

Creative image manipulation using Serif PhotoPlus

Practical workbook

Aims and Learning Objectives

This document aims to introduce the basics of image processing using Serif PhotoPlus.

When you have completed these exercises, you should be able to:

- make selections using a variety of tools
- adjust the hue and saturation of colours within an image
- retouch a damaged photograph
- blend images to create a seamless montage
- add and edit text

Document information

Course files

This document and all its associated practice files are available on the web. To find these, go to www.bristol.ac.uk/is/learning/resources and in the **Keyword** box, type the document code given in brackets at the top of this page.

Related documentation

Other related documents are available from the web at:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/is/learning/resources>



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Creative image manipulation using Serif PhotoPlus (Jan 11)

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Introduction

This course is for people who want to learn a selection of creative image manipulation techniques. The software used is Serif PhotoPlus, for which the University has a site licence. The skills are, however, transferable to other image editing software packages such as Photoshop.

Prerequisites

This document assumes that you are familiar with the use of a computer keyboard and mouse, Microsoft Windows-based products and the use of a Web browser such as Mozilla Firefox or Internet Explorer.

Task 1 Using the Standard Selection Tool

Objectives To “frame” a selection with a clear geometrical shape, you can use either the **Rectangle** or **Ellipse Selection Tool**.

Comments Selecting parts of an image is an essential skill in PhotoPlus. It is often the starting point for further manipulations, such as combining images together and applying filters/effects or making tonal adjustments to part rather than all of the image/layer you are working on.

1.1 Select part of an image with the **Selection Tool**:

- Open the photograph **C:\Training\Graphics\manneken_pis.jpg** and duplicate it (**Image / Duplicate**), accepting the suggested name.
- In the **Tools toolbar**, click the dropdown arrowhead to the right of the **Selection Tool** and select the **Elliptical Selection Tool** (see Figure 1).

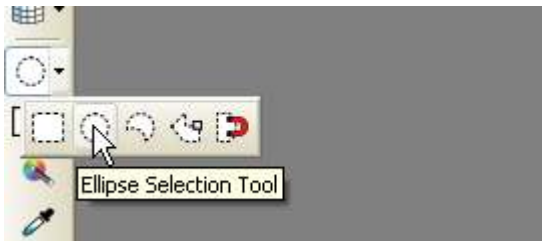


Figure 1 - Choosing the Ellipse Selection Tool

Note A dropdown arrowhead in the **Tools toolbar** denotes the bundling of two or more related tools. Click the arrow head to expand options.

- Make sure the New Selection option is set in the **Context Toolbar** (see Figure 2).

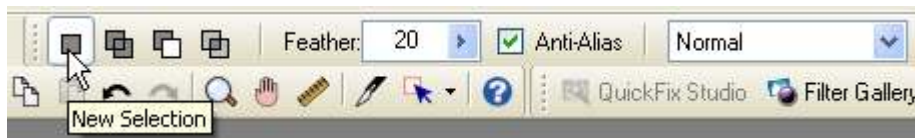


Figure 2 - Context Toolbar for the Standard Selection tool

- Select an area of the image (for example the head of the statue) by holding down the left mouse button and dragging.

TIP: Hold down the **<Ctrl>** key as you draw your marquee, to obtain a circular or square shape, rather than an elliptical or rectangular shape.

- Reposition your selection if necessary by clicking inside it and dragging to a new position.
- Deselect the selection by holding down **<Ctrl>** and clicking the **d** key

1.2 Use your final selection to create an image that blends into the background colour.

- Deselect your current selection
- Set feathering to 20px (see Figure 2).

Note Feathering creates a soft edged border around the selection that blends gradually into the background.

- Select the **Background Color** icon located in the **Color Tab**, located towards the top right of the screen (see Figure 3), to launch the **Adjust Color** palette (Figure 4).

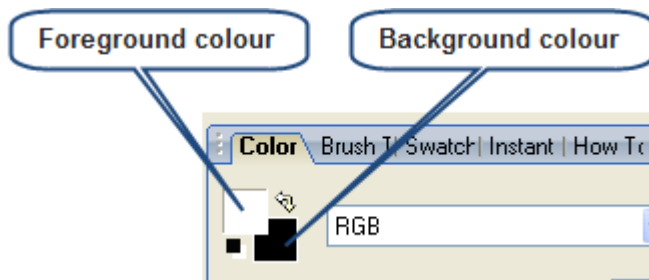


Figure 3- The Color Tab

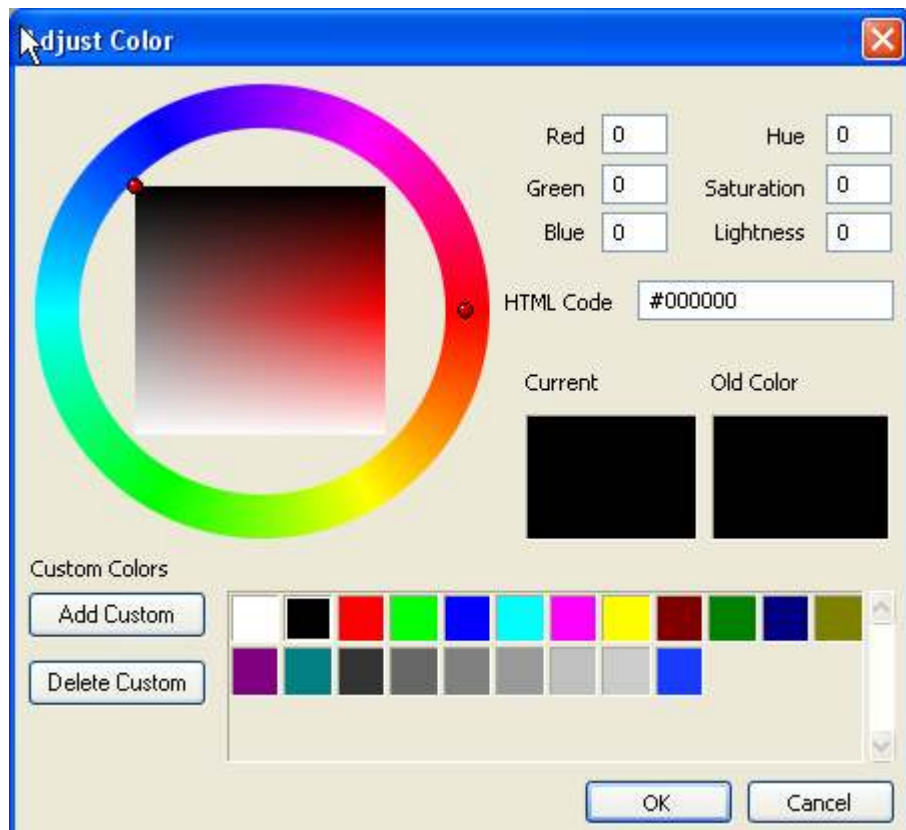


Figure 4 – The Adjust Color palette

- Choose a colour, using the outer wheel or custom colours selection to set the hue, and the inner rectangle to set the lightness and saturation.
- Go to the **Select** menu option and choose **Invert**. This will inverse the selection so that the area outside your selection becomes selected (note the marquee around the edges of the image).
- Go to the **Edit** menu option and choose **Cut**. You should be left with a cut-out of the statue blending smoothly into your chosen background colour.
- Close the images without saving.

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