



Nik Software

# Silver Efex Pro<sup>TM</sup>

User Guide



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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

Introduction to Silver Efex Pro™ and the User Guide



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## Introduction

Welcome to Silver Efex Pro, the most powerful tool for creating dynamic black and white images. Silver Efex Pro offers the traditional tools of the darkroom while utilizing the flexibility and precision offered with digital photography.

By combining unique algorithms, patented U Point technology, and a full range of black and white specific tools, Silver Efex Pro provides the power and precision for creating stunning digital black and white photographs.

## What's in the User Guide

In addition to providing installation instructions, the User Guide shows you how to access and apply the filter's effect to your images.

The typographical conventions used in this manual are:

- Silver Efex Pro processes and user interface components appear in Initial Caps, with first instances in **Bold Caps**. (In context-appropriate cases, later instances also appear in **Bold Caps**.)
- Specific control inputs appear in ***Bold Italic***. Control inputs can be menu items, buttons, or sliders. Where first instances coincide with specific control inputs, the term appears in ***Bold Italic***.



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## Chapter 2

# Installation

Installing and Accessing Silver Efex Pro™

## Installation

Silver Efex Pro™ is a plug-in for Adobe® Photoshop® and other Photoshop plug-in compatible applications, Adobe Photoshop Lightroom® and Apple® Aperture™. The installer provided with Silver Efex Pro automatically attempts to locate a copy of Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements, Adobe Photoshop Lightroom or Apple Aperture.

## Installing Silver Efex Pro and the Selective Tool

Before you install Silver Efex Pro, please close all applications including Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Photoshop Lightroom, Apple Aperture or other image editing applications that will serve as host for Silver Efex Pro. Please do not open any other applications during the installation process.

To begin installation:

Double-click on the installation file provided either on your Silver Efex Pro CD or downloaded from the Nik Software web site. A window appears displaying the Silver Efex Pro Setup Wizard.



After you have read the Read Me file and accepted the End User License Agreement, the installer prompts you for the plug-in location of your image editing application.

The installer attempts to locate the most recent installation of Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements, and if successful, displays the recommended folder. When installing into Adobe Photoshop Lightroom or Apple Aperture, the installer will automatically install into the appropriate location.



If the installer is unable to locate Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements, or if you are using an image editor other than Adobe Photoshop, you must specify the appropriate installation path.

For Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements, this location is the Plug-Ins folder located under the application's main folder. For example:

### Adobe Photoshop

Windows – C:\Program Files\Adobe\Adobe Photoshop\Plug-Ins

Macintosh – Macintosh HD : Applications : Adobe Photoshop : Plug-Ins

## Adobe Photoshop Elements

Windows – C:\Program Files\Adobe\Adobe Photoshop Elements\Plug-Ins

Macintosh – Macintosh HD : Applications : Adobe Photoshop Elements : Plug-Ins

Click **Browse...** to open the Browse for Folder window, and then navigate to the appropriate folder.

**Note:** For guidance on the location of Plug-Ins in applications other than Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements, please refer to your application's user manual.

After selecting the appropriate folder location, click **Install**. When the installation is complete, the final page of the installer appears.

If you want Silver Efex Pro to be automatically added to Lightroom's list of External Editors, leave the Add as External Editor for Lightroom box checked. The Add as External Editor for Lightroom option is only available if Lightroom is detected during installation. Instructions are provided within this chapter to manually add Silver Efex Pro as an external editor for Lightroom. (Please see .)

If you want the Selective Tool to open each time Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements launches, leave the **Open the Nik Selective Tool automatically** box checked. The Selective Tool lets you apply Silver Efex Pro by automating the layer systems in Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements. (Please see Selective Tool.)

Uncheck this box to prevent the Selective Tool from opening each time Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements launches. You can change this option within the Selective Tool settings interface. (Please see Selective Tool Settings.)

**Note:** The Selective Tool is available only with Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements serving as host for Silver Efex Pro.

Click **Finish** to complete the installation process.

## Accessing Silver Efex Pro and the Selective Tool in Adobe Photoshop

After completing the installation, launch your image editing application.

In Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements, Silver Efex Pro is accessed from the Filter menu. To begin using Silver Efex Pro in Photoshop or Photoshop Elements:

To begin using Silver Efex Pro:

1. Open the image that you would like to enhance.
2. Click the **Filter** menu.
3. Roll over the **Nik Software** sub-menu. A popup menu appears.
4. Select **Silver Efex Pro** from the popup.

The Silver Efex Pro interface appears, displaying the image specified in step 1 above.

You can access the Selective Tool by navigating to one of the following locations:

### Adobe Photoshop

File > Automate

### Adobe Photoshop Elements

File > Automation Tools

## Accessing Silver Efex Pro in Apple Aperture

In Apple Aperture, Silver Efex Pro is accessed from the Images menu.

To begin using Silver Efex Pro in Apple Aperture:

1. Highlight the image(s) that you wish to enhance with Silver Efex Pro.
2. Click the **Images** menu.
3. Roll over the **Edit With** sub-menu. A popup menu appears.
4. Select **Silver Efex Pro...** from the popup.

The Silver Efex Pro interface appears, displaying the image(s) specified in step 1 above.

## Adding Silver Efex Pro to Lightroom as an External Editor

If Lightroom is found during the installation of Silver Efex Pro for Lightroom, Silver Efex Pro can automatically be added as an external editor. Silver Efex Pro can also be manually added as an external editor providing easy access to edit your photos in Silver Efex Pro.

Follow the steps below to manually add Silver Efex Pro as an external editor.

1. Open the **Preferences** in Lightroom.
2. Click the **External Editing** tab.
3. In the Additional External Editor section select a desired File Format, Color Space, Bit Depth, Resolution, and Compression.

**Note:** *Silver Efex Pro is only compatible with TIFF files (8 or 16-bit, with no compression or LZW compression).*

4. Click on **Choose** to select an application. Navigate to the location of Silver Efex Pro.

On Windows, the default installation location for Silver Efex Pro will be:

C:\Program Files\Nik Software\Silver Efex Pro for Lightroom\

On Macintosh, the default installation location for Silver Efex Pro will be:

Macintosh HD : Applications : Nik Software : Silver Efex Pro for Lightroom

5. Select the **Silver Efex Pro** file and click **Choose**.
6. Under the **Preset** drop-down menu, select **Save Current Settings as New Preset...** and name the preset.

