

# Image Adjustment Tools

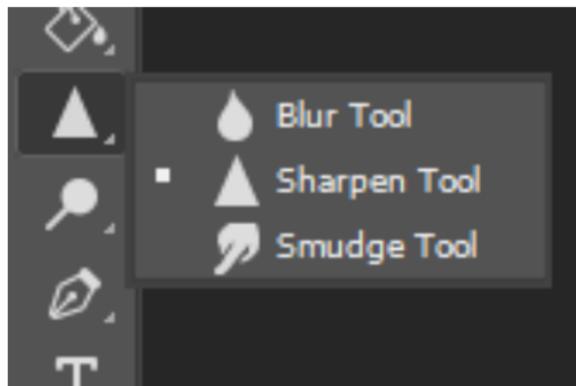
Mendocino College - Digital Image Manipulation with  
Photoshop



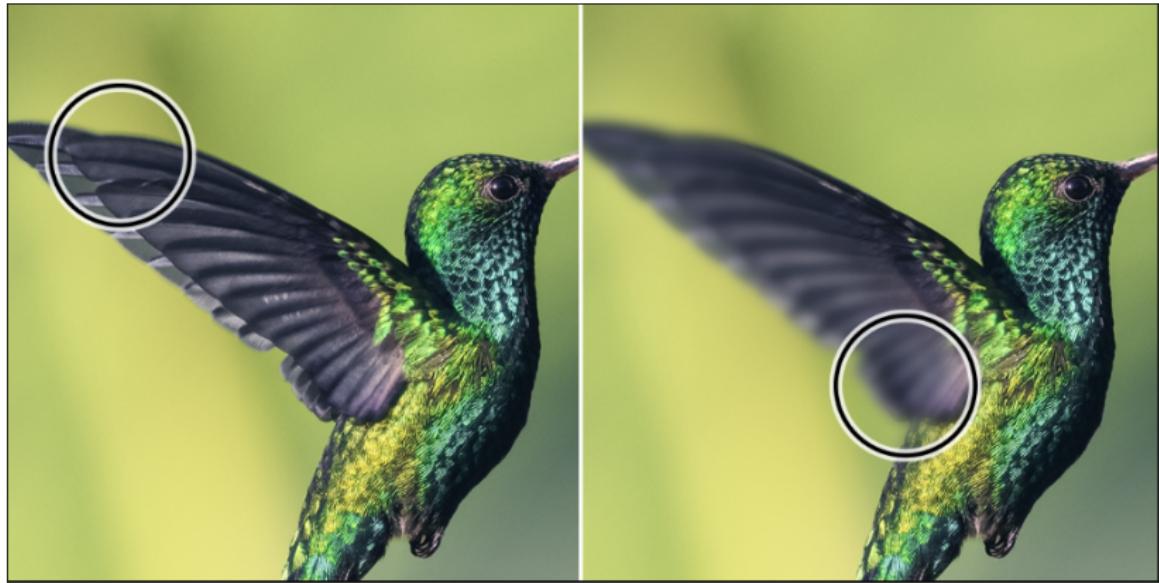
Adobe Photoshop CC

# Blur Tool

- The Blur tool softens hard edges or reduces detail in an image.
- It allows you to paint the blur effect on specific areas of an image.
- The more you paint over an area with the tool, the blurrier it becomes.
- Select the Blur tool, and drag over the part of the image you want to blur.



# Blur Tool Example



# Sharpen Tool

- The Sharpen tool increases contrast along edges to increase apparent sharpness.
- It allows you to paint the sharpen effect on specific areas of an image.
- The more you paint over an area with the tool, the more sharpening increases.
- Select Protect Detail to enhance details and minimize pixelated artifacts.
  - Deselect this option if you want to produce more exaggerated sharpening effects.

# Sharpen Tool Example



*Right: Image before Sharpening, Left: Image after Sharpening*



# Smudge Tool

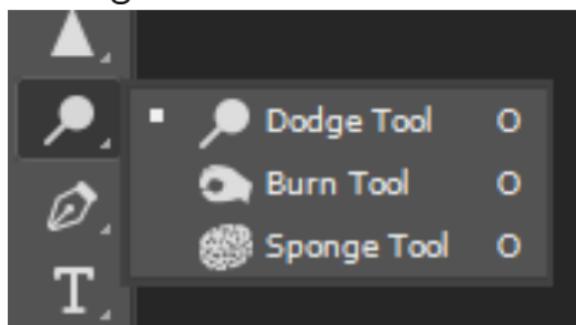
- The Smudge Tool smooths and blends colors.
- It simulates the effect of dragging a finger through wet paint.
- The tool picks up color where the stroke begins and pushes it in the direction you drag.
- Select Finger Painting in the options bar to smudge using the foreground color at the beginning of each stroke.
  - Deselect Finger Painting to use the color under the pointer at the beginning of each stroke.
  - Press Alt (Windows) or Option (Mac OS) as you drag with the Smudge tool to use the Finger Painting option.
  - Deselect this option if you want to produce more exaggerated sharpening effects.

