TACC Discussion Group

4/12/2019

Post Processing with Photoshop Elements

Jerry Stuzman Discussion Leader

Jerry Stutzman gave us a great introduction to Photoshop Elements (PSE) in our April Discussion Group. I have attached the slides he used in the first part of his presentation. [Photoshop Elements Overview](#)

As Jerry pointed out, PSE is a somewhat scaled down version of the current Adobe Photoshop product. However, it actually contains a tremendous number of features and is a perfectly viable post processing tool even for very advanced photographers. It differs from Photoshop in that it is available as a standalone product with a one-time perpetual license charge (not a subscription). Adobe has come out with new release of Photoshop Element every year for some time (it is now up to Version 19). However, the feature set changes slowly and you can go for many years without worrying about upgrading to the latest version. New versions tend to come out in the spring and Adobe usually has a sale on the current versions around this time. Thus, Version 19 (2019) is now available for $70 until April 21.

Jerry did a number of demos using his photos to explain various PSE features, including background replacement, content aware fill, basic adjustments with Raw or JPEG files, creation of panoramic images, etc.   Rather than try to capture his demos in these minutes, I have created a list of links to online tutorials that cover these topics and more.

As Jerry also pointed out, there are extensive guides and tutorial available for PSE from Adobe. In addition there are lots of third party tutorials, These include YouTube videos and video classes from vendors like Lynda.com. You can find these using a Google search like "Tutorials for Adobe Photoshop Elements". As mentioned above, there are many versions of PSE since a new version comes out every year. However, the

versions change slowly, usually just to add a few new features and fix bugs. Thus, you can often use a tutorial from a different version than the one you happen to have.

I think the best place to start is with the wide selection of free tutorials that Adobe offers. Here are some links to Adobe tutorials:

Help page (tutorials and guides) for current version of PSE (2019):

https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/tutorials.html#fundamentals

Adobe PSE tutorials (various versions):

https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/tutorials.html

Older Adobe tutorials are available and cover different topics (but are usually relevant for most versions). For example consider the following:

PSE 12 tutorials:

https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/archive/pse-12-tutorials.html

Sample PSE12 lesson: https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/archive/pse-12-tutorials/straighten-photos-content-aware-fill.html

PSE 13 tutorials:

Sample Adobe PSE tutorial on content aware fill, an extremely powerful feature that Jerry showed in his talk. (This tutorial was done for Version 13 but it is probably still correct for later versions.):

https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/how-to/remove-objects-artifacts-content-aware-fill.html?playlist=/ccx/v1/collection/product/photoshop-elements/topics/retouching/collection.ccx.js&ref=helpx.adobe.com

Sample PSE 13 lesson on content aware move: https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/how-to/adjust-objects-content-aware.html?playlist=/ccx/v1/collection/product/photoshop-elements/topics/retouching/collection.ccx.js&ref=helpx.adobe.com

PSE 14 tutorials:

https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/archive/pse-14-tutorials.html

Sample PSE14 lesson: https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop-elements/how-to/fine-tune-selection-brush-tool.html

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