

## Editing RAW images

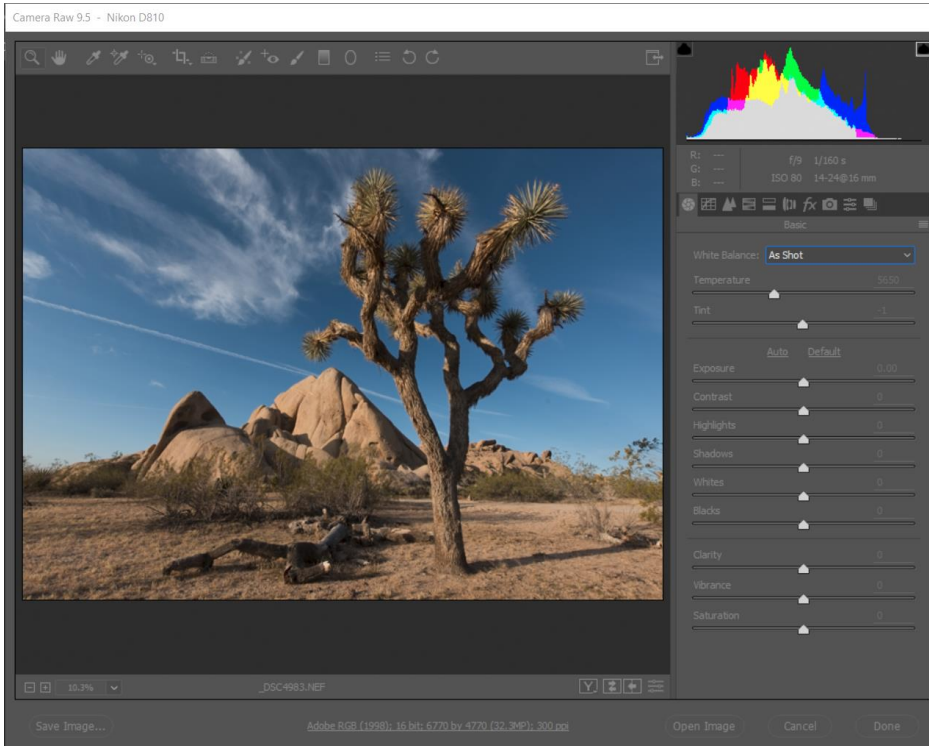
Editing RAW images is pretty straight-forward. These instructions are intended for Adobe Photoshop and are basic instructions that will get you going editing your RAW images. The first portion (Adobe Camera RAW Dialog) is exactly the same in Photoshop or Lightroom, and is slightly “crippled” in Elements.

When you open a RAW image in Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom or Elements, you are first presented with the *Adobe Camera Raw (ACR) dialog*. This is a separate “window” from Photoshop, Lightroom or Elements and is the first step in editing your RAW images. There are MANY options here, but you only need to know about a few to get started. This guide will show these to you.


Once you choose to “open” your image in the ACR, your image will then be brought into Photoshop, Lightroom or Elements. This guide will show you the steps in Photoshop to complete the editing process. If you use Lightroom or Elements, you should be able to adapt it to those programs.

## Adobe Camera Raw Dialog

Open a RAW image in Photoshop, Lightroom or Elements – this will open the image in the Adobe Camera RAW dialog. Your version may look slightly different or may be a different version, but most features will be the same in Photoshop or Lightroom. Photoshop Elements may not have all of the features listed here.




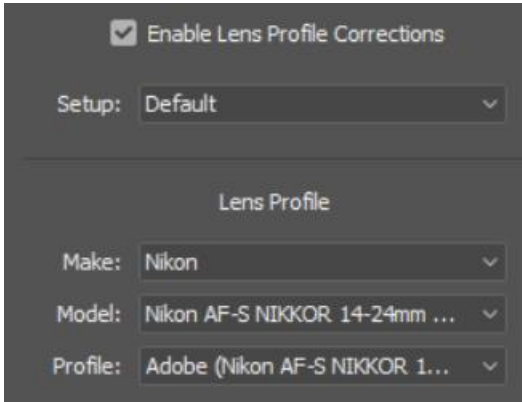
## Crop

First, click on the CROP tool  and drag the mouse to crop. Press ENTER when you like the crop. You can click outside the crop lines to rotate as well.



## Lens Correction *(Not available in Elements)*

Click on the Lens Correction button  (not avail in all versions) and click the ENABLE checkbox. Select the make/model of the lens (if necessary).