# Smudge Tool Example



# Dodge Tool

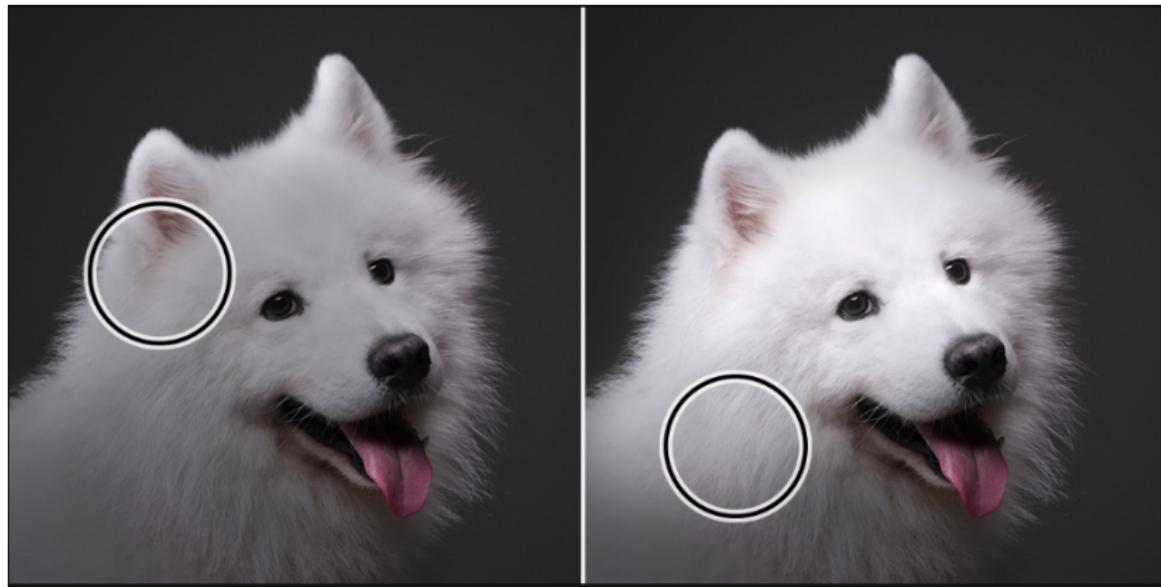
- The Dodge tool allows you to lighten specific areas of your image without affecting hue or saturation.
- These tools are based on a traditional darkroom technique for regulating exposure on specific areas of a print.
- Photographers hold back light to lighten an area on the print (dodging) or increase the exposure to darken areas on a print (burning).
- The more you paint over an area with the Dodge tool, the lighter it becomes.



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## Dodge Tool Example



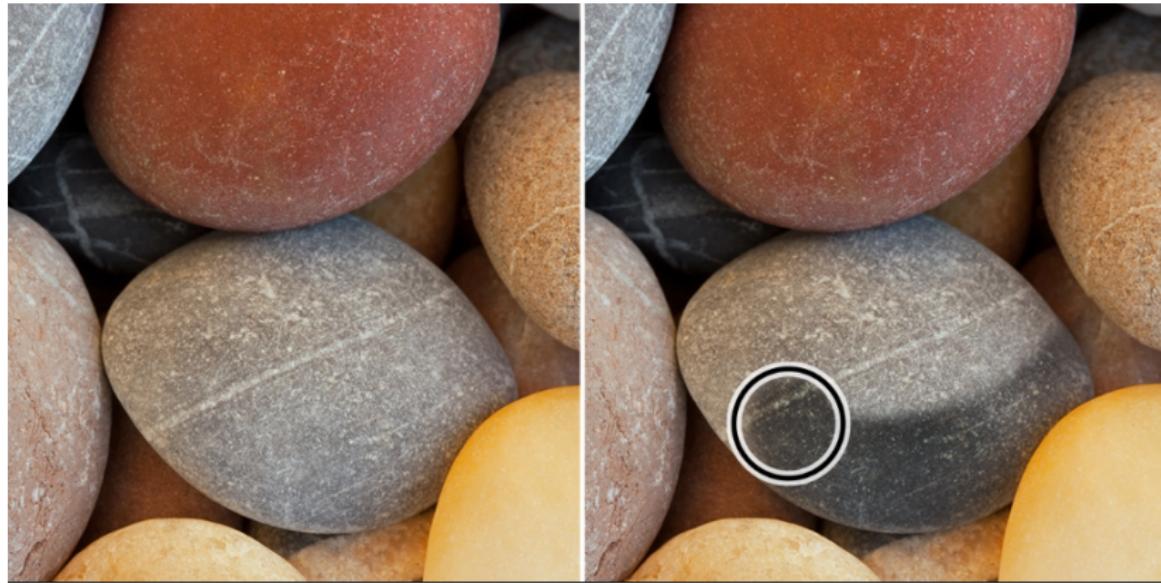
# Burn Tool

- The Burn tool selectively darkens an area in your image.
- The options bar has the following options:
  - Midtones - Changes the middle range of grays
  - Shadows - Changes the dark areas
  - Highlights - Changes the light areas
  - Exposure - Sets the amount of light for the stroke.
  - Airbrush - Switches between Brush and Airbrush.
  - Protect Tones - Minimize clipping in the shadows and highlights. It also tries to keep colors from shifting hue.

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## Burn Tool Example



# Sponge Tool

- Use the Sponge tool to change color saturation of areas in an image.
- The Sponge tool subtly changes the color saturation of an area.
- When an image is in Grayscale mode, the tool increases or decreases contrast by moving gray levels away from or toward the middle gray.
- The options bar has the following options:
  - Brush tip and set brush options.
  - Mode -
    - Saturate: Intensifies the color's saturation.
    - Desaturate: Dilutes the color's saturation.
  - Flow - sets the rate of saturation change.
  - Vibrance - to minimize clipping for fully saturated or desaturated colors.

## Sponge Tool Example



## Destructive Edits

- Applying these tools permanently alters the image information.
- It is recommended to always work using nondestructive edits.
- To edit your images nondestructively, work on a duplicate layer.

