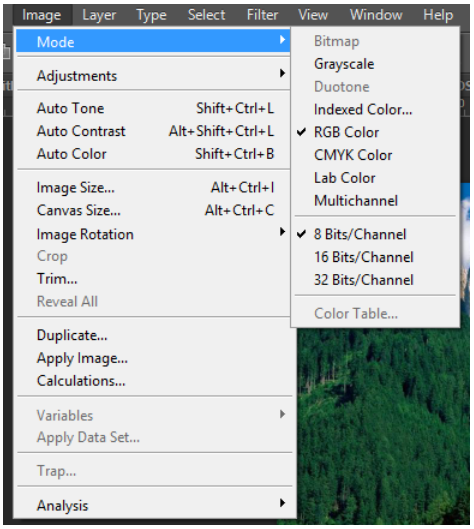
Lesson no. 11: Working with Image Menu

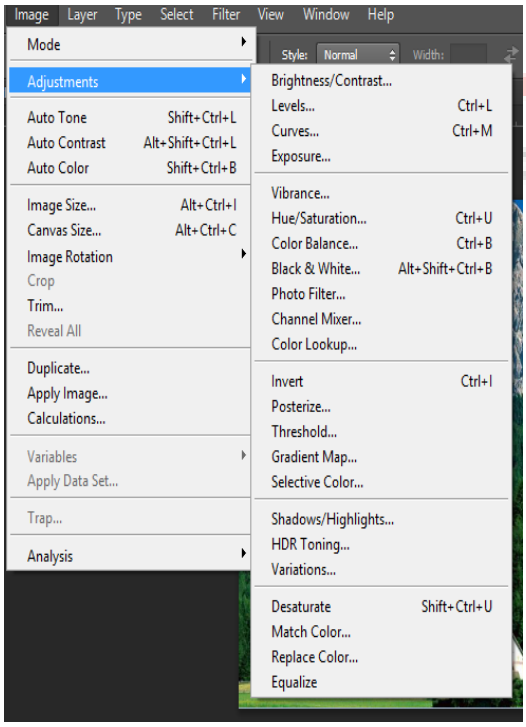
Image Menu



You use the Image menu most often when you want to effect changes to the entire image, such as changing a color mode or cropping, rotating, and resizing the image.

Image Adjustments:- Two ways to adjust image tone and color are to use adjustment layers or to edit in Adobe Camera Raw. Both offer a wide range of control and flexibility, without permanently altering or damaging the original image information. The integrity of your original images is preserved. This nondestructive editing gives you the flexibility to make further changes, start over with a different editing approach, or undo the adjustments even after you've saved the edits.

With adjustment layers, you apply edits on a separate layer in the image file, leaving the original image (background layer) intact. The easiest way to access the adjustment layer tools is clicking an icon in the Adjustments panel. You can add more than one adjustment layer for more complex image editing. You can also use a mask to apply the adjustment to a specific part of the image. For more information.



Adobe Camera Raw is a Photoshop plug-in for making color and tonal adjustments. In its editing window, there is a large preview image and the adjustment tools are laid out in the order that you would normally use them. Despite its name, Adobe Camera Raw can edit JPEGs and TIFFs in addition to camera raw files. If you want to apply the same adjustment to multiple images, you can save the settings as a preset and apply as needed.