Silver Efex Pro can then be easily accessed under the **Photo** menu as a preset external editor.

## Accessing Silver Efex Pro in Lightroom

Once Silver Efex Pro is added to Lightroom as an external editor, Silver Efex Pro is accessed from the Photo menu.

To begin using Silver Efex Pro in Lightroom:

1. Highlight the image(s) that you wish to enhance with Silver Efex Pro.
2. Click the **Photo** menu.
3. Roll over the **Edit In** sub-menu. A popup menu appears.

4. Select **Silver Efex Pro** from the popup.
5. After selecting Silver Efex Pro, select whether to **Edit Original**, **Edit a Copy**, or **Edit Copy** with **Lightroom Adjustments**.

**Note:** If **Edit a Copy with Lightroom Adjustments** is selected, the **Copy File Options** must be determined as well. Select the **File Format**, **Color Space**, **Bit Depth**, **Resolution** and **Compression** for the new file to be edited in Silver Efex Pro\*.

\*Silver Efex Pro is only compatible with TIFF and JPEG files (8 or 16-bit with no compression or LZW compression).

6. Click **Edit** and the Silver Efex Pro interface appears, displaying the image(s) specified in Step 1 above.



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## Chapter 3

# Workflow

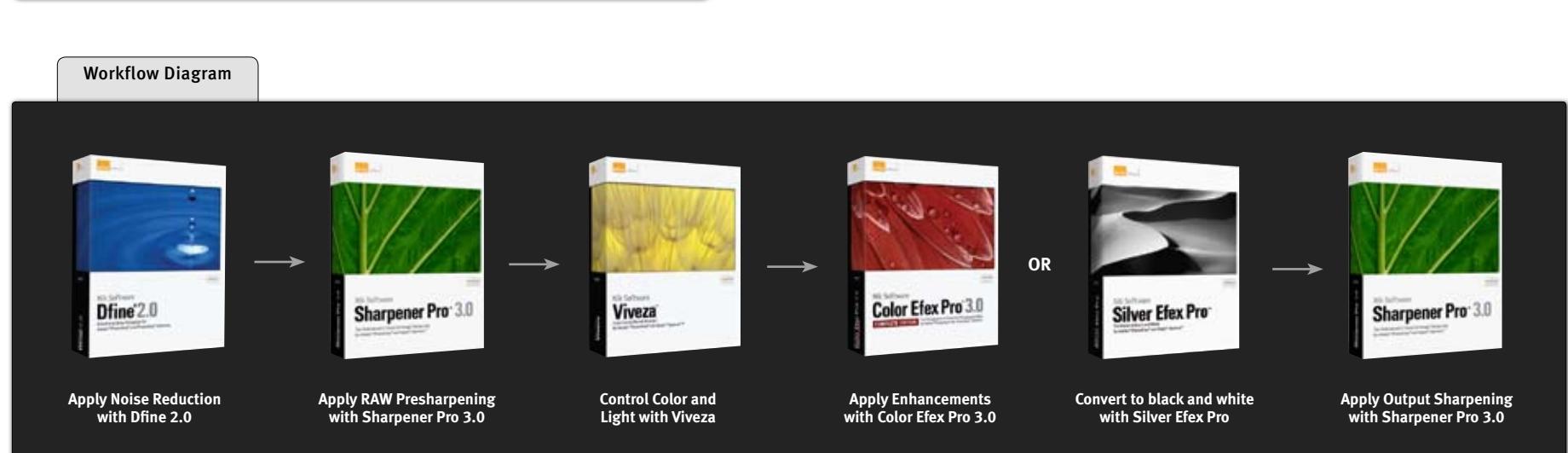
### Workflow and Tips for Enhancing Images

## Workflow

The order of steps involved in enhancing an image varies, depending on the image. In general, there are only a few guidelines to consider:

- Apply noise reduction, such as with Nik Software Dfine® 2.0, as early as possible in the process.
- Apply RAW Presharpening, if desired, with Nik Software Sharpener Pro 3.0's RAW Presharpener filter.
- Apply light and color enhancements with Nik Software Viveza™ (global, then local), and end with enhancements using Nik Software Color Efex Pro™ 3.0 or Nik Software Silver Efex Pro™.
- Apply output and creative sharpening with Nik Software Sharpener Pro 3.0's Output Sharpener filter.

**Note:** *Silver Efex Pro cannot process images in the grayscale color mode.*



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## Silver Efex Pro Workflow

Start by exploring the Style Browser and select a potential style to apply to the image. Then adjust the overall brightness, contrast, and structure of the image. Apply any specific brightness, contrast, and structure enhancements to local areas or objects using control points. Finally, stylize your image with the Film Types and Stylizing sections. In other words, move from the general to the specific, and then finish with a stylization to create a mood or feeling.

For best results in Silver Efex Pro, perform the tasks below in the given order:

1. Explore the Style Browser and if you like, choose a style to apply to your image.
2. Adjust the overall image brightness, contrast, and structure within the image.
3. Add control points to objects in the image that you would like to selectively control brightness, contrast, and structure.
4. Select a color filter to adjust the base tonal conversion and contrast.
5. Explore and apply a film type preset if desired.
6. Browse and apply a stylization to your image if desired.
7. Review the image in the Loupe.
8. Apply the filter's effect by clicking OK (Photoshop) or Save (Aperture).



## Using Silver Efex Pro as a Smart Filter

(Adobe Photoshop Only)

When working within Adobe Photoshop CS3 and CS4, Silver Efex Pro can be applied as a Smart Filter. Smart Filters enable you to adjust the filter's settings even after the filter interface has been closed. If saving the file as a PSD or TIFF, you can even adjust the filter settings after the image and Photoshop have been closed, enabling a non-destructive workflow.

When working as a Smart Filter, the Brush button is disabled, and the filter will be applied to the active layer (even if the After Clicking OK setting is set to the Separate Layer option).

**Note:** Silver Efex Pro can only work as a Smart Filter feature with Adobe Photoshop CS3 and CS4 as the host.

To use Silver Efex Pro as a Smart Filter:

1. Select the layer in the Layers Palette to apply Silver Efex Pro to.
2. Click the **Filter** menu.
3. Select **Convert for Smart Filters**.
4. Select the Filter menu again.
5. Roll over the **Nik Software** sub-menu. A popup menu appears.
6. Select **Silver Efex Pro**.

