

THE *Blonde* ABROAD



LIGHTROOM CLASSIC
EDITING E-GUIDE



BASIC EDITING TIPS

These tips are for editing in Lightroom Classic for desktop, though you can use the same tips for editing on the Mobile app. I'd recommend signing up for the Adobe Creative Cloud Photography package. Then, download Lightroom Classic to get started!

There's a lot more flexibility in editing with RAW photos. (If you aren't already shooting in RAW, I would highly encourage you to make the switch-- you get larger file sizes but they're easier to edit!) If you're just getting started with Manual Photography, [check out my guide!](#) To speed up your editing process and get beautiful results on your photos, check out my Lightroom Presets for Desktop! **Get 20% off with code NEWSLETTER20**

■ EXPOSURE

This is the first thing you should check! Do you prefer light & bright or dark & moody? After considering exposure, I always toggle my highlights, shadows, blacks and whites to achieve my desired lighting effect.

■ SATURATION

Typically, I don't touch the universal saturation. You'll never want each color to be the same saturation, so I prefer to edit colors individually in the Color Panel—I go over this later in this guide!

■ SHADOWS

Lifting shadows helps to show finer details. This is common in my Moroccan Oasis Collection. You can also toggle your blacks to make a photo appear soft and dreamy, or more contrasted.

■ HIGHLIGHTS

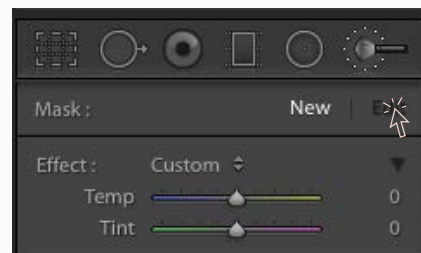
With RAW photos, lowering highlights almost entirely helps to bring out more detail. If you're editing JPEG images and find that your images are falling a too flat, try adding in more highlights.

MY FAVORITE EDITING TOOLS

Helpful Tip with Tools: Drag two fingers up and down on your trackpad to increase and decrease the size of any tool.

■ BRUSH TOOL

The Adjustment Brush tool lets you selectively apply exposure, adjust clarity, adjust shadows and highlights, and apply other adjustments to photos by “painting” them onto a photo.



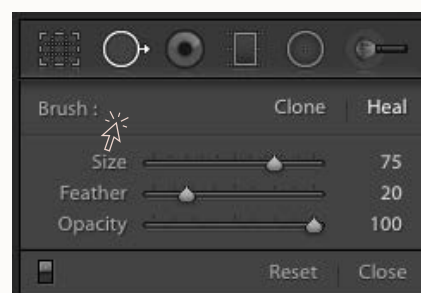
[Learn More Here!](#)



Helpful Tip: To see where you're applying your brush tool, you can toggle "Show Selected Mask Overlay" at the bottom of the screen. I typically keep it on while I apply it, then de-select it so I can see the effect of the adjustments I'm making. To remove part of your brush application, hold the Option Key down and click to erase.

■ SPOT REMOVAL HEAL TOOL

The Spot Removal tool in Lightroom lets you repair a selected area of an image by sampling from a different area of the same image. Heal Matches the texture, lighting, and shading of the sampled area to the selected area.



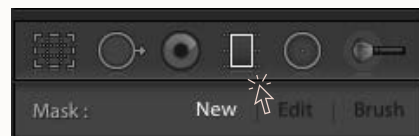
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Helpful Tip: Click on the area you want to remove with your heal tool and a second circle will appear. Click the second circle and drag it to an area that will be used to replace the first circle.

■ GRADUATED FILTER TOOL

The Graduated Filter tool lets you apply adjustments that "fade out" across a region of a photo (almost like an ombre effect). I often use it to reduce highlights in the sky by dropping Highlights or very slightly increasing the Dehaze adjustment.



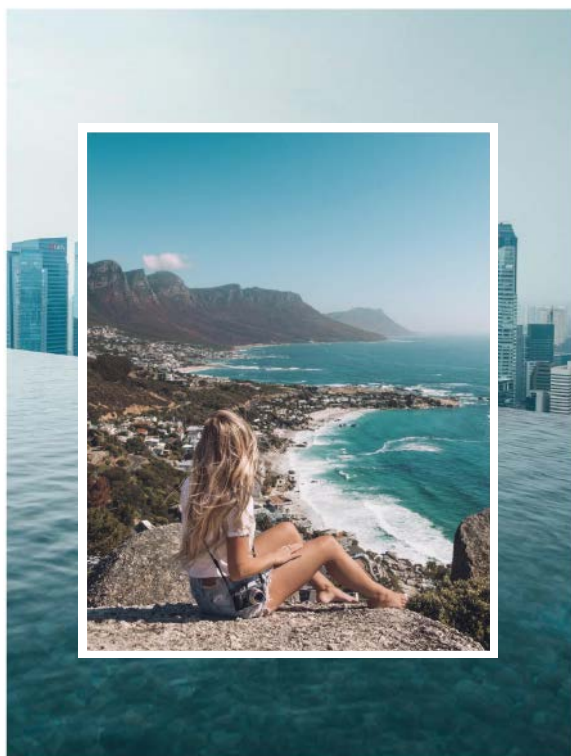
[Learn More Here!](#)



Helpful Tip: With the graduated filter applied and selected, you can click the word "Brush" in the sub-menu to activate a brush tool to add or remove part of your filter. This is helpful, for example, when you want to apply a filter to the sky, but want to remove it from a subject that it intersects with.



The Color Panel in Lightroom is where I have the most fun. I typically click "ALL" to view all colors in a single panel, and can easily toggle the hue, saturation, and luminance of each color.



Blue and Aqua

My Beachy and Tropicool mobile presets will have a lot of color adjustments here. Play with the luminance, hue and saturation to achieve your desired effect. I like to adjust the blue hue to a more turquoise color and lift the luminance to give it that bright tropical feel.

Green

My Jungle and Old Pine mobile presets will require the most adjusting with green. I like to desaturate greens and adjust the hue to a more yellow color to make plants pop.





Orange

Pulling the luminance down on orange will make skin appear more "tanned." You will likely need to customize your skin tone with each of my presets. I recommend adjusting the luminance and saturation of orange to achieve your desired effect.

Yellow

Since I am blonde, I pull the yellow luminance up a lot. It helps pop the highlights and tone of my hair. Obviously, if you don't need to achieve the same effect, check the yellow settings if you're using a preset and adjust accordingly.

