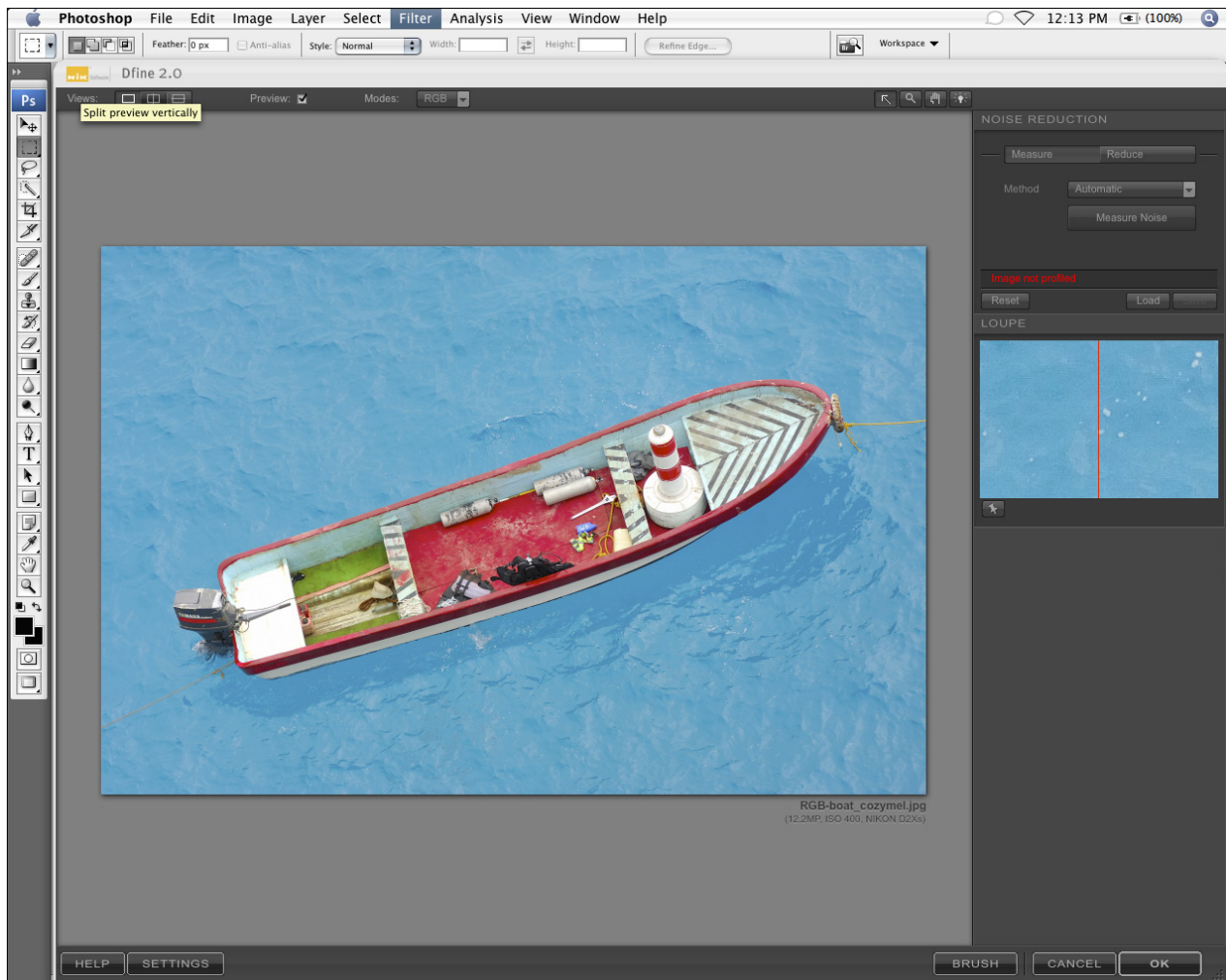




Dfine[®] 2.0 Lesson

The New Dfine 2.0 Interface

Simplifying the Process of Noise Reduction



The New Dfine 2.0 Interface

The new redesigned Dfine 2.0 noise reduction software has received many upgrades and changes.