**Note:** Perform any rotations or transforms to the image prior to applying Silver Efex Pro as a Smart Filter. Applying a rotation or transformation after applying Silver Efex Pro as a Smart Filter can result in a different filter effect.

Silver Efex Pro can be applied to multiple images when working in Lightroom and Aperture.

## Multiple Image Controls (Lightroom)

To apply Silver Efex Pro to multiple images when working in Lightroom, follow the steps below:

1. Highlight the images you wish to enhance. Hold the Shift key to select a sequence of images or the Control/Command key to select individual images.
2. Click on the Photo menu.
3. Roll over the Edit In sub-menu option. A popup will appear.
4. Select Silver Efex Pro from the popup.

## Multiple Image Controls (Aperture)

To apply Silver Efex Pro to multiple images when working in Aperture, follow the steps below:

1. Highlight the images you wish to enhance. Hold the Shift key to select a sequence of images or the Command key to select individual images.
2. Click on the Images menu.
3. Roll over the Edit With sub-menu option. A popup will appear.
4. Select Silver Efex Pro... from the popup.

When using Color Efex Pro 3.0 with multiple images, three new image controls are available. The new image controls available are Previous, Next and Save All. Please see in the Filter Interface chapter for more information.



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## Chapter 4

# U Point® Technology

The Power Behind Silver Efex Pro™



## U Point® Technology

Silver Efex Pro is powered by U Point image editing technology. U Point technology enables you to modify sections of a photograph directly or control where an enhancement is being applied selectively all without having to go through the time-consuming process of making a mask normally required in other software applications.

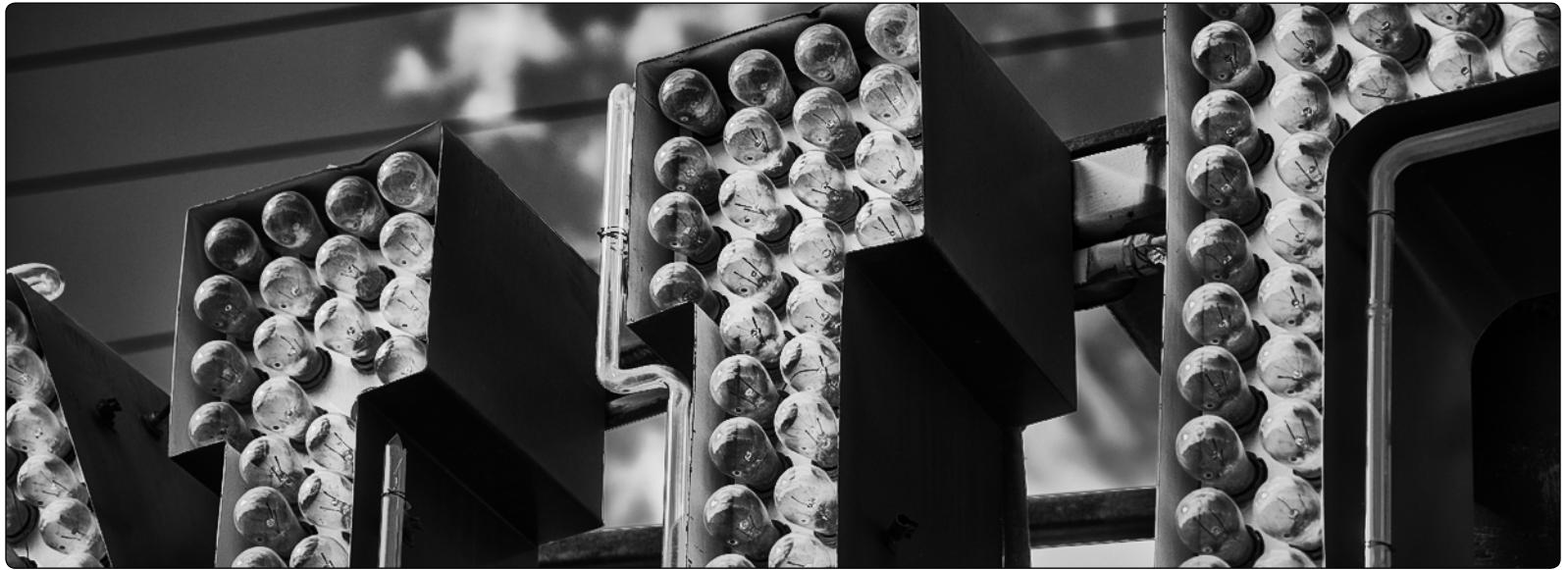
U Point technology provides precise and direct selective control, providing powerful yet simple photographic manipulation.

The U Point powered control points found within Silver Efex Pro enable you to work with your images and selectively adjust brightness, contrast, and structure without the need for complicated selections or masks.

Control points work by identifying an object based on a number of criteria. When you place your first control point, U Point technology identifies the unique elements of the object on which you place a control point, including its position, color, saturation, and texture. By identifying these elements, and in conjunction with the Size slider, the control point can determine the boundaries of the object in order to affect only that object and objects with like elements. With every control point that you apply to the image comes greater control over specific objects in the image. The additional control points ensure that the adjustments you make are being applied to the current object only, and placing a control point on an object with default settings prevents other control points from affecting that object.

Through a unique mixing function, the effects of the control points are applied throughout the image so as to create a natural-looking, seamless result.

For more information on U Point technology and how it works, please go to [www.upoint.com](http://www.upoint.com).

