

Adobe® Photoshop® CS2

Questions & Answers

Answers to your questions about Photoshop CS2

Q: What is Adobe Photoshop CS2?

A: Adobe Photoshop CS2 software is the newest version of the professional standard in desktop digital imaging, Adobe Photoshop.

Q: Why has Adobe changed the version system — in other words, Photoshop CS2 rather than Photoshop 9.0?

A: The new versioning system is used to indicate that in addition to being available on its own, Photoshop CS2 is available as an integrated part of the Creative Suite 2 Premium and Standard editions. By using the same version number for all Creative Suite applications, we make it clear which versions of our applications have been designed to work together.

Q: Who needs Adobe Photoshop CS2?

A: Anyone who needs professional results when creating, editing, retouching, interpreting, or processing digital images. Graphic and Web designers, photographers, and video professionals all rely on Photoshop to work with digital images. In addition, increasing numbers of non-graphics professionals at home and at work are finding new ways to use Photoshop on all manner of digital imaging tasks, be it forensics analysis, architectural visualization, or just cultivating a passion for photography.

Q: What are the main differences between Photoshop CS and Photoshop CS2?

A: Adobe Photoshop CS2 offers new levels of creative power with ground-breaking new editing features, increased flexibility to adapt Photoshop to your specific requirements, and time-saving file handling and processing.

Q: How does Adobe Photoshop CS2 address the requirements of photographers?

A: Adobe Photoshop CS2 offers photographers new features that help them achieve higher quality images faster than ever. Adobe Bridge gives photographers a feature-rich, digital “light table” with multiple views and access to full metadata. The new multi-image Camera Raw facilitates processing of photo shoots in a fraction of the time, with advanced control, automatic adjustments, and new crop and straighten tools. The new, advanced Reduce Noise and Smart Sharpen filters offer more discrete enhancements with fewer artifacts. Optical Lens Correction quickly corrects pincushion and barrel distortions, as well as adjusting total perspective. The Spot Healing Brush provides fast, accurate retouching. And the new Vanishing Point plug-in allows photographers to quickly clone, paint and transform in the visual perspective of their images.

Q: How does Adobe Photoshop CS2 address the requirements of graphic and Web designers?

A: Designers will love Adobe Bridge for its powerful and intuitive image management. New creative tools include Image Warp, which allows for live image warping directly on the canvas; Smart Objects, which preserve the highest image quality even after repeated transformations; and the revolutionary Vanishing Point. And Photoshop CS2 is also available as part of the Creative Suite 2—Adobe’s design and publishing platform for creative professionals.

Q: How does Adobe Photoshop CS2 address the requirements of video and film professionals?

A: Photoshop CS2 software builds on the non-square pixel support added in the last release by adding a Video Preview export command, making it even easier to get an accurate view of what your work will look like on a television monitor. For film professionals who enjoyed the comprehensive 16-bit channel support in Photoshop CS, the latest version adds basic support for 32-bit high dynamic range (HDR) imaging. Of course, many of the other features of Photoshop CS2, such as Vanishing Point and Smart Objects, will also be of particular interest to video and film professionals.

Q: What makes Photoshop CS2 a “must-have” for professionals in other industries, such as engineering, architecture, scientific research, and health care?

A: Architects, engineers, and any professional communicating visual concepts will immediately appreciate the new Vanishing Point, which automatically matches perspective while editing, and Smart Objects, which helps preserve the optimum quality in both bitmap images and placed Adobe Illustrator® vector graphics. For scientists and medical professionals, the new animation palette will bring image-based presentations to life; the new Smart Sharpen filter will make it easier to see detail within an image; and the new Adobe Bridge will make image processing and management easier for all professionals using imaging in their work.

Q: What are the “killer features” within this release?

A: The beauty of Photoshop is that it can be different things to different people, and each person will find their own “must-have” feature. Certainly, Vanishing Point, given its nearly magical ability to maintain perspective while editing, is among the most dramatic features in Photoshop CS2, but there are other features that will have equally profound impacts on what can be accomplished. For those working with digital camera raw files, the new multi-file, batch-processing capabilities of Camera Raw, when combined with the new Adobe Bridge, could easily be considered well worth the cost of the upgrade, just based on the time saved in processing photo shoots. Designers will find that Smart Objects dramatically changes what they can achieve in complex compositions, by allowing them to scale and distort repeatedly without losing quality, and by providing unprecedented integration with Illustrator vector artwork. Even a feature like 32-bit HDR support, although not yet a requirement for the average user of Photoshop, satisfies a critical need for those creating high-end effects for motion pictures.