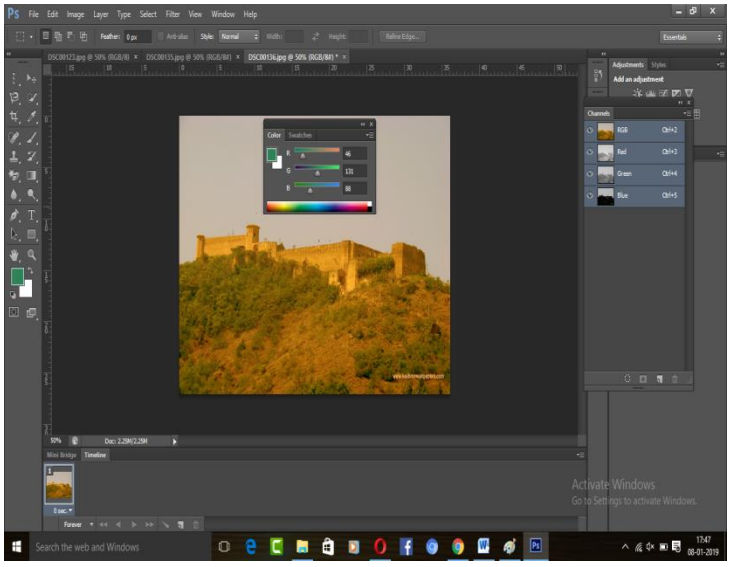
Auto Tone

The Auto Tone (⌘U [Mac] or Ctrl U [PC]) can work well on a great many images as a quick-fix tone adjustment . It automatically sets the Exposure, Contrast, Highlights, Shadows, Whites, and Blacks. Note that you can also use Shift plus a double-click to apply an auto setting to these sliders independently. From there you can adjust any of the Basic panel sliders to manually fine-tune an auto adjustment. An auto tone adjustment can be undone by double-clicking the Tone button next to Auto, or you can use the ⌘ Shift R [Mac] or Ctrl Shift R [PC] shortcut to reset everything.

Auto Contrast

As I mentioned earlier, the three Auto commands are entirely automatic, so as soon as we select one of them, Photoshop goes ahead and does its thing. In this case, since I chose the Auto Contrast command, Photoshop looked at all three color channels as a single composite image, darkened the darkest pixels to black, lightened the lightest pixels to white, and redistributed all the tonal values in between. The result, in this case, is a version of the image with greatly improved overall contrast. Here's the original image once again for comparison:

Auto Color



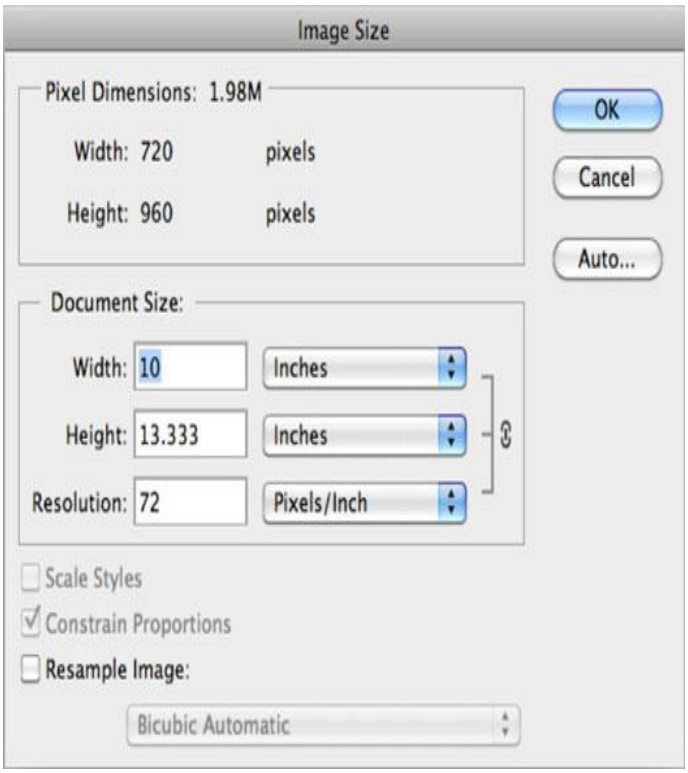
Finally, let's see what the Auto Color command will do for us. Click on the **Auto Color** layer in the Layers panel to select it, then click on its **visibility icon** to turn it back on. Again, since we haven't yet done anything to this version of the image, you'll see the original, uncorrected version in your document:

Image Size

Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6 is to manipulate images to what you need them to be, sometimes changing the size of the image. A time will come when you need to mess with the resolution or dimensions of an image. You may want to

- Change the file size.
- Make sure the resolution is appropriate for print.
- Adjust the dimensions so that they're just right for viewing onscreen.
- Change the width, height, and/or resolution of your image for printing or some other kind of output.

Photoshop — powerhouse that it is — allows you to size an image in all these ways with the Image Size command on the Image menu.



Canvas Size

There are multiple options for changing the size of your image in Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 6. You can resample or use the safer Canvas Size command.