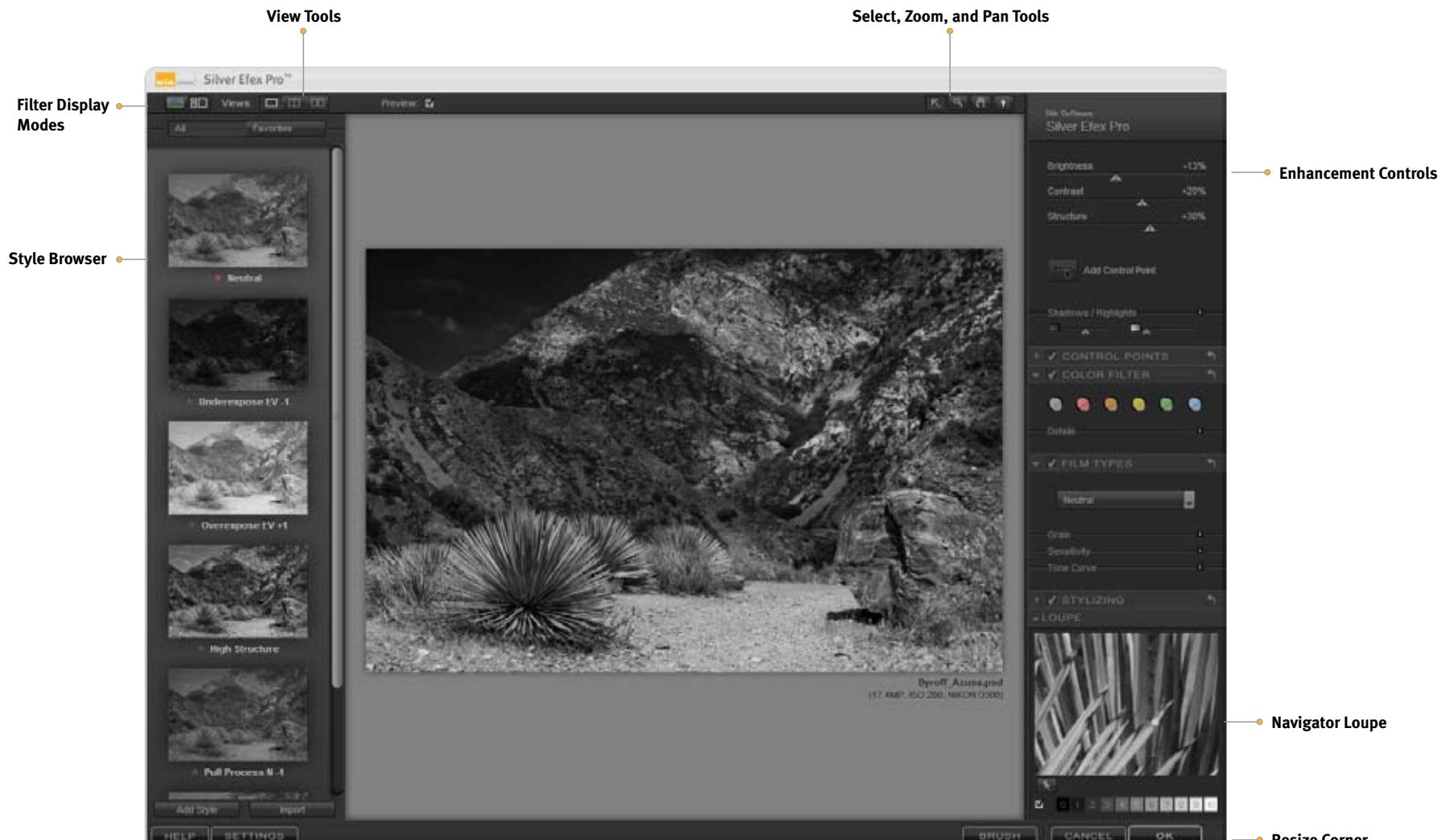


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## Chapter 5

# Silver Efex Pro™ Interface

Overview of the Silver Efex Pro Interface



Adobe Photoshop Interface

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## Filter Display Modes

Silver Efex Pro offers two modes for viewing the interface with the active image:

### Image Only



Only the Image Preview and the filter controls are displayed.

### IMAGE ONLY SHORTCUTS

Alt (Windows) / Option (Macintosh) + 1

### Image + Style Browser



A palette opens next to the Image Preview area and displays the Style Browser which contains preset styles that can be applied to the image with a single click. The Style Browser will display thumbnail previews of the current image with each style applied to it.

### IMAGE + STYLE BROWSER SHORTCUTS

Alt (Windows) / Option (Macintosh) + 2

While working in the Image + Style Browser mode, you will see Style Tabs.

### Style Tabs



The styles in Silver Efex Pro are organized into two different tabs for easy viewing and use.

#### All Tab

The All tab contains every style available inside Silver Efex Pro, including predefined styles as well as any custom styles.

## Favorites Tab

The Favorites tab will contain any style marked as a favorite. Custom styles you create will automatically be added to the Favorites tab. You can add a favorite by clicking on the star next to the name of the desired style. To remove a style from the Favorites tab, click the star next to the name of the style again.

## Preview Modes



Silver Efex Pro offers three modes for previewing the filter effect on the active image:

### Single Image Preview



The image is displayed with the filter's effect applied across the **Image Preview** area. To see the effect before and after, toggle Preview on and off with the **Preview checkbox**.

### Split Preview



The image is displayed with a red line running either vertically or horizontally through it. The portion to the left or above the red line shows the image prior to applying the filter; the portion to the right or below the red line shows the image after the filter has been applied.

You can move the image with the **Pan Tool** or click and drag the red line to observe the effect on the image's detail, when zoomed to either 100% or 300%.



- Click the **Rotate Preview** button to alternate between vertical and horizontal split.

## Side-by-side Preview



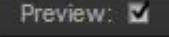
Two separate previews appear. The portion on the left or on top shows the image prior to applying the filter; the portion on the right or at bottom shows the image after the filter has been applied.

The previews are linked for zooming and panning. This lets you see the before- and after-images as a whole, or at the fine-detail level.



- Click the **Rotate Preview** button to alternate between vertical and horizontal layout.

## Preview



**Preview** lets you toggle on and off a preview of the filter effect applied to the active image.

- Click the **Preview** checkbox to alternate between displaying and hiding the effects.

## Select Tool



The **Select Tool** lets you select and interact with control points.

### SELECT SHORTCUTS

Press the **A** key to switch to this tool.

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) to temporarily switch to this tool.

## Zoom Tool



The **Zoom Tool** lets you zoom in and out of the active image. Select this tool, and then click on the area of the image that you want to magnify. To zoom out, press and hold the Alt (Windows) or Option (Macintosh) key and click on the image.

Silver Efex Pro offers three zoom states:

- **Zoom to Fit** to see the entire image within the **Image Preview** and automatically adjust the zoom factor as you change the size of the interface.
- **100%** to show the actual pixel details.
- **300%** to zoom even further into the image and view fine pixel detail.

### ZOOM SHORTCUTS

Press the **Z** key to switch to this tool.

