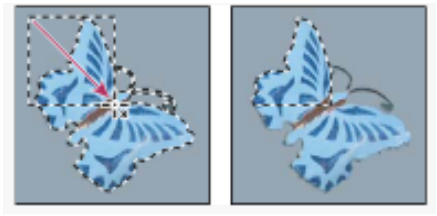
Lesson no. 3: Working with Tools

3. Lasso Tool



Lasso tool (L) : The Lasso tool is useful for drawing freeform segments of a selection border.

1. Select the Lasso tool , and set feathering and anti-aliasing in the options bar.

2. To add to, subtract from, or intersect with an existing selection, click the corresponding button in the options bar.

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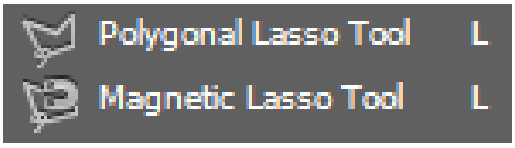
Polygonal Lasso tool (L) & **Magnetic lasso too (L)**

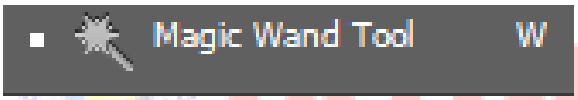


For a faster way to select the Lasso Tool, simply press the letter **L** on your keyboard. There are two other types of lasso tools as well - the **Polygonal Lasso Tool** and the **Magnetic Lasso Tool**, both of which are hiding behind the standard Lasso Tool in the Tools panel. We'll look at both of these tools in separate tutorials, but to access either of them, simply click and hold your mouse button down on the standard Lasso Tool until a small fly-out menu appears.

4. Quick Selection tool (A)

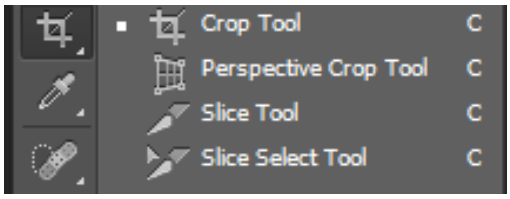
The Quick Selection Tool is somewhat similar to the Magic Wand in that it also selects pixels based on tone and color. But the Quick Selection Tool goes far beyond the Magic Wand's limited abilities by also looking for similar textures in the image, which makes it great at detecting edges of objects. And unlike the Magic Wand where we click on an area and hope for the best, the Quick Selection Tool works more like a brush, allowing us to select areas simply by "painting" over them!

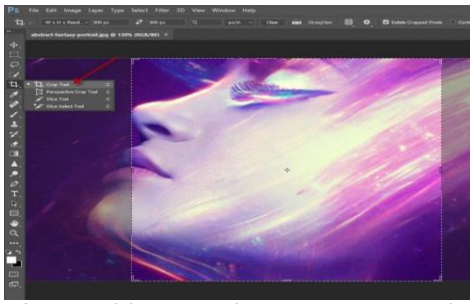
Magic Wand tool (A)



The **Magic Wand Tool**, known simply as the Magic Wand, is one of the oldest selection tools in Photoshop. Unlike other selection tools that select pixels in an image based on the Magic Wand selects pixels based on **tone and color**. Many people tend to get frustrated with the Magic Wand (giving it the unfortunate nickname "tragic wand") because it can sometimes seem like it's impossible to control which pixels the tool selects.

5. Crop Tool (A)

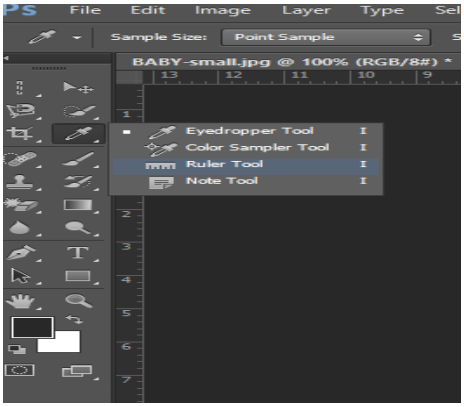




The cropping tool allows you to remove part of the image. It is located below the lasso tool. The default setting of the crop tool is to make a rectangular selection. You can, however, employ the election tool in cropping to create an image of any shape.

6. Eye Dropper tool (Y)

The **Eyedropper tool** (the icon in the Toolbar) is used to sample a color from an image to use this color further. It's practical as it facilitates color selection, for example, an appropriate color for the skin or the sky.



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