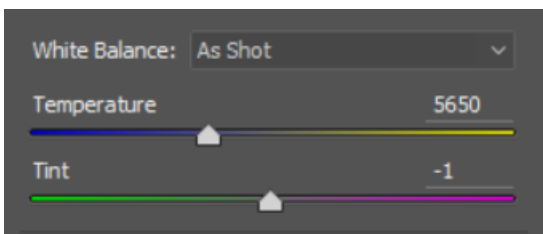
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Click the BASIC tab .

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## Color Temperature/White Balance

Adjust the color temperature if needed. Adjust until the image colors look correct. You can also adjust the TINT to fine-tune, if necessary.



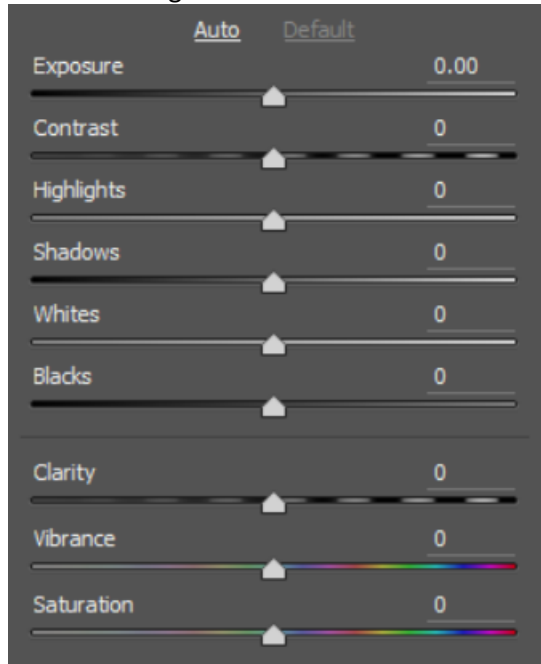
You can use the White Balance Dropper to click on a neutral color in your image (true gray or white). This will automatically set the white balance to make whatever you click on “colorless”.



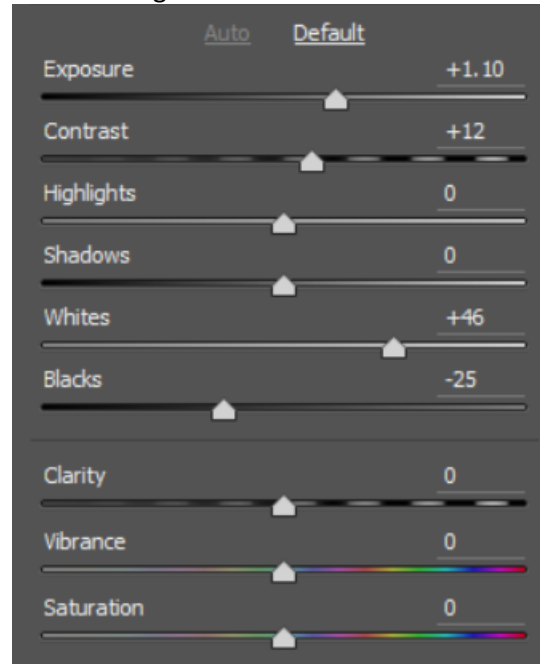
## Exposure

Click the AUTO link to have Photoshop automatically adjust the exposure parameters. You may or may not like the results, but it's a good starting point.

Before clicking AUTO



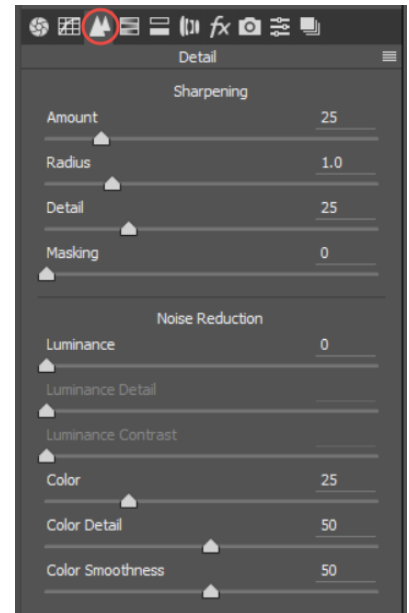
After clicking AUTO



1. Adjust the **Exposure** slider if the image looks too light or dark.
2. Adjust the **highlights** slider to the left if there are blown-out highlights.
3. Adjust the **Shadows** slider to the right if you want more detail in the shadows.
4. Increase/decrease the **contrast** as desired.
5. Increase **Clarity** to about 20 or 25
6. Increase **Saturation** (for landscape images) or **Vibrance** (for "people pictures) to about 20 or 25.

