

Photoshop portrait lesson and exercises

(1) General portrait retouching

With your mugshot (or any other frontal portrait image) open in Photoshop, go » [Filter](#) » [Liquify](#) and experiment with the Face-Aware Liquify area. If you do make adjustments, make only small ones.

Revise what you did last year concerning “Some body and portrait retouching”: go through page 6 of the [INTER1 Photoshop lesson 2](#).

(2) Removing face shine (not covered in INTER1)

If you have face-shine on your image, and want to remove it in Photoshop...

1. Create a new layer (from the layers panel).
2. With the Eyedropper tool, select a point on the skin right next to the shiny surface (this selects the colour).
3. Select the Brush tool
 - hardness: 0%; size: almost as large as the shiny skin area
 - Mode: Darken
 - Opacity: 15% approx.
4. Brush over the shiny skin.
5. You can see what changes you have made by clicking on and off the view-layer symbol; when you are finished you can flatten the image » Layer » Flatten image.

Or, look at this video, as a very powerful alternative to the above...

youtu.be/ATk0Z2cnLtw

(3) Improving a portrait of an older person

Find a portrait picture of a middle-aged or older person, from either the internet or an image you already have, perhaps of somebody you know like a parent or grandparent.

And, for example...

1. drop the shoulders with Liquify (but only if appropriate) – people often lift their shoulders out of nervousness when being photographed
2. reduce face shine if needed
3. remove blemishes and
4. diminish – but do not remove – wrinkles
5. sharpen the eyes, eyelashes and eyebrows, and maybe the lips
6. de-yellow or lighten the teeth; whiten the white of the eyes and maybe slightly saturate the iris
7. remove bags under the eyes
8. soften skin – see the new Photoshop 2021 » [Filter](#) » [Neural filter](#) » [Skin smoothing](#)
9. maybe apply Face-Aware Liquify very slightly.

Remember that these changes should be so subtle that it is hardly obvious that you have made any changes at all. You are not attempting to make somebody look like Frankenstein!

I invite you to show me the before-and-after result.

(4) Improve a portrait of a younger person

Find a portrait photo of yourself or somebody of similar age and...

1. do any of the above to improve slightly
2. change the colour of the hair, pretending that you are required to show what dying the hair to a (credibly) different colour would look like – in selecting just the hair, maybe refresh your Select and Mask skills when applied to hair
(maybe look at this video youtube.com/watch?v=K0QDp6umxy0)
Excellent video on hair selection is youtu.be/yjIAr_g8Qpw
...but a bit too advanced so maybe watch the first part, particularly the option of » [Refine Mode](#) » [Color Aware](#) or [Object Aware](#), and maybe just speed watch the second half of the video
3. apply a little makeup to the face
(maybe look at his video youtube.com/watch?v=1T9QXzUFeIM)
or even easier use the new Photoshop neural filter "Makeup transfer"
4. Brighten eyes: see this excellent short video youtu.be/qDbV-AfIMlk

Once again, I hope that you show me the before-and-after result.

(5) New in Photoshop 2023

Now it is easy to select portions of the body and face with enhanced Neural Filter.
Go through this video, after 3' 35": youtu.be/fU59i1W04c.