

Editing In The Four Versions Of Lightroom, Classic, CC Desktop, Mobile and Web

None destructive editing in Lightroom Classic

Non-destructive editing in Adobe Lightroom Classic is a fundamental feature that allows users to make changes to their images without altering the original files. Here is how non-destructive editing can be achieved in Lightroom Classic:

1. Catalog and Import

Lightroom Classic uses a catalog system that references users original images and stores the edits as metadata.

- **How to Use:** Import the images into Lightroom CC Desktop by clicking on the “+” icon or using the “Import” button. This process doesn't move or change the original files.
- **Benefits:** The original images remain untouched, and all edits are stored as separate metadata, allowing for non-destructive workflows.

2. Editing with the Develop Module

All adjustments in Lightroom are non-destructive and can be modified or reset at any time.

- **How to Use:** Go to the Develop module and use sliders and tools for adjustments like exposure, contrast, highlights, shadows, whites, blacks, clarity, vibrance, and saturation.
- **Benefits:** Edits are applied as instructions that can be altered or removed without affecting the original image.

3. Using Pre-sets

Pre-sets apply a predefined set of adjustments to users images.

- **How to Use:** In the Develop module, navigate to the Pre-sets panel on the left. Click on a pre-set to apply it to the image.
- **Benefits:** Pre-sets provide a quick way to apply complex edits, and users can still tweak individual settings afterward.

4. Creating and Using Snapshots

Snapshots capture the state of the image at a particular point in the editing process.

- **How to Use:** In the Develop module, go to the Snapshots panel on the left. Click the “+” icon to create a snapshot.
- **Benefits:** Users can create multiple snapshots to compare different editing styles and revert to any saved state at any time.

5. Virtual Copies

Virtual copies allow users to create different versions of an image without duplicating the original file.

- **How to Use:** Right-click on an image and select “Create Virtual Copy.”
- **Benefits:** Each virtual copy can have its own set of edits, providing flexibility to experiment with different looks without additional storage space.

6. Using the History Panel

The History panel keeps a record of all the edits made to an image.

- **How to Use:** In the Develop module, open the History panel on the left. Click on any history state to revert to that point.
- **Benefits:** Users can easily backtrack and compare different editing steps without losing any work.

7. Local Adjustments

Local adjustments allow users to edit specific areas of an image without affecting the entire image.

- **How to Use:** Use tools like the Adjustment Brush, Radial Filter, and Graduated Filter found in the Develop module. Make adjustments using sliders specific to these tools.
- **Benefits:** Local adjustments provide targeted control while maintaining non-destructive edits, as these adjustments can be modified or removed at any time.

8. Synchronizing Edits

Synchronizing edits applies the same adjustments to multiple images.

- **How to Use:** Select multiple images, make the edits on one, and then click on the “Sync” button to apply the same adjustments to the selected images.
- **Benefits:** This ensures consistency across a batch of images and speeds up the editing process.

9. Copy and Paste Settings

Copying and pasting settings lets users replicate edits from one image to another.

- **How to Use:** Edit an image, then use the “Copy” button to copy the settings. Select another image and use the “Paste” button to apply the settings. Alternatively in the next image click Previous.
- **Benefits:** Efficiently transfer complex edits between images non-destructively.

10. Exporting

Exporting images generates new files with the edits applied, leaving the originals untouched.

- **How to Use:** After editing, click the “Export” button. Choose the export settings, including file format, size, and quality.
- **Benefits:** Exporting creates a new file based on the edited version, preserving the original file as is.

By using these features in Lightroom CC Desktop, users can edit their images extensively while ensuring that the original files remain intact. This approach provides flexibility and security, allowing for continuous adjustments and experimentation without risking data loss or degradation.

Adobe Lightroom Creative Cloud

Adobe Lightroom Creative Cloud (often referred to simply as Lightroom CC) was previously only a cloud-based image service designed for photography enthusiasts and professionals. A recent change to the programme means that images residing on disc drives, camera memory cards and memory sticks can be accessed for editing. It provides a comprehensive solution for managing, editing, and sharing images across multiple devices. Here are some key features and aspects of Lightroom CC:

Key Features

1. **Cloud-Based Storage and Syncing:**
 - All images can be stored in the cloud, enabling access from any device with Lightroom installed, including desktops, laptops, tablets, and smartphones.
 - Automatic syncing ensures that edits made on one device are reflected on all other devices.
2. **The Local tab in Lightroom lets users directly access locally stored images and videos from user devices:**
 - This workflow lets users edit images from the device without importing or syncing them to the Lightroom cloud. Select the Local icon at top left → navigate to the desired folder to access the locally stored images and videos.
3. **Non-Destructive Editing:**
 - Lightroom CC uses non-destructive editing, meaning that original files are never altered. All edits are stored as metadata and can be undone or modified at any time.
4. **Advanced Editing Tools:**
 - A wide range of powerful editing tools, including exposure, contrast, colour correction, cropping, and more.
 - Creative options such as pre-sets and profiles to apply predefined styles and looks to images.
 - Local adjustments for precise control over specific areas of an image using tools like brushes and gradients.
5. **Organization and Search:**
 - Powerful organizational features allow users to categorize and tag images with keywords, ratings, and flags.

