1. PPI vs DPI

PPI and DPI are both measures of resolution. PPI stands for pixels per inch, and is a screen measurement of the number of pixels (individual squares of color that comprise an image) per square inch. DPI on the other hand stands for dots per inch, and is used more commonly in printing, where printers print dots of different color to comprise an entire image. While the initial distinction of these terms came from screen vs. print, they are often used interchangeably

1. JPEG

JPEG is named for the organization that created it, Joint Photographic Expert Group and is an image compression format. This format is “lossy” or loses data, which can lead to degradation of quality when saving multiple times. Because the compression in JPEGs make the files smaller than other file formats, JPEGs are widely used on the internet for fast loading because of small file size.

1. TIFF

TIFF stands for Tagged Image File Format and is a “lossless” file format, meaning that it does not lose data when saving. Because of it’s high quality, it is often used for high quality graphics in the photography, print, and graphic arts industries.

1. “lossy” vs “lossless”

“lossy” and “lossless” are terms used to describe file compression. Lossy formats are subject to lose data and often target small file size as a priority which means that less data is stored and quality can suffer. Lossless formats do not degrade image data and quality, but tend to be larger file formats in order to store more data. TIFF, GIF, etc. are examples of lossless data while JPEGs are an example of a lossy format.

1. PDF

Stands for Portable Document Format. Created by Adobe who offers readers across platforms, this file type was created to be “portable” or independent of individual hardware and software to be a universal standard. A PDF is an image of text/images that can be rendered consistently, independent of platform.

1. New file shortcut

Ctrl + N

1. “Save as” shortcut

Ctrl + shift + S

1. GIF

Graphical Interchange Format is another type of image format that is lossless. It does not lose data, but limits its support to 256 colors and supports fame-by-frame animation that can result in a flip-book-like video. However it does not support sound.

1. Define resolution

Resolution is the quality of an image. It can be measured in various ways such as PPI, DPI, image dimensions, etc. High resolution images are high quality and can render sharper images more similar to real life, where low resolution images often expose individual pixels/dots that compose the image and can lead to blurry or discolored images.

1. Shortcut to fill with foreground color

Shift + delete

1. Transform shortcut

Ctrl + T

1. Explain layer masking

Layer masking is used to edit images and compositions non-destructively. It allows selection of a particular part of an image independent of the entire image that can then be used for various uses within a composition.

To use this feature, you would select a tool like the magic wand or lasso tool to auto-select an area, then right click and “select and mask”, which will bring up the masking window. Within the window you can refine the selection by using the preset options like smooth and feature, or use a tool like the refine-edge tool to better refine the selection especially for hard-to select areas like fur or hair. Once the desired selection has been identified, it’s recommended to select “decontaminate colors” which will default the output to “new layer with layer mask” which creates a duplicate copy with the selection mask keeping with the non-destructive ideal.

1. Non-destructive vs destructive

Non-destructive practices are used to avoid direct manipulation of an image to preserve original content and quality. Examples of non-destructive tools and techniques include layers, masking, adjustments, etc. Converting an image to a smart object helps to preserve an original image despite alterations made to it. Destructive practices on the other hand, directly manipulate an image and directly impact the image such as when using the burn or dodge tool or painting directly on an image.

1. Clone stamp vs spot healing brush

To use both tools, a user would begin by selecting an area to sample. The clone stamp exactly copies the selected sample area, whereas the spot healing brush will blend the selected sample area colors with the localized areas colors where you are painting. The clone stamp tool is more ideal for edges where the spot healing brush is softer blend that samples all colors in the vicinity

1. CMYK or RGB
2. 4 blending modes

Dissolve, lighten, darken, pin light, soft light, color burn, linear burn

1. Zoom in and Zoom out shortcuts

Ctrl + ‘+’ // Ctrl + ‘-‘

1. Importance of Layers

Layers are important because they promote non-destructive alterations of an image in photoshop. They function as different canvases that lay atop one another and tools can have awareness of colors and images across layers allowing for editing and sampling without directly editing images in a destructive way. Additionally they allow organization with names and groups in order to better organize large and complex compositions.

1. Adjustments

Adjustments are a suite of photo editing tools related to color and tone of an image. The suite of tools provided allow editing of things like hue, saturation, brightness, contrast, etc. These adjustments can be made to an entire composition or clipped to a specific layer and are separate from a layer and so are non-destructive.

1. 5 palette options

History, swatches, properties, paths, channels, layers, brush, brush presets

1. Marquee tool

Allows for regular selection of a particular area. Various default options are available including rectangle, ellipse, and individual line/row of pixels. Holding down shift can make these selections a regular size, so in the case of the rectangular marquee can select a square or a circle in the case of the ellipse.

1. Lasso vs polygon vs magnetic

Lasso is freeform selection that follows your cursor exactly, where polygon tool will create lines between selected points. Magnetic tool will snap to an area as best it can identify.

1. Photoshop designed to do?

Edit photos and create compositions

1. 3 Layer effects

Drop shadow, bevel and emboss, inner glow, outer glow, gradient overlay