Q: What is the Adobe Creative Suite 2?

A: The Adobe Creative Suite 2 brings together full new versions of Adobe's latest print and Web publishing tools in a comprehensive design environment. It combines Photoshop CS2 with Illustrator CS2, InDesign® CS2, GoLive® CS2, Acrobat® 7.0 Professional, Version Cue® CS2, and Adobe Bridge.

Q: What is Adobe Bridge?

A: In Adobe Photoshop CS2, the acclaimed File Browser evolves into its own application: Adobe Bridge. With Adobe Bridge, you can quickly find the files you need now from a sea of thousands, and batch process them faster than ever, while simultaneously continuing your editing in Photoshop CS2. Adobe Bridge brings maximum efficiency to your creative life. It gives you the same great integration with Photoshop CS2 as the old file browser, but also gives you the power to launch it independently, for more efficient image sorting, organization, and raw processing. With Adobe Bridge, you can:

- Preview all Creative Suite 2 graphic formats—including the new Digital Negative specification (DNG)—with continuously scalable thumbnails, full metadata, and custom keywords.
- Sort, rank, and filter your images with a complete set of labels and ratings.
- Compare images in separate Adobe Bridge windows, filmstrip mode, or full-screen slide shows.
- Customize thumbnails and resize, hide, display and regroup palettes at will.
- Enjoy task-based presets, and save your own settings to custom workspaces for convenient recall at any time.
- Switch to a floating compact mode for easy Adobe Bridge access in all Adobe Creative Suite 2 applications.
- Process multiple digital Camera Raw images while simultaneously organizing others and editing in Photoshop CS2.
- Choose from hundreds of thousands of professional, royalty-free images from the time-saving Adobe Stock Photos service. When exclusivity is key, access hundreds of thousands more, in the Rights-managed Directory.
- Find the professional photographer that matches your vision, with the Adobe Photographers Directory accessed through Adobe Stock Photos.
- Order professional quality prints, large-format output, and more, from the built-in Adobe Photoshop Services.

Q: Will this new version of Photoshop be a part of the Adobe Video Collection?

A: Yes. The Adobe Video Collection 2.5 Professional Edition includes Photoshop CS2, along with Adobe Premiere® Pro 1.5, Adobe After Effects® 6.5 Professional, Adobe Audition® 1.5, and Adobe Encore™ DVD 1.5.

Q: How does Photoshop CS2 integrate with other Adobe products?

A: Adobe Photoshop CS2 integrates with multiple product lines across Adobe. A consistent user interface serves as the foundation for a smooth, cross-product workflow, but this release augments that integration with such features as support for Illustrator vector art as scalable Smart Objects in Photoshop CS2, and support for Photoshop Layer Comps in InDesign CS2 software. Photoshop CS2 images can also be used directly in Adobe Premiere Pro projects and Adobe After Effects compositions. And Adobe Encore DVD menus can be easily created from Photoshop CS2 images, or created and edited directly in Photoshop CS2. New features such as Vanishing Point and Video Preview also provide a more effective workflow for film and video professionals. Photoshop CS2 also tightly integrates with Acrobat 7.0 software. A complete, layered Photoshop CS2 document can be saved as a standard PDF file for commenting in Acrobat 7.0, with the new comments directly accessible when the file returns to Photoshop CS2. New, standardized PDF output settings in Photoshop CS2 allow users to apply more consistent and standards-compliant PDF settings across all Creative Suite 2 applications. Finally, Photoshop sits at the top of the digital imaging product line, and shares the same file format with the hobbyist-focused Photoshop Elements application.

Q: What platforms does Photoshop CS2 support?

A: Mac OS® X version 10.2.8 through 10.3.8, and Windows® 2000 with Service Pack 4 or Windows XP with Service Pack 1 or 2.

Q: What is the estimated street price?

A: The Suggested Retail Price for the upgrade is US\$149, and US\$599 for the full version.

Q: Who is eligible for the upgrade pricing?

A: If you own a licensed copy of any previous version of Photoshop, you are eligible to upgrade to Photoshop CS2 software.

Q: I own a copy of Photoshop. Does Adobe offer any special upgrade paths from Photoshop to Creative Suite 2?

A: Yes, as an owner of Photoshop, you are eligible to upgrade to the Creative Suite 2 Standard for US\$499 or the Creative Suite 2 Premium for US\$749.

