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VISUAL
QUICKSTART
GUIDE

ELAINE WEINMANN
PETER LOUREKAS

PHOTOSHOP FOR MACINTOSH

*Teach yourself Photoshop the
quick and easy way! This
Visual QuickStart Guide uses
pictures rather than lengthy
explanations. You'll be up
and running in no time!*



VISUAL QUICKSTART GUIDE

Photoshop 4

FOR MACINTOSH

Elaine Weinmann
Peter Lourekas

 **Peachpit Press**

Visual QuickStart Guide
Photoshop 4 for Macintosh
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Colophon

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Introduction

Photoshop 4.0 is not an earth-shaking upgrade, but, nevertheless, all the instructions needed revision and every dialog box and palette required reshooting for this edition (such is the life of computer book authors!). Also included in this new edition are scads of new keyboard shortcuts and a sprinkling of new features. Our favorite new feature is adjustment layers, which you can use to try out various color or tonal adjustments to underlying layers without having to make them permanent. We use adjustment layers so often, we honestly can't imagine Photoshop-ing without them.

And, to our great astonishment, we actually deleted or shortened some pages from the previous edition because many procedures have been streamlined and no longer require cumbersome work-arounds. When you create text in 4.0, for example, it automatically appears on its own layer—no more fiddling around with floating selections. It's as if the folks at Adobe spied on Photoshop power users and said, "Hmm, if we redesign this feature to work this way, people won't have to bother doing such-and-such, and they'll be much happier." Version 4.0 tries to do more with less. The streamlining process allowed us to sneak in oodles of new tips and suggestions, and new—and larger—illustrations (we couldn't resist). This book also includes a whole new and expanded color section, with imagery by real pros.

We've always encouraged our readers to be creative and to experiment with whatever application they're working in. We've resisted bogging down beginning Photoshoppers in the technical aspects of the program, especially since there are already so many humongous tomes in the marketplace that can be used as reference guides. These days, however, not only do you have to come up with a stunning visual concept and execute it with finesse—on a deadline—you must also navigate the image through other software applications and then shepherd it through the shark-infested waters of color separation, or get it onto the Web and make it look remotely like the dazzling image you started with (sound familiar?). So we've included more techy stuff in this edition, topics like getting Photoshop images onto the Web, and producing color separations. But this book is still light and thin enough to be called a Visual QuickStart Guide, stuff into a mini backpack, and leaf through without having to take your other hand off the mouse.

Whether you're a student learning Photoshop for the first time, or a seasoned freelance artist who uses our books as a "cheat sheet," you're certain to find something in this volume that will help you. Because what hasn't changed is our boil-it-down-to-the-essentials, haiku writing style and the fact that we think illustrations really do tell much of the story—certainly when it comes to computer graphics. In fact, this new and improved edition contains over a thousand images! Dive in.

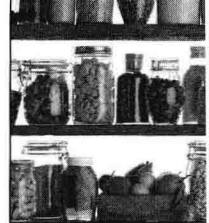


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THE BASICS 1



Hardware you'll need to run Photoshop

Photoshop will run on a Macintosh with a 68030 or higher processor, System 7.1 or later for a 680X0-based Mac (7.1.2 or later for a Power Mac), a hard disk with at least 25 megabytes of available space after loading Photoshop's 20MB of data, and at least 16 megabytes of RAM (random access memory) allocated to the application. You'll also need a CD-ROM drive to install the software (though a floppy disk version can be ordered). Photoshop will run reasonably well on a Quadra with 16 to 24 megabytes of RAM allocated to the application and a large hard disk with at least 50 megabytes of available space, but for optimal speed, we recommend a Power Mac with 32 megabytes or more of RAM allocated to the application and a large, fast-access hard drive (one gigabyte to four gigabyte, 8-11 ms). A Power Mac with a 604 or 604e CPU (a 7600, 8500, 9500 or newer PCI Power Mac) and a fast megahertz rate (150, 180, 200, 220 MHz or more) will provide the best performance. For those who need very fast processing, Photoshop 4 supports multi-processor Macs and Mac clones.

Photoshop requires a lot of RAM: about four times the size of the file! The number of layers, channels, and pixels in an image also impact on the amount of RAM required for processing and the amount of storage space an image occupies. To improve Photoshop's performance speed, try installing more RAM.

Color monitors display 8-bit, 16-bit, or 24-bit color, depending on the video card or Video RAM. With an 8-bit card, 256 colors are available for on-screen color mixing. With a 24-bit card, 16.7 million colors are available. A 24-bit card provides optimal



File size units

Byte = 8 bits of digital information
(approx. one black or white pixel, or one character)

Kilobyte (KB) = 1,024 bytes

Megabyte (MB) = 1,024 kilobytes

Gigabyte (GB) = 1,024 megabytes