

Quick Tips for Photography

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REDUCING CHROMATIC ABERRATION

When you have already tried to reduce chromatic aberration either in camera raw or in Photoshop and you still have residual color fringing around certain edges within your photograph there is a quick trick to making it less apparent. In Photoshop - desaturate your image. You can do this by adding a hue saturation layer and dragging the saturation slider to the left. Now hide the desaturated layer by adding a black layer mask. You do this by pressing the option key along with the mask icon at the bottom of the layers panel (3rd from the left). Once you have the black mask applied you should see your image in full color. Now zoom in and with a fine brush paint over the fringe color. This process will take the color out of the fringe and will turn it to grey. Since the chromatic aberration tends to be relatively fine the grey tends to be far less noticeable than the fringing.

CHANGING THE COLOR ON AN ITEM IN YOUR IMAGE USING PHOTOSHOP

There are many ways to change the color of an item in your photograph, but my favorite way is to add a Hue/Saturation layer. Then drag the hue slider to the left or right until you get the color you are looking for. This will affect the entire photograph but don't worry about that. Focus on the item you are trying to change color. Once you have the right color, add a black layer mask over the hue saturation layer. This will hide the change you just made and will return you to your regular image. Now, simply choose the brush tool and using a white brush carefully paint over the item you are looking to change color. It's just that simple!

USING MASKS IN PHOTOSHOP

Masks make it very easy to limit the effect of an adjustment layer to certain sections of the image. When you are in Photoshop and you have your layers panel open - select the add a mask icon on the bottom of the layers panel - third from the left. It looks like a solid rectangle with a small black circle in it. Remember, "Black conceals and white reveals." So a white mask allows the effect to show and you would paint away the effect using a black paint brush on the white mask. Or you can add a black mask by pressing the option key (mac) along with the add a mask icon on the layers panel. That will place a black mask over your image which conceals the effect you just added. Now paint back in the effect by painting with a white brush on the area of the mask that you want the effect to show through.