



Moving to Lightroom

Image processing and workflow

First Edition 2014 Published in the United States by Luminescence of Nature Press Colorado Springs, CO 80921

www.luminescentphoto.com

ISBN 978-1-4951-2197-5

Copyright © 2014 Jason P. Odell

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission by the publisher, with the exception that owners of this eBook are permitted have a single copy printed for personal use. I authorize single copies of this eBook to be printed by commercial printing services, including but not limited to: FedEx Office®, Office Depot®, and OfficeMax®.

All photos © Jason P. Odell unless otherwise indicated.

Trademarks

All terms in this book that are known to be trademarks or service marks have been appropriately capitalized.

Aperture, iTunes, iPad, and Macintosh are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc.

Nikon is a registered trademark of Nikon Corporation, Japan.

Canon is a registered trademark of Canon, Inc.

The Nik Collection and associated software are a registered trademarks of Google, Inc.

Photoshop, and Photoshop Lightroom are registered trademarks of Adobe Systems, Inc.

Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft, Corp.

Disclaimer

This book is not sponsored by Adobe Systems, Inc. It is intended to provide information about the Photoshop Lightroom software application. Every effort has been made to make the information contained in this book as reliable as possible, but no warranty of fitness is implied. The author and publisher shall not be responsible in any way for any damages or loss of data arising from the information contained in this book.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Richard Walker for his continued support and his willingness to share his knowledge with me as I made the transition to Lightroom. I would also like to acknowledge Deborah Sandidge for her creative insight and inspiration towards learning new techniques in the field and in the classroom.

This one goes to eleven.
-Nigel Tufnel

Contents

About this Book	X
Introduction	12
2: The Lightroom Paradigm	15
Catalogs vs. browsers	15
Editing capabilities	15
Lightroom FAQs	16
Where does Lightroom store my images?	16
Where is the Save button?	16
Why do my images look different when I import them into Li 16	ghtroom
Does Lightroom require sidecar files?	16
Is the Lightroom image editor only for raw files?	17
How do I get images out of Lightroom to share or edit elsew	here?17
Fundamental Lightroom workflow	18
Backing up your files	19

3: First Steps	20
Important tips that I learned the hard way	20
Housekeeping tasks	20
Image triage	21
Evaluating your image directory structure	21
Synchronizing color labels	22
Review your file naming strategy	24
Images in iPhoto or Aperture libraries	24
Extracting master images from iPhoto or Aperture	25
Exporting originals from Aperture	25
Referenced Aperture libraries	26
Importing Images	27
Importing your existing images	27
Raw images processed in other programs	27
Import dialog	28
File handling options	28
Drag and-drop import	30
Image handling options	30
Importing new images	32
Importing images directly from a camera or memory card	32

Using a third-party image transfer utility	33	File Management	46
Working with multiple catalogs	35	Lightroom as a file manager	46
Optimizing your catalog	35	Moving photos and folders	46
4: Viewing and Managing Photos	37	Deleting images	47
The Library Module	37	Locating missing images	47
Interface	37	Synchronizing folders	48
Center panel	37	Virtual tools for managing images	49
Left panel	39	Collections	49
Right panel	39	Virtual copies	51
Filmstrip	39	Stacking images	52
Toolbar	40	Working with Metadata	53
Identity Plate	40	A note about metadata applied in Lightroom	53
Toggling panels	40	Keyword tags	54
Viewing images	42	Keywording panel	54
Thumbnail Grid	42	Keyword List	54
Loupe view	43	Attributes	56
Comparing images	44	Example: Image triage using attributes	56
Lights out and full-screen modes	46	Additional metadata	57
		GPS coordinates and Maps Module	57

Applying metadata to multiple images	58	Initial Processing	68
Keyword tags	58	Camera calibration	68
Metadata presets	58	Color fine-tuning sliders	68
Copying metadata between images	59	Matching camera as-shot color settings	69
Filtering images	59	Lens corrections	69
Using the Left panel as the primary filter	60	Upright correction and auto-leveling	70
Filter presets	60	Chromatic aberration correction	71
Keyword searches	61	Adjusting Exposure, Contrast and Color	71
Viewing Photos Outside of Lightroom	61	Basic panel	71
Saving metadata to XMP sidecar files	61	Setting white balance	72
Working with DNG files	63	Tone adjustments	72
5: Adjusting Images	64	Presence controls	74
The Develop Module	64	Additive adjustments to contrast and color	75
Order of operation for adjustments	64	Tone curves	<i>75</i>
Adjustment panels	66	Refining colors: Adjustments panel	76
Toggle panel effects	66	Targeted adjustments	78
Resetting sliders and settings	66	Local Adjustments	79
Your friend, the Alt key	67	Adjustment Brush	79
		Pins	80
		Viewing selection masks	80