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + Spacebar to temporarily switch to this tool

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + '+' to zoom in one level

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + '-' to zoom out one level

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + 0 to Zoom to Fit

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + Alt (Windows) / Option (Macintosh) + 0 to zoom to 100%

## Pan Tool



The **Pan Tool** lets you reposition the image while zoomed into the 100% or 300% views. When the **Loupe** tool is enabled, the mouse pointer becomes a Pan Tool to let you reposition the content of the Loupe tool.

### PAN SHORTCUTS

Press the **H** key to switch to this tool.

Hold **Spacebar** to temporarily switch to this tool.

## Background Color Selector



The **Background Color Selector** tool lets you change the color of the background surrounding the image. The three choices are light gray, medium gray, and dark gray.

## Image Preview

The **Image Preview** area displays the active image and related information beneath the image.

### Image

The active image is displayed with the view, preview mode, background and zoom amount you have configured. This area has three zoom states: zoom to fit, 100%, and 300%, controlled with the Zoom Tool or with keyboard shortcuts.

(*Please see Zoom Tool above.*)

### Image Info

The filename appears below the image. This is visible in the zoom to fit state. If Exif data is available, additional image information will be displayed under the filename.

## Enhancement Controls

Silver Efex Pro offers a wide range of controls for creating powerful black and white images. The Enhancement Controls found on the right-hand side of Silver Efex Pro include controls for the global and selective tonality of the image. The Enhancement Controls also provide tools for emulating traditional black and white film types and stylizing your image with traditional toners and vignette controls. (*For more information, please see the Enhancement Controls Chapter*)

## Navigator Loupe



The **Navigator Loupe** ensures that the appropriate information is displayed depending on the state of the Image Preview. In the zoom to fit view, the Loupe mode displays details under the mouse pointer at 100%, and image detail information after the filter is applied. When zoomed to 100% or 300%, the Navigator mode is displayed, giving you a bird's eye view of where you are currently in the image. The view switches automatically between Navigator and Loupe for efficient workflow.

### Loupe Mode

With the Image Preview in the zoom to fit state, the Navigator switches to Loupe mode.

This ensures that you can always see the image detail at 100% while reviewing the filter's effect where you position your mouse in the Preview.

To lock in place the area displayed in the Loupe, click the pushpin icon in the lower-left corner of the Loupe, then click on the area of the image you want to keep inside the Loupe. To unlock the area, click the pushpin icon again. Alternately, right-click (Windows) or Control-click (Macintosh) to toggle the lock in place function.

To pan within the Loupe display, click and drag the image.

## Navigator Mode

When you switch from the zoom to fit state to 100% or 300%, the Navigator Loupe switches to the Navigator mode and a red rectangle indicates the area of the image currently displayed in the Image Preview. Click on the area of the image in the Navigator that you would like to display in the Image Preview.



At the bottom of the Navigator Loupe there is a Zone System Map. The Zone System Map is designed to help you understand the tonal relationship of different areas in your photograph.

A gradient map is shown with 11 distinct zones representing the full possible tonal range in your image. To see which parts of your image are in each zone, click on the zone in the Zone System Map and that zone will be highlighted in the image. Also, when you roll your cursor over a zone in the Zone System Map the corresponding areas will be highlighted in the Image Preview.

The Zone System Map can work in coordination with the Enhancement Controls and control points to fine tune the entire tonal relationship of the image and specific objects in your image that you want at a particular zone.

## Filter controls

Use the filter controls to apply or discard filter effects.

The **Brush** and **OK/Save** buttons process and apply the specified filter's effect to the active image. The **Cancel** button discards any settings specified in the current session, and closes Silver Efex Pro without changing the image.

### Brush (Adobe Photoshop Only)

Click **Brush** to apply the filter's effect to a separate layer and then selectively paint the effect in, using the Selective Tool to automatically create and modify a layer mask.

(*Please see Selective Tool.*)

### Cancel

Click **Cancel** to prevent any effect from being applied to the image, close the current Silver Efex Pro session, and return to your image editing application.

### CANCEL SHORTCUT

Press the **Esc** key to cancel.

## OK (Adobe Photoshop) / Save (Lightroom & Aperture)

Click **OK/Save** to apply the specified filter to the image, close the current Silver Efex Pro session, and return to your image editing application. Silver Efex Pro also gives you the option of applying the filter to a separate layer or to the current layer in Adobe Photoshop or Photoshop Elements. (*Please see Filter Interface Settings.*)

### OK/SAVE SHORTCUT:

Press **Enter** (Windows) / **Return** (Macintosh) key to apply the filter.

## Multiple Image Controls (Lightroom & Aperture)

When using Silver Efex Pro with multiple images, three new image controls are available. The new image controls available are Previous, Next, and Save All.

### Previous

The **Previous** button will go to the image previously enhanced within the current Silver Efex Pro session.

### Next

The **Next** button will proceed to the next selected image in the current Silver Efex Pro session.

### Save All

Click **Save All** to apply Silver Efex Pro to the images, and close the current Silver Efex Pro session, and return to Apple Aperture.

### SAVE ALL SHORTCUT:

Press the **Enter** (Windows) / **Return** (Macintosh) key to apply Silver Efex Pro to the selected images in the current Silver Efex Pro session.



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Chapter 6

# Style Browser

Applying & Creating Styles in the Style Browser

## Style Browser Modes

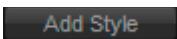
The Style Browser provides an overview of all of the available styles within Silver Efex Pro, with thumbnails showing each style's effect on the active image. The Style Browser is separated into two tabs, the **All** tab and the **Favorites** tab.

### All

In the All tab, all available styles are displayed in a single column.

### Favorites

The Favorites tab will only contain styles that you create or select as favorites. To add a style to the Favorites tab, click on the star next to the name of the style, it will be highlighted in red when selected as a favorite. To remove a style from the Favorites tab, click on the star again to deselect it.

**Add Style** 

Silver Efex Pro lets you create your own styles which will save any settings from the Tonality, Color Filter, Film Type, and Stylizing controls. That style can then be applied to any image with one click.

There are two ways to add a custom style to the Style Browser, either with the **Add Style** button at the bottom of the Style Browser or with the Add Style icon in the Style Browser list.

To add a style, click the **Add Style** button or the Add Style icon and then type in a name for the style. The style will automatically be added to the Favorites tab and placed at the bottom of both the All tab and the Favorites tab.



