How to Deselect in Photoshop

by Andrew Tennyson

Photoshop has a number of tools designed to allow you to select objects, including the Polygonal Lasso, Magic Wand and Rectangular Marquee tools. Each of these tools is easily accessible via the main Photoshop toolbar. How to deselect objects is somewhat less obvious. You can deselect objects by clicking menu items with your mouse or by using key combinations on your computer's keyboard.

With Your Mouse

1.

Click the window containing the selection you'd like to deselect to ensure it's active. Selected objects are surrounded in dotted or dashed lines.

2.

Click "Select" on the main Photoshop menu. A drop-down menu appears.

3.

Click "Deselect" on the drop-down menu. All active selection areas are deactivated.

With Your Keyboard

1.

Click the window containing the active selection you want to deselect.

2.

Press and hold the "Control" key on your keyboard.

3.

Press the "D" key on your keyboard while continuing to hold down the "Control" key. All active selection areas are deselected.

🟩 **Tip**

On a Mac, use the "Command" key rather than the "Control" key when performing deselection procedures using your keyboard.

▮ Warning

If you accidentally deselect something, reselect it by clicking "Select" on the main Photoshop menu and then clicking "Reselect" from the drop-down menu that appears.

How to work well in a team

References (1)

- Adobe: Select, Deselect and Reselect Pixels

About the Author

Andrew Tennyson has been writing about culture, technology, health and a variety of other subjects since 2003. He has been published in The Gazette, DTR and ZCom. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in history and a Master of Fine Arts in writing.

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