- AI-powered search capabilities (Adobe Sensei) can identify objects, people, and other elements within images, making it easy to find specific images without extensive manual tagging.
- 6. Integration with Adobe Ecosystem:**
 - Seamless integration with other Adobe Creative Cloud applications like Photoshop for advanced editing.
 - Direct sharing to social media platforms and Adobe Portfolio for creating online portfolios.
 - 7. User-Friendly Interface:**
 - Designed to be intuitive and accessible to both beginners and advanced users.
 - Consistent interface across all devices ensures a smooth workflow.
 - 8. Collaboration and Sharing:**
 - Sharing options for individual images or entire albums with clients, friends, or social media.
 - Collaborative features allow others to view, comment, and even contribute to shared albums.
 - 9. Performance and Support:**
 - Regular updates with new features, performance improvements, and bug fixes.
 - Access to Adobe support and a vibrant community of Lightroom users for help and inspiration.

Workflow in Lightroom CC

- 1. Importing Images:**
 - Images can be imported from various sources, including locally stored images, cameras, memory cards, and cloud storage.
- 2. Organizing:**
 - Use albums, folders, and tags to organize images.
 - AI-driven search to quickly locate specific images.
- 3. Editing:**
 - Apply global adjustments to enhance overall image quality.
 - Use local adjustment tools for targeted edits.
 - Experiment with creative effects using pre-sets and profiles.
- 4. Sharing and Exporting:**
 - Export images in various formats and resolutions.
 - Share directly to social media or with clients via web links or collaborative albums.
- 5. Backup and Access:**
 - Automatic cloud backup ensures images are safe and accessible from any device.
 - Download originals or edited versions as needed.

Subscription Model

Lightroom CC is available as part of Adobe's subscription-based Creative Cloud service. It can be purchased as a standalone plan or bundled with other Adobe applications like Photoshop as part of the Photography Plan. Subscriptions include cloud storage options, with varying capacities depending on the plan selected.

In summary, Adobe Lightroom Creative Cloud is a versatile and powerful image management and editing tool that leverages cloud technology to provide a seamless experience across devices. It's well-suited for photographers who need robust editing capabilities, comprehensive organizational tools, and the flexibility of accessing their work from anywhere.

Lightroom Web

Lightroom Web, part of Adobe Lightroom, is a cloud-based image service that enables users to edit, organize, store, and share images from any web browser. It's a companion to Adobe Lightroom Classic and the Lightroom desktop and mobile apps, providing a seamless way to access and manage their image library across different devices. Here are some key features of Lightroom Web:

1. **Cloud Storage:** Automatically syncs images and edits across all devices using Adobe's cloud storage.
2. **Image Editing:** Offers a range of editing tools to enhance images, including exposure, colour, and detail adjustments.
3. **Organizing Tools:** Provides features for organizing images into albums, adding keywords, and searching through the library.
4. **Sharing Options:** Allows users to create shareable links to their images or albums and post directly to social media.
5. **Accessibility:** Since it operates in a web browser, therefore access can be made to the image library and editing tools from any device with internet access, without needing to install additional software.

Lightroom Web is ideal for photographers who need flexibility and the ability to work from different devices and locations.

Lightroom Mobile

Lightroom Mobile is a version of Adobe Lightroom designed specifically for mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. It is part of the Adobe Creative Cloud suite and provides users with powerful image editing and organizing tools on-the-go. Here are some key features of Lightroom Mobile:

1. **Image Editing:** Lightroom Mobile offers a range of professional-grade editing tools, including exposure adjustments, colour correction, cropping, and more. Users can apply filters, pre-sets, and make selective adjustments to enhance their images.
2. **Syncing and Cloud Storage:** Images and edits can be synced across devices through Adobe Creative Cloud. This means users can start editing on their mobile phone and continue on their computer seamlessly.

3. **Organizing and Managing:** The app helps users organize their images with tags, ratings, and albums. It also includes search functionality to find images based on metadata, keywords, and other criteria.
4. **RAW Support:** Lightroom Mobile supports RAW files, which are high-quality image files that contain more data than standard JPEGs. This is particularly useful for professional photographers who need greater control over their edits.
5. **Camera Integration:** The app includes a built-in camera feature with advanced controls, allowing users to capture images directly within Lightroom. This can include manual settings for ISO, exposure, and white balance.
6. **Pre-sets and Profiles:** Users can apply and create custom pre-sets and profiles, making it easy to maintain a consistent look and feel across their image collections.
7. **Sharing and Exporting:** Edited images can be easily shared to social media platforms, or exported in various formats and sizes. Lightroom Mobile also supports direct sharing to Adobe Portfolio and other Creative Cloud services.
8. **User-Friendly Interface:** The app is designed to be intuitive and easy to use, making it accessible for both beginners and professional photographers.

Lightroom Mobile is available for both iOS and Android devices, and it can be downloaded from the respective app stores. While some features are available for free, a subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud is required to unlock the full range of functionalities.