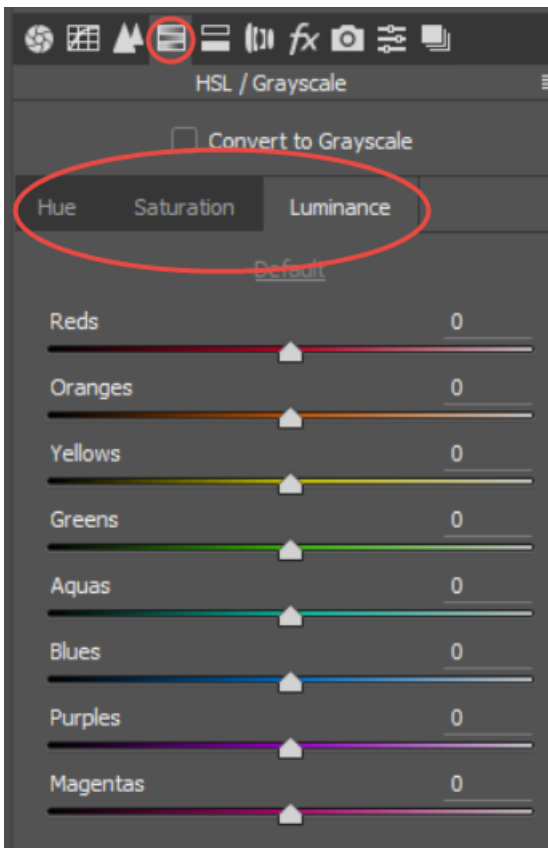
## Noise

If the image was taken at high-ISO or has “noise” in it, use the “DETAIL” tab and adjust the Luminance slider to the right. The more you move it to the right the more noise reduction is applied. Noise reduction will also “soften the image, so don’t over-do it.



## Color Enhancement

Select the HSL/Grayscale tab to enhance individual colors – for example to darken a blue-sky, you can select the Luminance Tab and slide the blue slider to the left to darken blue colors or to the right to lighten blue colors. You can do this with any color, plus you can change the saturation or hue of individual colors by selecting the appropriate tab (Hue, Saturation or Luminance).



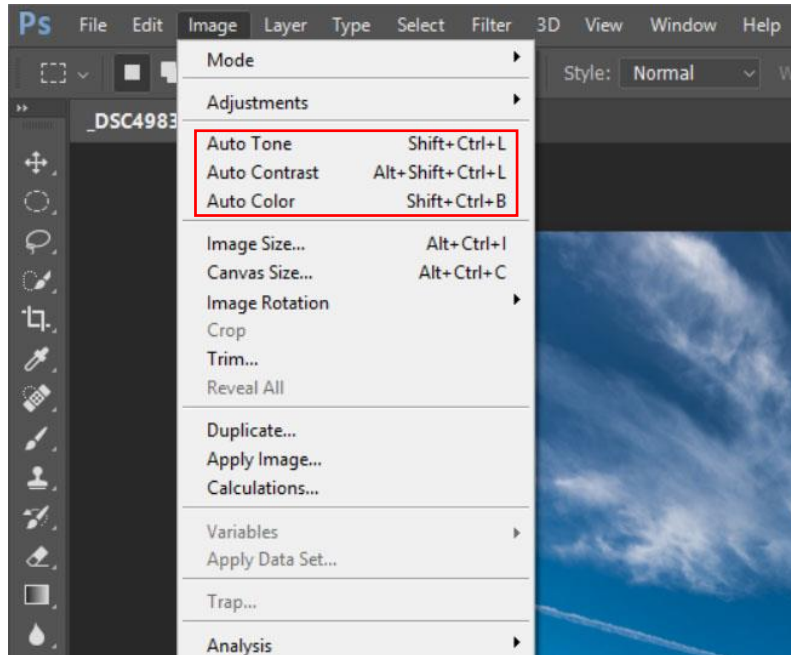
Click OPEN to open the image in Photoshop, Lightroom or Elements.

# Photoshop

These instructions are for Photoshop – if you are using Lightroom or Elements, the concepts are the same, but the actual actions will be different.