Add Style Icon



Style Browser

## Delete

You may remove styles that were added using the **Delete** button. To remove a custom style, mouse over the style in the Style Browser and click the **Delete** button. This will remove the style from the Style Browser and cannot be undone.



## Export

Styles can be exported as individual files and shared amongst friends. To export a style, simply rollover the desired style in the Style Browser and click on **Export**. Exporting a Style will save the style as a .sep file, and Silver Efex Pro will ask you for the destination folder. Select the destination, click **Save**, and then share it with friends.



## Update

A style can also be updated with the current settings in the Enhancement Controls, replacing the old style. Adjust the Enhancement Controls and roll over the style you wish to update, and then click the **Update** button.



You can also change the name of a style by double-clicking on the name in the style Browser and entering a new name.

## Import

To import a style, click on the **Import** button and follow these steps:

1. Click on the **Import** button.
2. Browse for the style file and select **Open**.
3. A new style will be added to the Style Browser.

**Note:** Imported styles will be automatically added to the Favorites tab.



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Chapter 7

# Enhancement Controls

Create the Perfect Black and White Image

## Tonality Controls

The Tonality Controls section enables you to control brightness, contrast, and structure globally throughout the image. Additionally, access to control points to selectively control the brightness, contrast, and structure of objects can also be found within the Tonality Controls section.

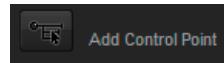
**Brightness** - Controls the overall lightness of the image.

**Contrast** - Controls the overall contrast of the image.

**Structure** - Controls the overall structure within the image.

Increasing this slider emphasizes fine details throughout the image while decreasing this slider reduces the appearance of fine details for smoother surfaces.

### Add Control Point



Clicking on this button will enable you to place a control point on your image and selectively control the tonality and structure of an object or area. Control points are based on U Point® technology which lets you identify and isolate objects within a photograph by placing a control point on the object or area to be affected. By analyzing color, tonality, detail and location, U Point determines where to apply certain effects, according to the photographer's needs. (For more information on U Point technology, please visit [www.upoint.com](http://www.upoint.com).)

All control points within the active image communicate with each other, providing continuity of control over multiple objects throughout the image.

Each control point has four sliders:

**Size** - Controls the size or reach of the control point. Click and drag this control to enlarge or reduce the control point's reach.

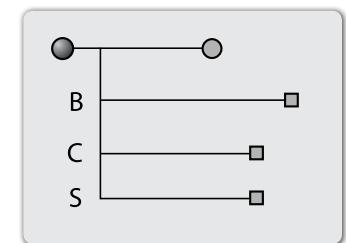
**Brightness** - Controls of the brightness of the selected object or area.

**Contrast** - Controls the contrast of the selected object or area.

**Structure** - Controls of the structure of the selected object or area.

## ADD NEW CONTROL POINT SHORTCUT

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + Shift + A



## Shadows & Highlights

The **Protect Shadows/Protect Highlights** controls help you protect image details at both ends of the tonal range. The controls take advantage of the TrueLight™ function in Silver Efex Pro and modify the filter's effect to preserve image details.

When collapsed, this section displays one slider for protecting shadows and one for protecting highlights. As you click and drag either slider to the right or left to increase or decrease protection, notice the change in the details in the image.

When expanded, this section displays not only the sliders, but also a histogram representing the full tonal range of the active image after the current enhancement has been applied. The histogram changes in real time as you adjust the filter controls and Protect Shadows/Protect Highlights sliders.

The colored areas at both ends of the histogram help identify potential problems. The top and bottom 2.5% of tonal values (representing Shadows without Detail on the left and Highlights without Detail on the right) appear in red. The next 2.5% of the shadows and highlights (indicating Shadows with Detail on the left and Highlights with Detail on the right) appear in green.

Next to each of the four colored areas (Shadows without Detail, Shadows with Detail, Highlights without Detail, Highlights with Detail) are numerical call-outs displaying the percentage of pixels from the active image in each of those four areas after the enhancement has been applied.

**Protect Shadows/Protect Highlights** helps you keep your image details from falling into these areas. For best results, keep the greater part of the image between the green areas (Shadows with Detail and Highlights with Detail) of the histogram. Portions of the image in Shadows without Detail will likely print pure black; those in Highlights without Detail will likely print as paper white.

Click and drag the **Protect Shadows** slider to the right to adjust the filter's effect and prevent details from being moved into the Shadows without Detail area.

Click and drag the **Protect Highlights** slider to the right to adjust the filter's effect and prevent details from being "blown out" or being moved into the Highlights without Detail area.

**Note:** In general, it is best to maintain the histogram in the region between Shadows without Details and Highlights without Details sections. Nevertheless, many good images have values in those areas of the histogram (e.g., highlight on a chrome bumper).

## Control Points

The Control Points section will display a list of the control points used in an image. It will also provide an option to toggle on and off each individual control point's effect and each control point's selection. Use the checkbox on the control point list title to turn on and off all of the control points' effects and use the reset button to remove all of the control points from the image.



### Duplicate

The **Duplicate** button will duplicate the currently selected control points.

### DUPLICATE SHORTCUTS:

Ctrl (Windows) / Command (Macintosh) + D to duplicate in place

Alt (Windows) / Option (Macintosh) + Click and drag to duplicate and move a control point

### Delete

To remove a control point, click the **Select** tool, and then click on the control point to be removed. Then either click the **Delete** button or press the **Delete** key on your keyboard.

## Color Filter

The Color Filter section selects the color of the simulated filter, either with a preset filter color or with a filter color selected on the Hue slider in the Color Filter Details section. Use the Checkbox to turn on and off the Color Filter section's effect and the Reset button to reset all of the controls in the section to the default.



There are 6 preset Color Filters for quick easy selections. The 6 presets are Neutral, which has no color filter applied, and Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, and Blue for quick color filtration.

### Color Filter Details

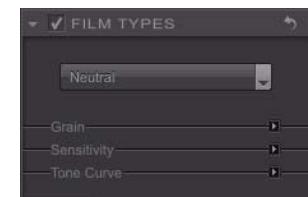
The Color Filter **Details** sub-section provides more advanced controls for selecting the hue of the color filtration and the strength of the color filtration, using the **Hue** and **Strength** sliders.

**Hue** - Adjusts the color of the simulated filter and controls the relationship of colors in the image. This lightens objects of that color in the image and darkens objects of the complementary color.

