	168
Hiding the Ants	169
Editing Selections	170
Adding to and subtracting from a selection	170
Intersecting a selection with a selection	171
Avoiding keyboard collisions	173
Automatic selection shifters	174
Chapter 10: Fifty Ways to Love Your Layer	179
Pasting Images Together	180
Filling a selection with a selection	181
Resizing an image to match its new home	181
Excuse Me, but What's a Layer?	183
Finding your way around the Layers palette	184
Moving and manipulating layers	186
Flattening and merging layers	187
Locking Layers	188
Moving and Cloning Selections	188
Transforming Layers and Selections	190
Using the Image menu's commands	190
Using the transform tool	191
Ending your transformation	192

Part III: Realer Than Life 193**Chapter 11: The Midas Retouch 195**

Introducing Filters	196
Applying filters	197
A few fast filter facts	198
Dialog box filters	198
Previewing the filter effects	199
The Filter Gallery	201
Experimenting with the Highly Ethical Clone Stamp Tool	203
Stamping out splatters	203
Performing more magic with the clone stamp tool	205
Performing Miracles with the Healing Brushes	208
The healing brush	208
The spot healing brush	210
Getting the Red Out	210

Chapter 12: Darkroom Déjà Vu 213

Getting a Quick Fix for Your Image	214
Touching Base with Retouching Tools	215
Smudging Away Imperfections	217
Light on the smudge, please	217
Smudge-specific controls	218
Dodge? Burn? Those Are Opposites?	219
Playing with the Color Knob	221
Focusing from the Hip	222
Sharpening Those Wishy-Washy Details	223
The single-shot sharpeners	224
Unsharp Mask: The filter with the weird name	225
Some sharpening scenarios	227
Blurring Adds Depth	229

Chapter 13: The Rainbow Correction 231

Color-Correcting Quickly	232
Auto Levels	232
Further image enhancements	234
Replacing Colors	237
The Replace Color command	237
The color replacement tool	239
Fiddling with Adjustment Layers	240
Using adjustment and fill layers	240
The Photo Filters	244

Color-Correcting Correctly	244
Leveling the Contrast Field	245
Making friends with the Levels dialog box	245
The Histogram palette	247
Brightness and contrast as they should be	247
Variations on a Color Scheme	251
Turning plain old color into Technicolor	251
Casting away bad colors	253
Color Correcting in the Raw	254

***Part IV: Unreality Programming*257**

Chapter 14: Startling Style259

Using Layer Styles to Shine and Shadow	260
Tending Your Many Splendid Blends	264
Fooling with layer opacity	265
Playing around with blending modes	266
Those Funky Filters	267
Creating motion and puzzle pieces	268
Giving your images that gritty, streetwise look	269
Stamping your image in metal	270
Merging colors in flaky images	271
Making Taffy with the Liquify Filter	273

Chapter 15: If a Picture Paints a Thousand Words . . .

Then Shut Up and Paint277

Doodling with the Pencil and Brush	278
Performing Special Painting-Tool Tricks	281
Choosing Your Brush	282
Switching the brush size	282
Exploring the other brush sets	283
Making your own brush	284
Saving brushes	287
Going nuts with the brushes palette	287
Exploring More Painting Options	288
Experimenting with painting modes	289
“Painting” with the impressionist brush	291
The Powers of the Eraser	292
Working with the regular ol’ eraser tool	292
Trying out the somewhat magic eraser	293
Using the more magical background eraser	295
Isn’t Elements Just a Paint Program?	297
The shape tools	297
The shape selection tool	300
The cookie cutter tool	300

Chapter 16: Painting with the Digital Stencil303

Painting within the Lines303
 Dribbling Paint from a Bucket305
 Applying Color to Selection Innards306
 Doctoring the Fill307
 Selecting your stuffing307
 Mixing colors the wrong way308
 Gradients: The Ever-Changing Color Sea309
 Checking out the gradient tool309
 Changing the way of the gradient310
 Becoming a gradient wizard313
 Taking on Borders with the Stroke Dialog Box316
 How the border rides the track317
 Mix your stroke after you press Enter (or Return)318

Chapter 17: Type Righter319

Working with the Type Tools319
 Putting Your Words On-Screen321
 Typing what must be typed321
 Changing how the type looks322
 Warping type into strange and unusual shapes324
 Editing the Text Layer325
 Simplifying a Text Layer326
 Declaring Open Season on Type Selection Outlines327

Chapter 18: Can Photoshop Elements Do *That*?331

Taking on the Effects332
 Processing Multiple Files334
 Converting a Multipage PDF File336
 Creating an Animated GIF337
 Creating Panoramic Pictures with Photomerge339
 Attaching a File to E-Mail343
 Projecting a Slide Show345
 Creating a PDF slide show345
 Creating a custom slide show in Windows347
 Creating and Printing a Contact Sheet349
 Creating and Printing a Picture Package352
 Creating a Web Photo Gallery355

Part V: The Part of Tens359

Chapter 19: Ten Shortcuts to Commit to Long-Term Memory361

Hiding Selection Outlines362
 Displaying and Hiding the Palette Bin362
 Changing an Option Box Value362

Scrolling and Zooming	362
Changing the Brush Size	363
Creating Straight Lines	363
Adding to, Subtracting from, and Reselecting Selection Outlines	364
Moving, Nudging, and Cloning	365
Filling a Selection	366
Stepping through the Undo History Palette	366

**Chapter 20: Ten Reasons Why You Might Want to Upgrade
to Photoshop Someday367**

The Layer Comps Palette	368
The Channels Palette	368
CMYK Color Mode	369
The Brushes Palette	370
Following the Paths	370
Eyeing Those Curves	371
Lights . . . Camera . . . Actions	372
Being an Art Historian	373
Photoshop Speaks!	374
A Little Help to Get Your ImageReady	375

***Index*.....377**