You might be slightly paranoid, or at least ultra-conscious, of using the Image Size command. Well, you can relax because the Canvas Size command is as safe as can be. Unlike the Image Size command, which enlarges or reduces the dimensions or resolution of your image, the Canvas Size command merely changes the size of the *canvas,* or page, on which the image sits.
When you increase the size of the canvas, Photoshop fills the expanded area outside the image with your chosen color. Increasing your canvas size can come in handy if you're trying to add a frame or border around your image. If you make the canvas smaller, Photoshop *crops* (cuts away) the image.

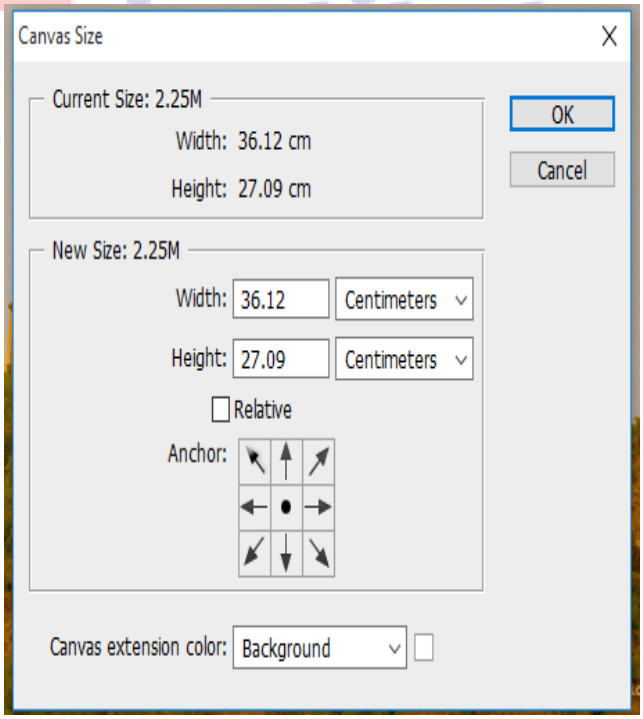
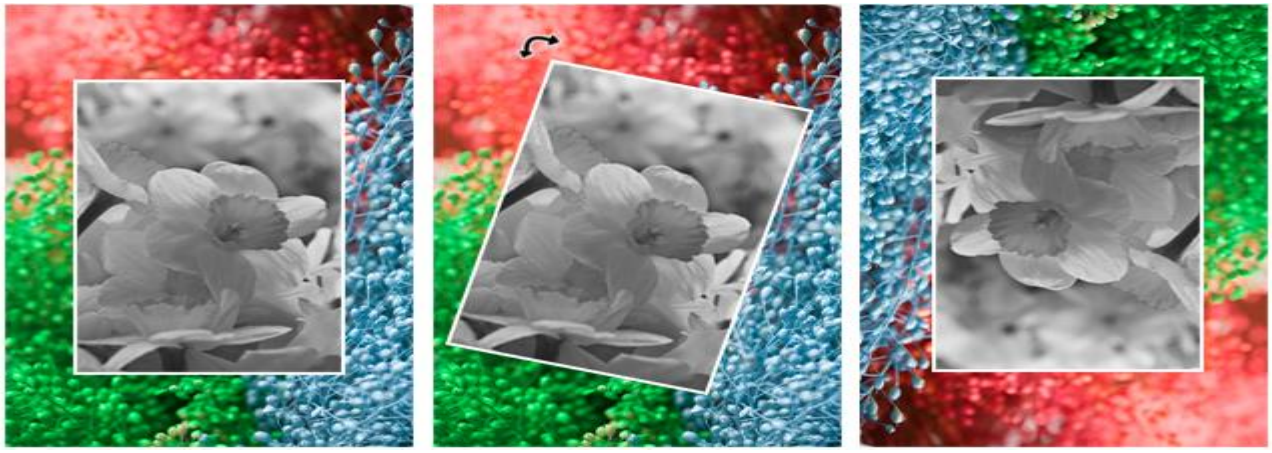


Image Rotation

To change the orientation of a selection, a layer, or an entire image (that is, the image canvas). For example, to make a vertically oriented image horizontal.



The original image (left) has two layers. In the center image, the top layer is rotated, while the background layer remains static. The image at right shows the canvas, and therefore all layers, rotated 180°.

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