

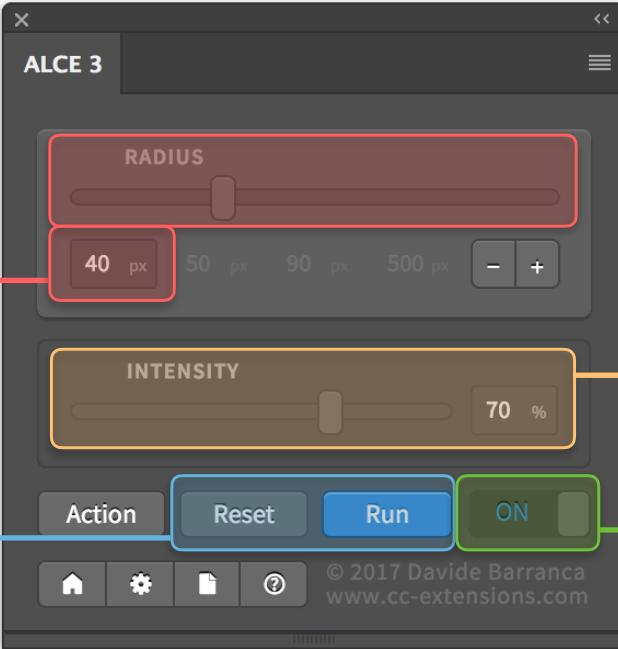


# ALCE 3

## QUICKSTART GUIDE

### WHAT IS IT FOR?

ALCE (**Advanced Local Contrast Enhancer**) is a Photoshop Panel that boosts the image's Local Contrast, adding *shape*, and a distinct 3D look.



**Radius**  
How Local you want the Contrast boost to be:  
Large Radius → Global Contrast  
Small Radius → Local Contrast

**Run / Reset**  
Manually Run the Contrast Boost (Live Preview is on by default) or Reset the values

**AT A GLANCE**  
ALCE 3 is in the menu **Windows > Extensions**

**Intensity**  
How strong the Contrast will be

**Preview**  
Switch ON/OFF the effect Preview

## SIMPLE USE

If you're after a quick Contrast Boost, **play with the Radius** around the default value (Live Preview is enabled). When you reach a pleasing result, you're done! You can always **tweak the Intensity** if it feels like too much.



## High Radius

Gives shape to the portrait,  
without exaggerating skin texture  
or smaller, distracting elements.  
Tweak Intensity to taste.





## Low Radius

Better fit for the feathers: it emphasises smaller features.  
Full Intensity for a stronger effect.

## ADVANCED USE

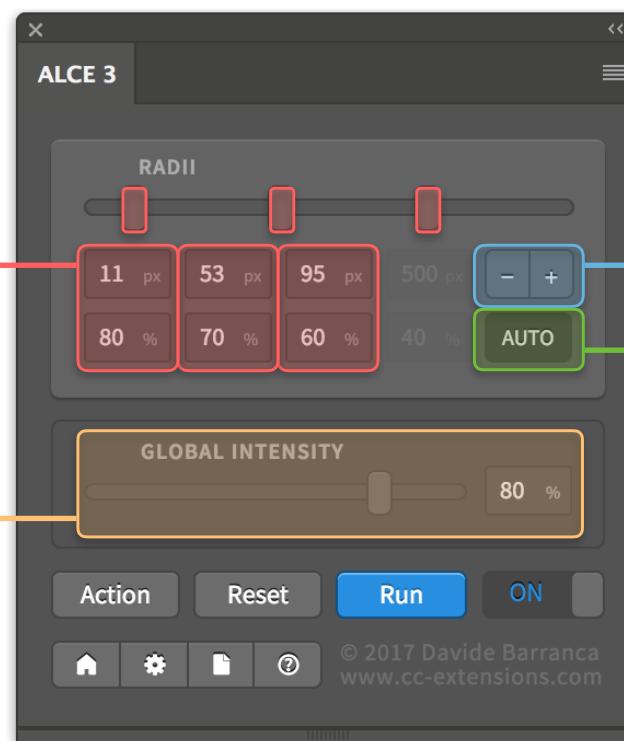
More elaborate effects can be obtained modulating **multiple runs** of ALCE at **decreasing Intensities**. ALCE 3 can automatically do this for you! Click the +/- buttons to reveal additional Radius slider handlers, each one with its suggested Intensity. Use the Global Intensity to control the combined radii/intensities effect.