One of the most visible changes for users of Dfine 1.0 is the interface. To launch Dfine 2.0 after installation, simply click on the Filter drop down menu and click on Dfine 2.0.

In the upper left area of the interface, there are three different types of view modes available (figure 1); Single Image View, to view the entire image with the noise reduction applied, Split View Vertically and Split View Horizontally, which both display the before and after image after noise reduction has been applied. There are three different zoom levels to navigate your image; Zoom to Fit which fits the entire image in the interface, 100% magnification which will zoom in to actual pixels, and 300% magnification.

In the upper left you will also find the Preview checkbox (figure 2) and a Modes drop down menu. The Preview checkbox will turn on and off the noise reduction. The different modes create the ability to see the image as an RGB image in full color or by individual channels, Red, Green or Blue (figure 3). Other viewing mode options include Luminance, Chrominance, Contrast Noise Mask, and Color Noise Mask.

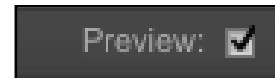
Next, in the upper right area of the interface are four tools: the Select Tool, the Zoom Tool, the Pan Tool and the Background Color Selector (figure 4). The Background Color Selector changes the background from light grey, neutral grey or black depending on the user's preference.

Also in the upper right area of the interface is the Measure/Reduce area. The first step in noise reduction is to identify and analyze noise in an image. With Dfine 2.0, there are two options for identifying and measuring the noise, Automatic



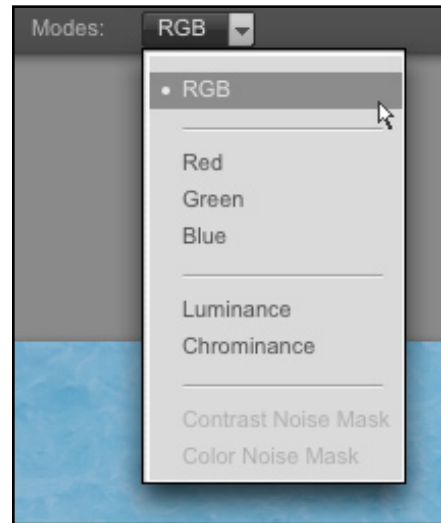
(figure 1)

View Modes



(figure 2)

Preview



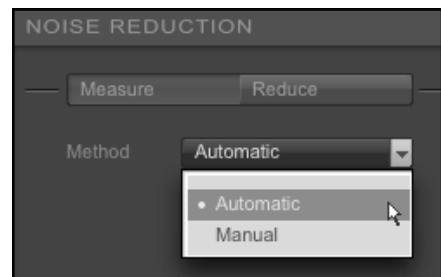
(figure 3)

Modes



(figure 4)

Tools



(figure 5)

Measure / Reduce

or Manual. The auto measure is recommended although users may want to further control noise reduction with the manual measurement or selective application. (figure 5)

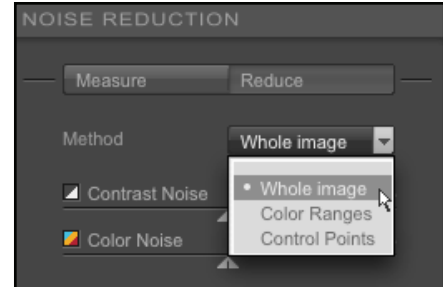
The second step is to apply the noise reduction either to the Whole image or by one of two other methods (figure 6). The first selective option is Color Ranges, which will allow the photographer to select the area of color in which to reduce noise using an eye-dropper tool to select the desired color.

The other method of selective noise reduction utilizes U Point® powered Control Points (figure 7). Featuring Nik Software’s patented U Point technology, the user can reduce noise selectively in a specific area. Control Points are easy to use and very powerful, and more information can be found in the Dfine 2.0 Lesson “Noise Reduction with Control Points.”