Brush parameters	81	Sharpening	93
Practice: Adjustment brush exercise	83	Sharpening controls	94
Creating local effects	83	Setting the sharpening sliders	95
Adjustment Brush presets	83	Suggested sharpening settings for DSLRs	96
Common uses for the Adjustment Brush	84	Local sharpening	96
Advanced options	86	Noise reduction	98
Gradients	86	Finding the right noise reduction settings	99
Linear gradient tool	86	Other Adjustments	100
Radial gradient tool	86	Cropping and straightening images	100
Visualizing gradient selections	87	Cropping	100
Common adjustments with the linear gradient	88	Split-toning	101
Advanced options with gradients	88	Effects panel	102
Other local adjustments	89	Post-crop vignetting	102
Moiré	89	Grain tool	104
Defringe	89	Develop Presets	105
Color	89	Creating presets	105
Spot removal	90	Updating presets	105
Red-Eye correction	92	Sharing presets	106
Sharpening and Noise Reduction	92	Shalling presets	100
Detail panel	92		
How much sharpening should you apply?	92		

Comparison Views	106	6: Beyond Lightroom: External Editors	113
Before/after comparisons	106	Using External Editors	113
History panel	107	Editing images with plug-ins	113
Snapshots	108	Editing images in Adobe Photoshop	115
Changing the Default Develop Settings	108	Editing rasterized images in Lightroom	116
Which settings should you update?	109	7: Processing Examples	117
Steps for updating default settings	109	Landscapes	118
Adjusting Multiple Images	110	•	
Copy/paste	110	Portraits	130
Synchronizing settings	111	Wildlife	142
Auto Sync	111	Grunge Effect	152
Paste previous settings	112	Processing for Photoshop and Plug-ins	160
Applying develop presets to multiple images	112	8: Sharing Photos	170
		Exporting Images	170
		Export dialog	170
		Best practices for exporting images	171
		Creating watermarks	172
		Output sharpening	172
		Creating export presets	172
		Sending images via email	174

Moving to Lightroom

Exporting images as a catalog	175	Metadata and Keyword Tags	194
Publish Services	177	Develop Module Shortcuts	194
Example: Publish for iPad	178	Slideshow Module Shortcuts	196
9: Printing Photos	180	Print Module Shortcuts	197
The Print Module	180	Web Module Shortcuts	198
Basic printing steps	180	Help Shortcuts	198
Print templates	182	Appendix II: Installing Custom Presets	199
Saved prints	184	Develop Presets	199
Color management	185	Brush Presets	200
Soft-proofing	186	About the Author	202
Sending your image to the printer	187		
Printing to a saved file	189		
Appendix I: Keyboard Shortcuts	190		
Panel Presets	190		
Navigating Lightroom Modules	190		
Views and Screen Modes	190		
Using Secondary Windows	191		
Managing Photos & Catalogs	191		
Comparing Images in the Library Module	192		
Rating and Filtering Images	193		

About this Book

Nomenclature

I have chosen to describe keyboard shortcuts in the text using the traditional Windows nomenclature. The Control (Ctrl) key maps to the Command (Cmd) key on Macintosh computer keyboards. The Alt key maps to the Option key on Macintosh keyboards. A full list of keyboard shortcuts for both Mac OS and Windows is listed in Appendix II.

Interactive Content

I've incorporated "live" hyperlinks in this book, which are visible in **bold blue text**. Clicking these links will take you either to a page in this book, or to a website on the Internet. This added level of interaction is something I hope makes this book easy to use. The Table of Contents and Index are also hyperlinked; click a page number to be taken directly to that page.

Can you print this book?

In the copyright notice of this book, I've indicated that you, as an owner of this book, are entitled to make a printed copy for personal use. I recommend using a print service instead of an inkjet printer, but the choice is up to you. Should a commercial print service deny you a printed copy due to copyright issues, refer them to the copyright page in this book. I've deliberately made the pages a size that will fit on either US Letter or A4 paper for printing. Because the pages in this PDF are protected, you will need to print directly from Adobe Reader to get the best results.

What if you lose the eBook?

Honestly, I'm not responsible for how you choose to back up your files. If you purchased this book as an electronic download, I strongly recommend making a back-up copy onto a CD-ROM or DVD. Treat this book just as you would any other book in your library. The author is not liable for hard drive failures!

System Requirements and Supplemental Files

This eBook is in Adobe PDF format, and requires Adobe Reader for proper viewing. Adobe Digital Editions is not supported. If you are having problems viewing the eBook, be sure to update to the latest version of Adobe Reader. This book is readable on Apple iPad and other eBook readers that support PDF viewing. However, I cannot guarantee the proper functionality of bookmarks and hyperlinks, as it will depend on your reader software.

Files included with this eBook

When you download your copy of *Moving to Lightroom*, you will find the following files/folders:

- Moving_to_Lightroom.pdf (eBook PDF file)
- *Custom Presets* folder (Folder of custom Lightroom develop and brush presets; refer to Appendix 2 for installation instructions)
- iPad_installation.txt (instructions for copying to iPad)

I recommend extracting all of the folders from the parent ZIP archive and immediately backing them up to CD-ROM or DVD. The PDF file is the eBook itself. The *Read Me* file contains installation information and troubleshooting information. The *Custom Presets* folder contains the Lightroom presets that I've created.

Technical Support

If you are having difficulty viewing the PDF content, please first check that you are using the latest version of **Adobe Reader** and that you have unzipped the contents of the download folder. If that doesn't solve your issue, please email **support@luminescentphoto.com**

If you are having problems with installing or operating the Adobe Photoshop Lightroom application, please contact Adobe Support.