**Strength** - Slide to the left for less contrast between colors, to the right for more contrast between colors.

## Film Types

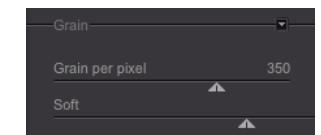
The **Film Types** section contains 18 simulated black and white film types with controls for the grain, color sensitivity, and tone curve of each film. Use the Checkbox to turn on and off the Film Types section's effect and the Reset button to reset all of the controls in the section to the default.



**Film Type** - From the pull-down menu, select a type of film from any of the pre-defined film types.

### Grain

By expanding the Grain sub-section, you have control over the amount of grain applied throughout the image. You are provided with the following controls:



**Grain per pixel** - Adjusts the grain applied to the image. Slide to the left to have more visible grain and to the right to have finer grain.

**Hard/Soft** - Adjusts the separation and visibility between the grain.

### Color Sensitivity

Expand the Color Sensitivity sub-section to control the tonality of different colors throughout the image. You are provided with the following controls:

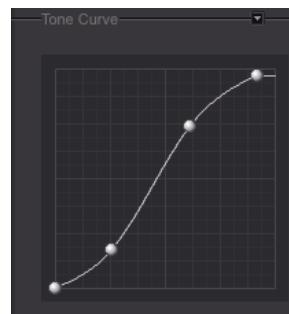
**Red** through **Violet** – sliders control how bright or dark an object of that color appears. Slide to the left to make objects of that color darker, to the right to make them brighter.



## Tone Curve

Expand the **Tone Curve** sub-section to control the tone curve for the image. Click to add anchor points to the curve to specify the brightness, contrast, and relationship of tonal values in the image.

To remove an anchor point from the curve, select the point and drag it off of the Curve area.



## Stylizing

The **Stylizing** section provides different stylizing techniques that can be applied to the image. The Stylizing section allows you to apply a toner to the image, apply a vignette to the image, or burn the edges of the image to stylize your black and white image. Use the Checkbox to turn on and off the stylizing effects and the Reset button to reset all of the controls in the section to the default.



## Toning

The Toning section provides the ability to simulate different paper toners from a traditional darkroom as well as create your own custom toned image. There are a number of preset toning options and you can use the controls to fine tune the results for your perfectly toned image.

**Preset** - From the pull-down menu, select a type of toning from one of the pre-defined toners.



**Strength** - Sets the overall strength of the toning applied to the image. Increasing the Strength slider will set the highest Toning slider equal to the overall strength. Decreasing the Strength slider will relatively decrease the Silver Toning and Paper Toning.

**Silver Hue** - Selects the toning color to be applied to the silver densities.

**Silver Toning** - Sets the strength of the toning applied to the silver densities.

**Balance** - Determines the balance of the toning color combination, when set to 0% the Silver Hue and the Paper Hue blend at the midtones. Moving the Balance to the left will increase the toning effect applied to the silver densities and moving the Balance to the right will increase the toning effect applied to the paper tones.

**Paper Hue** - Select the toning color to be applied to the paper tones of the image.

**Paper Toning** - Set the strength of the toning applied to the paper tones.

## Vignette

The Vignette section will apply a vignette effect to the image. Control the vignette effect by adjusting the **Amount**, **Size**, and **Shape Control** sliders and place the center of the vignette on the image with the **Place Center** button.



**Amount** - Control the amount of the Vignette applied to the image. Moving this slider all the way to the left will apply a completely black

vignette. Moving this slider all the way to the right will apply a completely white vignette.

**Size** - Adjusts the area of the image covered by the vignette.

**Shape Control** - Controls the overall shape of the vignette between circular and rectangular.

**Place Center** - Positions the center of the image. This is useful if the subject is not in the center of the frame. Click this button and then place the center where desired.



## Burn Edges

The **Burn Edges** section will burn the image from any side. Use the Burn Edges to control the overall darkness at the edges of an image and blend the effects together naturally. Control the effect with **Side Selector**, and the **Strength**, **Size**, and **Transition** sliders.

**Side Selector** - Pick which side of the image to darken. To affect different sides, pick the first side and adjust the sliders, then pick the next side from the Side Selector and adjust the new sliders available.

**Strength** - Controls the amount by which the selected side is darkened.

**Size** - Controls the size of the effect applied to selected side.

**Transition** - Controls the size of the blend between the darkening effect and the original image details.



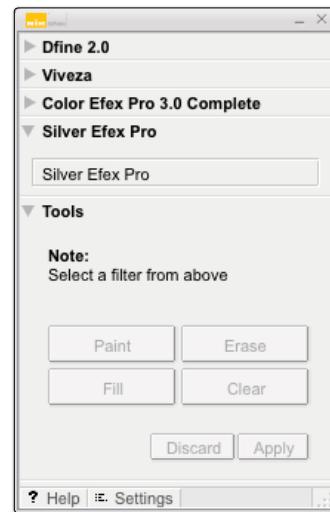
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## Chapter 8

# Selective Tool

Applying the Filter's Effect Selectively

## Selective Tool



The Selective Tool automates the creation of layers and layer masks within Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements while applying Silver Efex Pro. The Selective Tool can be used to selectively apply the filter's effect. Use this tool to create a layer mask with which to selectively control where the Silver Efex Pro effect is applied using Photoshop's brush, lasso, marquee, and gradient tools.

If Dfine® 2.0, Viveza™, Color Efex Pro™ 3.0 or Sharpener Pro™ 3.0 is already installed; the Silver Efex Pro installer will update the existing Selective Tool, enabling you to access all of these plug-ins from the same Selective Tool.

The Selective Tool can be used with pressure-sensitive tablets such as the Wacom® Pen Tablet to apply the Silver Efex Pro filter with pressure-sensitivity.

**Note:** The Selective Tool is available only with Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements serving as host for Silver Efex Pro.

**Note:** The Selective Tool cannot be used when creating a Photoshop Action. In order to create a Photoshop Action, please select Silver Efex Pro from the Filters menu.

## Interaction with Silver Efex Pro

Click on the Silver Efex Pro button within the Silver Efex Pro section of the Selective Tool window to launch the filter.

If you click the **Brush** button in the Silver Efex Pro filter interface, whether you launched that filter from the Selective Tool or from Photoshop or Photoshop Elements' Filters menu, the Selective Tool appears. The filter will be applied to a copy of the image on a separate layer, the new layer will be named after the filter you are using, and you can selectively apply the filter's effect using the **Paint**, **Erase**, **Fill**, and **Clear** buttons described later in this chapter.