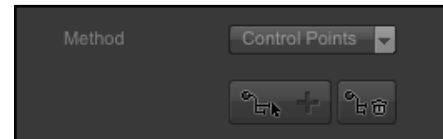
The Navigator Loupe is one of the most helpful elements of the new interface. After measuring noise, a before and after is shown in the Loupe without changing the view or zoom in the preview window. By moving the cursor around on the primary image, the Loupe will update and show the matching area before and after noise reduction at 100%. (figure 8)

By double clicking in the image preview window or using the zoom tool, you can magnify the image to 100%. Once the image is magnified the Loupe becomes a Navigator window. Then click and drag the red box in the Navigator window to move around the image quickly and easily. (figure 9)

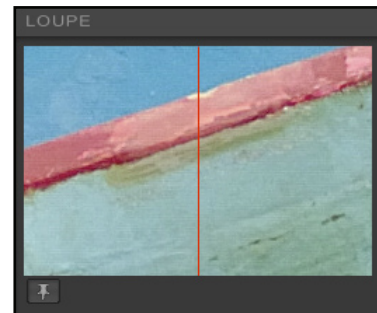
In the lower right corner of the Interface are the Brush, Cancel, and OK buttons (figure 10). Clicking on the Brush button opens the Selective Tool and provides control



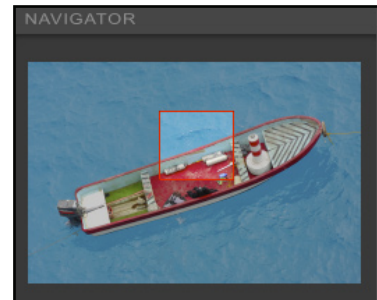
(figure 6) Noise Reduction Method



(figure 7) Control Points



(figure 8) Loupe



(figure 9) Navigator



(figure 10) Brush - Cancel - OK

The New Dfine 2.0 Interface



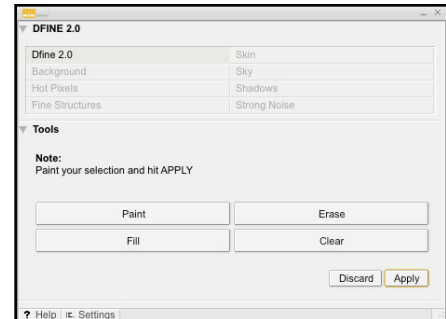
over the application of noise reduction (*figure 11*). You can choose to Paint, Erase, Fill or Clear the noise reduction to the image. You will notice as the Selective Tool opens that there will be a new layer in the Photoshop Layers palette. You can also choose Discard and start over. The Cancel button will close the Dfine interface, returning the image to Photoshop untouched and the OK button will apply the noise reduction to the image either on a new layer or to the currently selected layer.

In the lower left are the Settings and Help buttons. In the Settings window you can configure default preferences for the following:

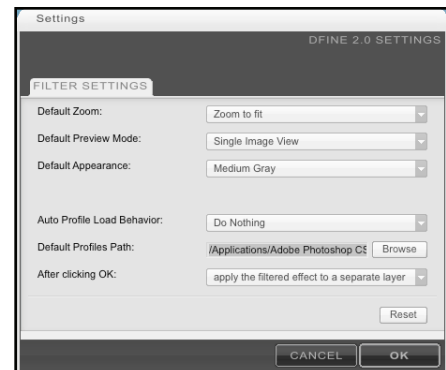
Default Zoom Setting, Default Preview Mode, Default Appearance, Auto Profile Load Behavior, Default Profiles Path and if the noise reduction will be applied to a new layer in Photoshop's Layers palette. (*figure 12*)

The Help button will take you to the Help home page which has more information on how to use Dfine 2.0 and links to other support such as the Dfine 2.0 User Guide. (*figure 13*)

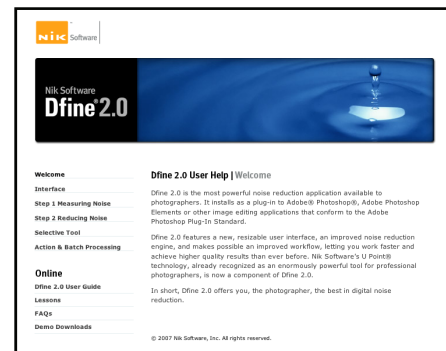
Dfine 2.0 enables quick and easy application of noise reduction to photographs while preserving fine details and clarity.



(figure 11) **Selective Tool**



(figure 12) **Settings**



(figure 13) **Online Help**