### Radius/Intensity pairs

Corresponding to each new round of ALCE (Radius above, Intensity below)

### Global Intensity

Since each round's Intensity is paired with the radius above, this Slider now controls the Intensity of the combined effect

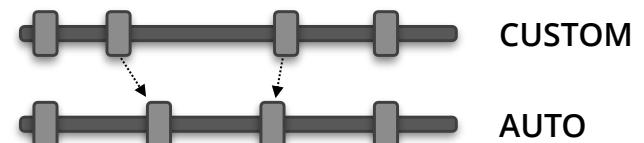


### Add/Remove Radii

Each new Radius will add an extra round of ALCE on top of the previous one

### Automatic Radius Spacing

If you have three or more Radii, the Auto button will toggle between evenly spaced radii, and custom arrangement





## Multiple Radii

The smallest Radius gives a sharpening effect to the subtle fabric features.

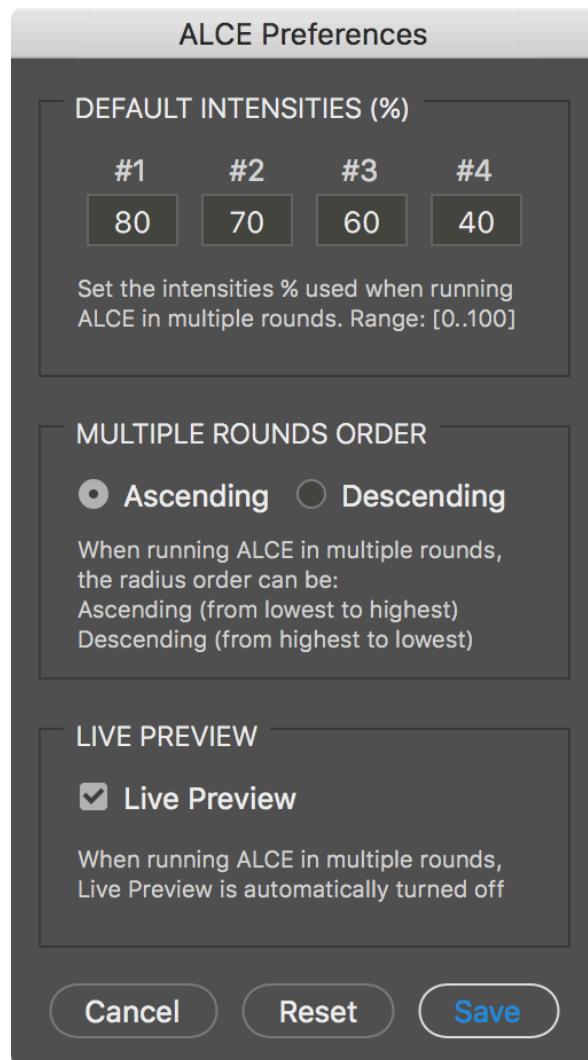
The median Radius adds shape and three-dimension to the lady's face and dress.

The largest Radius boosts a more "Global" Contrast.

Global Intensity is set to taste.



# BATCH, PREFERENCES, AND DOCUMENTATION



**Website**  
Opens the CC-Extensions ALCE homepage

**Preferences**  
Here you can set the Panel's:

- Defaults Intensities
- Multiple Rounds Order
- Live Preview (ON/OFF)

or Reset them to factory defaults

## Batch Processing

You can create an **Action**, and use it as a building block in your automated workflow with large amount of files.