## Selection Tools

The Selective Tool contains four tools for applying the selected Silver Efex Pro filter.

### Paint

Click the **Paint** button to selectively paint the current filter's effect into the active image. Ensure that your Paint Brush mode is set to Normal and that Opacity is set to 100%. You can control the degree to which the effect is added to the image by varying the opacity of the brush.

### Erase

Click the **Erase** button to selectively remove the current filter's effect from the active image. Ensure that your Paint Brush mode is set to Normal and that Opacity is set to 100%. You can control the degree to which the effect is removed from the image by varying the opacity of the brush.

## Fill

Click the **Fill** button to apply the filter's effect to the entire image. This tool is especially useful if you want to apply the filter's effect to all but a small area. Click **Fill**, then click **Erase** to remove the effect from the area to remain unaffected.

## Clear

Click the **Clear** button to remove the filter's effect from the entire image. This is helpful if you made a mistake with the Paint tool and want to start over.

## Apply / Discard

Click **Apply** to apply the current filter's effect to the image. Click **Discard** to prevent the effect from being applied.



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Chapter 9

# Filter Interface Settings

Controlling the Default Behavior of the Filter Interface

## Filter Interface Settings

Click on **Settings** in the Silver Efex Pro Filter Interface to configure the default look and functionality, and to specify how Silver Efex Pro affects images.



Adobe Photoshop Dialog Settings

### Default Zoom

**Default Zoom** lets you specify the zoom state to be applied when the interface is launched. (*Please see Zoom Tool.*)

#### 100%

Opens images at 100% zoom.

#### Zoom to Fit

Ensures that the entire image is visible within the filter interface.

### Use Last Setting

Opens images in the last zoom state used in the previous Silver Efex Pro session.

### Default Preview

**Default Preview** lets you specify how images are displayed upon opening Silver Efex Pro. (*Please see Preview Modes in Chapter 5.*)

#### Single Image Preview

Sets Single Image View as default.

#### Split Preview

Sets Split preview as default.

#### Side-by-side Preview

Sets Side-by-side preview as default.

#### Use Last Setting

Opens images in the last preview state used in the previous Silver Efex Pro session.

### Default Appearance

**Default Appearance** sets the brightness of the area surrounding the image in the Preview.

- Light Gray
- Medium Gray
- Dark Gray

## After Clicking OK (Adobe Photoshop Only)

This option lets you specify how Silver Efex Pro filters are applied.

**Note:** *This option is valid only with Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Photoshop Elements serving as host for Silver Efex Pro.*

### Apply the Filtered Effect to the Current Layer

This option applies the effect to the layer that was active when Silver Efex Pro was launched.

### Apply the Filtered Effect to a Separate Layer

Choose this option to always apply the filter effects of Silver Efex Pro to a separate layer. Use this option and save the final image in a layered format to ensure the preservation of original image details.

**Note:** *Enabling this option increases file size and may increase processing time.*

**Note:** *When batch processing with Silver Efex Pro, the filter effect is not applied to a separate layer. To apply Silver Efex Pro to a separate layer while recording the action, duplicate the layer prior to applying Silver Efex Pro. This ensures that the batch process includes a new filtered layer for each image.*

### Reset

Click **Reset** to restore Silver Efex Pro filter settings to their default values.



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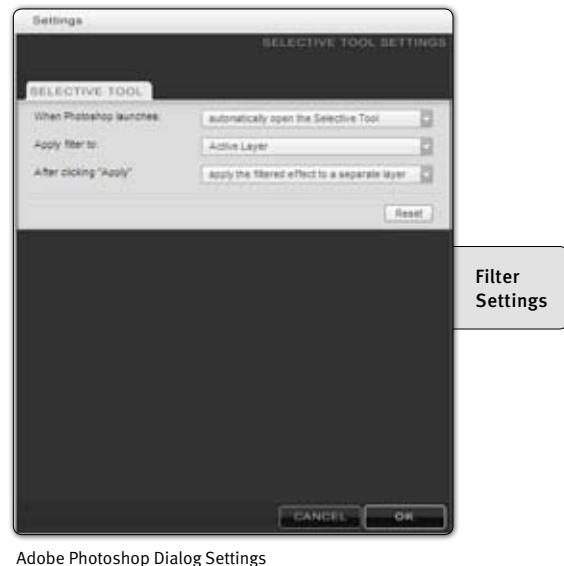
Chapter 10

# Selective Tool Settings

Controlling the Default Behavior of the Selective Tool

## Selective Tool Settings (Adobe Photoshop Only)

Click the **Settings** button at the bottom of the Selective Tool interface to specify how the Selective Tool interacts with Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements and active images.



Adobe Photoshop Dialog Settings

### When Photoshop Launches

This option lets you specify whether the Selective Tool opens when Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop elements is launched.

Choose between:

- Automatically Open the Selective Tool
- Do Not Open the Selective Tool

## Apply filter to:

Advanced users can specify how the Selective Tool applies filters in Silver Efex Pro.

### Image Composite

Select this option to create a new layer and perform a stamp-visible command into the new layer to ensure that the filter is applied to the entire image and not only to the active layer. (This is the default behavior in Silver Efex Pro. This is also how the Selective Tool operates in all other Nik Software products.)

### Active Layer

Select this option to duplicate the layer active when you selected the Silver Efex Pro filter, and apply the filter to that layer only.

### After clicking Apply

This option lets you specify whether the Selective Tool maintains Silver Efex Pro filter effects as a separate layer or merges layers when you click **Apply**.

### Merge the Filtered Effect to the Current Layer

This option merges the filtered image with your original image into one layer. Enabling this option helps keep file sizes to a minimum.

### Apply the Filtered Effect to a Separate Layer

This option ensures that the filtered effect is limited to a separate layer. By enabling this setting and saving the active image in a layered file, you preserve original image information and can remove the filter's effect at any time. Please keep in mind, however, that enabling this option may increase file sizes.



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Chapter 11

# Contact and Support

Getting Additional Support

## United States

Contact Nik Software, Inc. by phone at **(619) 725-3150**

Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (PST) or via email at  
service@niksoftware.com

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## Germany

In Europe, contact Nik Software, GmbH at **+49-40-47-11-35-0**

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