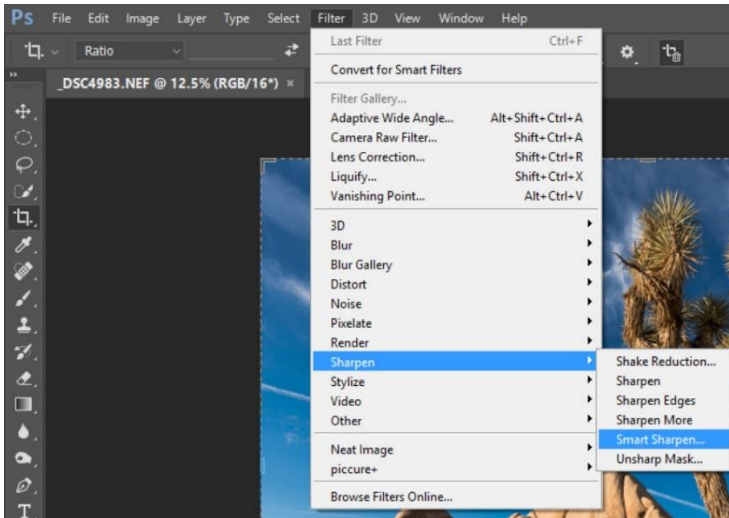
## Auto Tone, Auto Contrast and Auto Color

In the IMAGE menu, click on Auto Contrast. The image should improve. If not, you can UNDO by clicking Ctrl-Z (Cmd-Z on a Mac). Then click on Auto Tone – undo if you don't like the results. Then click on Auto Color – undo if you don't like the results.

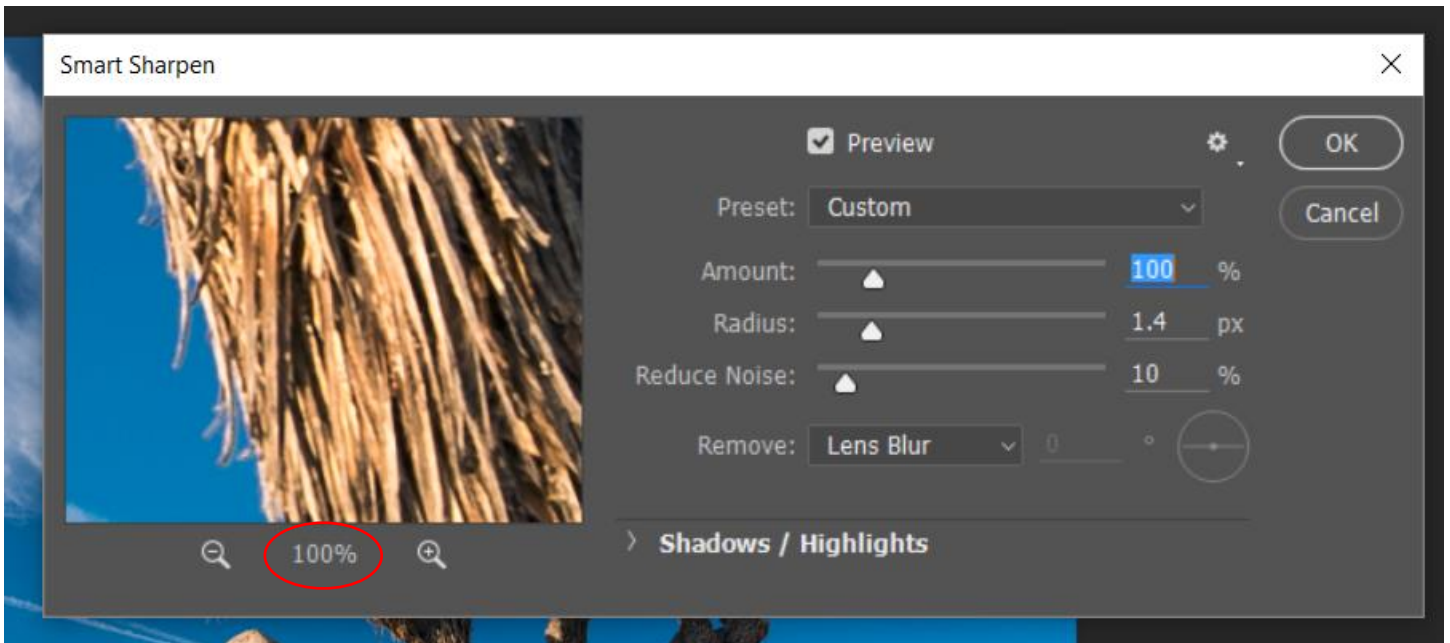


## Sharpen

Click on the FILTER menu and select SHARPEN and then Smart Sharpen.



Adjust the parameters as follows for large images (14 megapixels and up). Reduce the Radius for smaller images.



You will need to adjust the Amount higher or lower until the sample image to the left looks good. Always make sure that the sample image on the left is set to 100%.

## **Save**

Save the image (File / Save) and select the format you want to save in (PSD, JPEG, TIFF, etc.).