**Version Info**  
Copyright notice, website, support email

**Quickstart Guide**  
Opens this manual

Marco Olivotto - ABC Group

01\_02 Getting ALCE to work | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
from Know-How Transfer  
KNOW HOW TRANSFER  
the photography knowledge hub

1.2  
Introducing ALCE

01\_03 Between radius and saturation | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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1.3  
Introducing ALCE

Tutorial By Marco Olivotto

Between Radius and Saturation  
Choosing ALCE's Radius and Dealing with Colors

01\_01 What is Local Contrast? | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
from Know-How Transfer

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## 1.1

### Introducing ALCE

Tutorial By Marco Olivotto

## What is Local Contrast?

### Understanding ALCE's Working Principles

05:15 HD

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1.2  
Introducing ALCE

radius  
1÷200

## Getting ALCE to Work

### Installing and Running the Script. The Interface

09:27 HD

02\_01 ALCE in the Abbey | Simple ALCE layers tuned with opacity and hand-made layer masks  
from Know-How Transfer  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.1 ALCE in the Abbey  
Tutorial By Marco Olivotto

## ALCE in the Abbey

### Simple ALCE Layers Tuned with Opacity and Hand-Made Layer Masks

05:30 HD

Even if it's been produced for ALCE 2, on [Vimeo](#) you can watch a +90 minutes, multi-parts, HD [video tutorial](#) covering the basics aspects of Local Contrast, and ALCE advanced masking / channel blending techniques.

02\_02 Smoked ALCE | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
from Know-How Transfer  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.2 Working with ALCE

Smoked ALCE  
Comparison and Blending of ALCE Layers with Different Radii

05:24 HD

02\_03 ALCE goes plastic | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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2.3 Working with ALCE

ALCE Goes Plastic  
Separating Light and Dark Halos, and Beyond

06:14 HD

02\_04 ALCE on Wuthering Heights | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.4 Working with ALCE

ALCE on Wuthering Heights  
Using Combination of Channels and Layer Masks

06:45 HD

02\_05 ALCE: Portrait or fashion? | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.5 Working with ALCE

ALCE: Portrait or Fashion?  
Difference Leads to Different Approaches to the Same Image

07:44 HD

02\_06 ALCE Gets Married | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.6 Working with ALCE

ALCE Gets Married  
Enhancing Shape Where There's Little

07:13 HD

02\_07 ALCE in the Lab | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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the photography knowledge hub

2.7 Working with ALCE

ALCE in the Lab  
A Diversion Into a Powerful Colorspace

07:37 HD

02\_08 ALCE, Leak-a-boo | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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## 2.8

### Working with ALCE

Tutorial By Marco Olivotto

## ALCE, Leak-a-Boo

### Localizing the Effect by Conditional Blending

06:42 HD

02\_09 ALCE finds the Key | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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2.9 Working with ALCE

ALCE Finds the Key  
A Difficult Case Which Requires Black Magic

08:30 HD

02\_10 ALCE: The ultimate nightmare | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivotto.  
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2.10 Working with ALCE

The Ultimate Nightmare  
Improving Impossible CMYK Conversions

09:10 HD

## COMPATIBILITY

ALCE 3 is compatible with Photoshop from version CC onwards:

**CC, CC 2014, CC 2015, CC 2015.5, CC 2017** and so on, on both Mac/PC.

If you need pre-CC compatibility (i.e. Photoshop CS6), you need to buy the old version, ALCE 2.

## SUPPORT

For installation instruction, please refer to the related installation guide.

If you need further support, you can reach me at:

**[support@cs-extensions.com](mailto:support@cs-extensions.com)**

Thanks for buying ALCE 3 – you're helping me building more Photoshop products such as the ones you can find at [cc-extensions.com](http://cc-extensions.com)

Davide Barranca



Visit [cc-extensions.com](http://cc-extensions.com) and discover the full series of products targeted to Retouchers / Photographers / Designers:

- **[Vitamin BW](#)** - Black & White with personality
- **[ALCE](#)** - Local Contrast Enhancement
- **[DoubleUSM](#)** - Multi-radius Sharpening
- **[Detailizer](#)** - Multi-frequency Contrast boost
- **[Contrastica](#)** - Easy Global & Local Contrast
- **[CPT](#)** - Swiss Army Knife of Channel Operations
- **[Zone Selector](#)** - Zone System's Luminosity Masks

...and many others!