

Power Retouche

correct lens-distortion
sharpen without artefacts ... & more...

Photo-retouching plug-ins

A Photoshop plug-in to edit brightness without losing color

Most photo software edits brightness at the expense of color and contrast. This plug-in lets you edit brightness without losing color. It also lets you edit brightness independently in highlights, lights, mid tones, darks and blacks as well as apply a graduated effect.

- Power Retouche **Photoshop plug-ins** Windows version are also for **Paint Shop Pro, Corel Draw, Illustrator, Fireworks** and other plug-in compatible hosts. see [list](#). Mac version only guaranteed to work on Photoshop.



Brightness Editor plug-in - Tutorial

Benefits of the plug-in

- Edit brightness (lightness) without losing color.
- Does not fade photos or images.
- Independent control of degree of color preservation.
- Option to target selectable hues or values for editing.

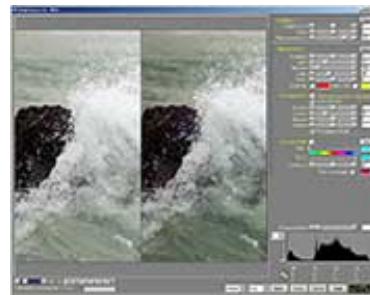
The Brightness Editor plug-in works with these image modes (Windows and Mac)...
8 & 16 bit / channel: RGB, Grayscale, CMYK.

Brightness Editor controls

This is the Brightness Editor plug-ins control panel (Windows). Click the image to enlarge. The control panel and preview area can be changed by dragging the sides. The filter has only three main controls:

1. Brightness % - increase or decrease brightness
2. Offset
3. Preserve Color % - range from 0 to 200%

In addition there are sliders for controlling the retouch.



Example -



The Brightness Editor plug-in is indispensable for editing brightness when you want full control over color preservation.

The central rectangle is the original.

The plug-ins three main controls

Brightness

The Brightness slider ranges from -100 to 100 and changes the image from virtually black at 0 to white at 100.

Offset

Offset adds or subtracts a given value from every pixel in the image, thus moving the entire image up or down in brightness.

Preserve Color

The Preserve Color slider ranges from 0 to 200%. Set to 0 it will produce an almost grayscale image and set to 200 it will produce an image of more or less double color intensity.



Retouch levels

Retouch Levels Retouch levels is common to many Power Retouche plug-ins. The three sliders lets you control the percentage of effect in lights, mid tones and darks.

White Alert
Black Alert If you check White Alert, areas in the preview that are 0.3% pure white, will be masked. Likewise Black Alert masks 0.3% pure blacks. You can change the color of the masks by clicking in the colored rectangles.



Original



Darks and mid tones brightened 100%



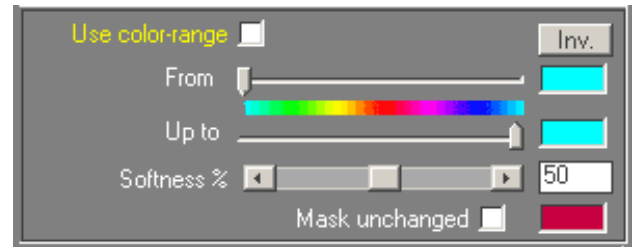
Original



Mid tones and darks deepened 100%
Lights deepened 50%

Color range

Use Color range This is also common for several of the Power Retouches. Color range will restrict filtering to colors in the range from the right side of the "From" slider to the left side of the "Up to" slider. This also if the "From" slider is to the right of the "Up to" slider. If you only selected what was in between, you would not be able to select everything except red (for example). **Mask unchanged** will apply a mask over areas outside the range.



Inv (Invert selection)

This button will make the sliders swap place. For example you might set the slider to include only reds. If you press Inv. the sliders swap place and select everything but reds.

This is useful, for example, if you first want to edit selected foreground colors, then rerun the plug-in to edit all other colors. The plug-in remembers your settings between invocations, so on the second run just hit Inverse.

The two small colored windows show the selected color. If you apply a target range the color in these two windows will become lighter or darker according to the selected gray-range.

Softness

This slider determines if the changes should be applied evenly to the entire color range or if (and how much) it should fade out towards the extremes.



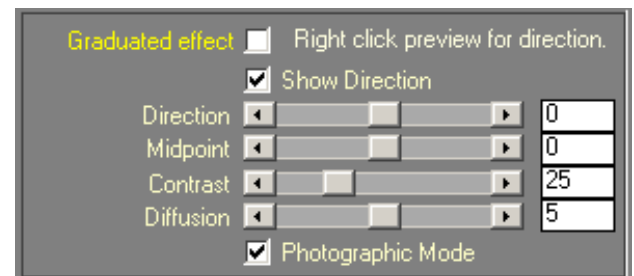
Original



Green balloons darkened

Graduated effect

These controls are common for most of the Power Retouche plug-ins. Using graduated effect will cause the filter to apply its filtering at full strength in one side of the image and then fade the effect out towards the other side. You can change direction by right clicking the preview. Midpoint will shift the balance between how large an area will be filtered at full strength and how much will have a faded out effect. Contrast will change the acceleration and spread of the fade-out.



In this example we applied a graduated effect towards the bottom, lowering the brightness of the foreground, setting midpoint to the edge of the green foreground. This slight retouch gives a greater sense of depth in the image. In this case we used Photographic Mode, which is a very important feature when retouching because it gives retouches a far more natural look.



Original



Foreground deepened

Examples of brightness editing with color preservation

**Brightness
+/- 50%**

**Preserve Colors
100%**

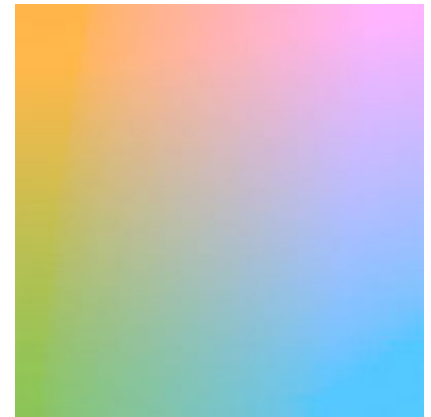
Brightness -50%
Preserve colors 100%



Original images



Brightness +50%
Preserve colors 100%



**Brightness
+/- 90%**

**Preserve Colors
150%**

Brightness -90%
Preserve colors 150%



Original images



Brightness +90%
Preserve colors 150%