Q: Do I qualify for Photoshop CS2 if I just recently purchased a copy of Photoshop CS?

A: Yes, you may be eligible for a copy of Photoshop CS2. To find out if you're eligible, contact Adobe Customer Service in your region as soon as possible. Restrictions apply.

Q: Is “activation” required?

A: After a successful rollout of product activation on the Windows platform for Photoshop CS, we are now including product activation on both Macintosh and Windows platforms for Photoshop CS2. We found that our implementation of activation did not cause any inconvenience for the average, legal Photoshop customer. There were some customers, however, who had the need to move their legal installation of Photoshop across multiple computers, so we have added the concept of activation transfer to this release. At any time, an installation of Photoshop CS2 can be deactivated over the Web, so that another copy of Photoshop CS2 on another system can be activated using the same serial number. This enables more installation flexibility while maintaining compliance with the license agreement.

Q: Why is Adobe implementing product activation?

A: Product activation is an interactive interpretation of the licensing agreement that has always existed between Adobe and its valued customers. The activation process authenticates licensed users without hindering their ability to use the software the way they always have. For more information, including an interactive demonstration of the simple activation process, please visit <http://www.adobe.com/activation/main.html>.

Q: Is activation related to registration? Does activation replace registration?

A: No. Activation is completely separate from product registration, which is optional. Registration is for those customers who want to receive information about product updates and other special offers from Adobe. In fact, activation and registration data reside on separate servers, and there is no linking of these separate data sets.

Q: How is Adobe’s product activation different from previous industry initiatives?

A: Although our inclusion of activation is prompted by Adobe’s business needs, our implementation is entirely guided by customer needs. We’ve studied all past industry initiatives so that we could learn from past mistakes and design a system that recognizes the way customers need to work with their software while minimizing any inconvenience. Plus, we continue to evolve the system to satisfy customer requirements, such as with the ability to transfer activation from one system to another in Photoshop CS2. Although there were a few people who objected to our inclusion of activation on philosophical grounds, there were an equal number of customers who supported our efforts, and the careful design of the system was such that the average customer barely noticed it.

Q: When will Photoshop CS2 be available?

A: Adobe Photoshop CS2 is immediately available to customers in the United States and Canada, through Adobe Authorized Resellers and through the Adobe Store at www.adobe.com/store. International versions are expected to begin shipping in late May and early June. Photoshop CS2 is also available as part of Adobe Creative Suite 2.

Q: Photoshop has been around for a long time and is a very deep, mature application—how do you approach these updates? How do you keep every new version fresh?

A: Photoshop software has become one of the most fundamental tools in visual communication, and we're in a unique position to be inspired by the creativity of our own customers and the ongoing progress of technology. Currently, digital cameras are so drastically altering photography workflows that it presents nearly endless opportunities for us to innovate. At the same time, new types of users—such as those in the medical imaging, forensics, scientific, and engineering fields—are applying Photoshop tools in new ways, providing insight into how we can make our product even better. By carefully studying the way our customers use our product, while also monitoring where technology is headed, we find there is always room to make Photoshop a more powerful, more efficient, and easier to use tool.

Q: How many registered Photoshop users are there? Just how prolific has this application become?

A: Photoshop has well over 4 million active users worldwide, and it has crossed over from purely professional usage to influence popular culture. Just about every image used in advertising and magazines has been touched by Photoshop. And not only is Photoshop the single most used application in the video and film industry, the product is also frequently referenced on talk shows and entertainment programs, with humorous images manipulated by Photoshop even circulating on the Web. This influence has led more and more people to discover how Photoshop can be applied to their own work, leading to the increasing usage of Photoshop in practical fields such as medical imaging, scientific research, architectural visualization, and forensic investigation. Wherever you find digital images, you'll find Photoshop.

Q: How does Photoshop CS2 fit into the Photoshop family of products?

A: Photoshop leads the Adobe digital imaging family, which also includes Adobe Photoshop Elements and Adobe Photoshop Album. As the professional standard in desktop digital imaging, Photoshop consistently breaks new ground in imaging technology. Photoshop software's mission is to provide the maximum creative power, productivity, and flexibility for demanding usage, while allowing Photoshop Elements software to innovate in new ways to make that technology more accessible to non-professionals. Just as Photoshop breakthrough technology eventually filters into our consumer products where it can reach more people, so the extensive usability efforts from our consumer products eventually informs Photoshop interface design, so as to make professionals and non-professionals alike more effective and productive.