How to Quickly Enhance a Photo

You can use several methods to enhance the images you bring into Photoshop Elements, but if you prefer to let Elements do most of the work, you can probably find everything you need on the Quick Fix tab of the Editor workspace.

From the Quick Fix tab, you can make auto adjustments to color, contrast, lighting, and sharpness. You can even remove unwanted redeye caused by flash photography.

For even faster results, you can let Elements make all the decisions by applying a Smart Fix. Smart Fixes make automatic adjustments to lighting, color, and contrast with a single click. If you like the results, you can move on to editing another photo. If not, undo your changes and try applying other enhancements from the Enhance menu or the Lighting, Color, or Sharpen palettes.

To let Elements enhance the image with Smart Fix:

1. Open the image in the Editor and select the Quick Fix tab.
   
   You can view the photo as it appears after applying fixes, or place the original beside the fixed image for a before-and-after view.

2. Open the View drop-down menu at the bottom of the workspace and select Before and After (Portrait) (Figure 1).
   
   The copies of the image appear side-by-side (Figure 2).

3. Choose Enhance > Auto Smart Fix.
   
   The After image is enhanced automatically (Figure 3).

   If you like the result, you have finished editing. If not, adjust the amount of Smart Fix in the General Fixes palette by dragging the slider.

   Note: To restore the image to its original state, click the Reset button above the After image.
To apply automatic enhancement for brightness, contrast, color, and sharpness:

1. To adjust brightness, choose Enhance > Auto Levels.
   Note: You can also click the Auto Levels button in the Lighting palette (Figure 4).

2. To adjust contrast, choose Enhance > Auto Contrast.
   Note: You can also click the Auto Contrast button or use the Contrast sliders in the Lighting palette (Figure 4).

3. To adjust color, choose Enhance > Auto Color Correction.
   Note: You can also use the Auto Color button or the Color sliders in the Color palette (Figure 5).

4. To adjust sharpness, choose Enhance > Auto Sharpness.
   Note: You can also use the Auto Sharpness button or the Sharpness sliders in the Sharpen palette (Figure 6).
Removing Red Eye

One of the most common photography problems is the red eye effect caused by a camera’s flash. This problem is even more common with digital cameras because the flash unit is so close to the lens.

Removing red eye is extremely simple with Photoshop Elements. Select the Red Eye Removal tool and draw a selection around the affected eye (Figure 7).

![Red Eye Removal tool](image)

**Figure 7 Red Eye Removal tool**

To remove red eye:

1. Open an image that has red eye.
2. Zoom in to the area that needs correction.
4. Drag to draw a selection border around the affected eye (Figure 8).

   The red eye is removed (Figure 9).

5. If necessary, repeat the process on the same or other eyes until you are happy with the results.

   **Note:** You can also click the Red Eye Fix Auto button in the General Fixes palette (Figure 10).

![Removing red eye](image)

**Figure 8 Removing red eye**

![Red eye removed](image)

**Figure 9 Red eye removed**

![General Fixes palette](image)

**Figure 10 General Fixes palette**