

Editing Portraits

Acne

I like to use both the healing brush (j) and the clone stamp (s)

Healing brush:

Select the healing brush out of your tool box. The shortcut is j or shift j if another healing tool is selected. Once you have the brush selected click on a clear area of skin that is close by the blemish you want to fix. Hold the alt or option key down and click. This selects the area you want to use to fix the blemish. Then click on the blemish. The healing brush tries to make the area you clicked match the spot you selected as well as the existing area around it.

Clone Stamp:

Use the clone stamp in lighten mode at 50% opacity and 40% flow (adjust as needed). Select an area just as you did with the healing brush and fix blemishes.

MAKE SURE YOU ARE WATCHING FOR LIGHTER DOTS. IF DOTS START TO APPEAR YOU HAVE THE OPACITY UP TOO HIGH OR YOU ARE SELECTING AN AREA TO COPY THAT IS THE WRONG SHADE.

Wrinkles and bags under eyes

Use the clone tool in lighten mode at 40% opacity and 40% flow (adjust as needed).

Clone tool:

Select the clone tool (s). Select a lighter area near the wrinkle or dark bag by holding alt/option and clicking, then just click and drag. Don't click and drag too far. Renew the area you are using to clone from a lot.

MAKE SURE NOT TO TAKE THE ALL THE CHARACTER OUT OF A PERSON. OLD PEOPLE DO HAVE WRINKLES, JUST SOFTEN THEM. GUYS DON'T WANT FLAWLESS FEMININE SKIN, DON'T TAKE OUT ALL THE DARK AREAS.

Whitening Teeth

Use the lasso tool (l) and the saturation control (apple U).

Using the lasso tool select the general area of the teeth. After this pull up the saturation control (apple u). Change the master control to yellow. Pull the saturation down a little (not too much or the teeth will go yellow). Then if they still need something bump up the lightness.

Eyes

The history brush (y) and the sponge saturation tool (o).

Make sure to place the history brush marker in your history pallet the brush has something to work from. With the history brush at 20% opacity and 20%flow, enter the screen mode (NOT LIGHTEN MODE). Lighten the whites of the eyes (DON'T MAKE THEM WHITE). The eyes closest to you will be lighter than the one farther away. Lighten the catch light as well as the area on the part of the iris that is opposite from the catch light. Change the mode to multiply (NOT DARKEN). Click on the pupil of the eyes 1-2 times. Also outline the outer edge of the iris. Be careful not to make the brush a hard dark line.

With the sponge saturation tool (o) make sure it is on saturate not desaturate. Turn the opacity to about 20% and pass over the iris a couple of times.

Evening Skin

Press apple/option/`. This will select the highlights. After they are selected press apple j to make a new layer with just your selection. Then apply a Gaussian blur at 3-4 pixels. Add a layer masque to this layer. Select the brush with black to bring back clarity in some areas (close to eyes, nose, mouth...). Set the opacity anywhere from 50-100%. Then adjust the opacity of the entire layer to around 30-40%.

Lips

Sponge saturation tool

Set the opacity to 20-30% and pass over lips.

Opening Eyes

Lasso and move tool

Select the area around the eye. Don't go through the pupil. Press apple j to create a new layer with your selection. Select the move tool and then press the arrow key to move it down (only press once or twice). If needed select the clone tool and patch the areas that need it.