

Nik Sharpener Pro™ 2.0 Lesson

Workflow

Learn how to sharpen images using the Basic and Advanced modes in Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0



Before



After

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Getting Started with Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0

1. Launch Adobe® Photoshop® (or other Adobe Photoshop plug-in compatible image editing application) and open an image to be sharpened.

2. Click the **Filter** pull-down menu and select Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0 to display the list of sharpening filters. (See Figure 1)

3. Select the appropriate filter based upon the intended print device. For our sample purposes we have selected the Inkjet: Epson...filter.

4. The Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0 preview window will appear displaying the selected image. (See Figure 2)

5. **Image Width** and **Image Height** are automatically set by the software specified by the dimensions in the image file.

6. **Viewing distance** may be left to **Auto**, which sets the optimum viewing distance based on the size of the image. To view the Auto distance value selected by the software, click the **Show More** option located in the lower left corner of the preview window. The Current Viewing Distance is displayed in the right column along with the Image Size. (See Figure 3)

7. Click and slide the **Paper Type** slider icon to select the appropriate paper type that will be used for the print. The slider offers the following options: Texture & Fine Art, Canvas, Plain Paper, Matte, Luster and Glossy.

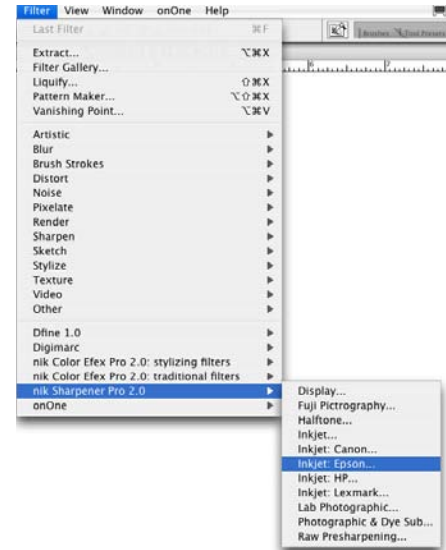


Figure 1: Photoshop pull down menu



Figure 2: Preview Window

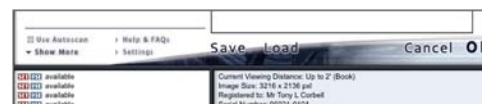


Figure 3: Show More Dialog box

8. Click and slide the **Printer Resolution** slider icon to select the printer resolution you intend to use for printing your image. There are five preset resolutions and two additional user-defined resolutions that may be set using the Settings menu.

The Settings Menu

1. Click on **Settings** in the lower left area of the preview window. (See Figure 4)

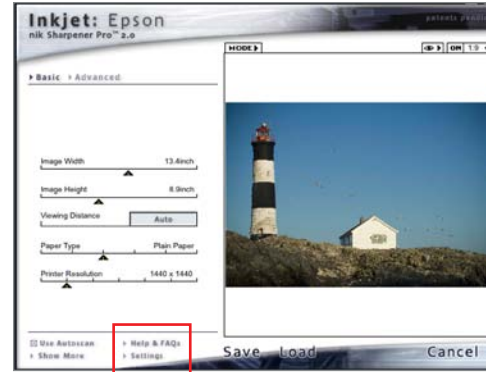


Figure 4: Accessing the Settings Menu

The Inkjet Settings window will appear. (See Figure 5)

2. Check the appropriate box for number of inks used in your print device.

3. Select a default viewing distance.

4. Select a Preview Default mode.

5. User Defined 1 and 2. Enter up to two additional resolutions available for your print device if those resolutions are not found within the default slider options.

6. Select millimeters (mm) or inches (inch) from the Measurement Unit option.

7. Click OK to accept the selections and to close the Settings menu and return to the Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0 preview window.

8. Click OK to apply the Nik Sharpener Pro 2.0 filter effect to the image.



Figure 5: Inkjet Settings Menu

Using the Advanced panel for more controlled sharpening

1. Click the **Inkjet: Epson** button on the Selective Tool palette.

2. Click the **Advanced** tab located in the top left area of the **Inkjet: Epson** preview window. The **Advanced** panel will open, displaying five eyedroppers with sliders.



Figure 6: Advanced Panel

3. Click the first eyedropper to select it. Position the eyedropper over the rocks in the foreground. The color box will display the color or hue associated with the rocks. (See Figure 6)

4. Slide the slider to the left for less sharpening or to the right for more sharpening to adjust the amount of sharpening to be applied to the selected area.

5. Click the second eyedropper to select it. Position the eyedropper over the white area of the lighthouse. The color box associated with the eyedropper will display the selected color or hue. (See Figure 7)

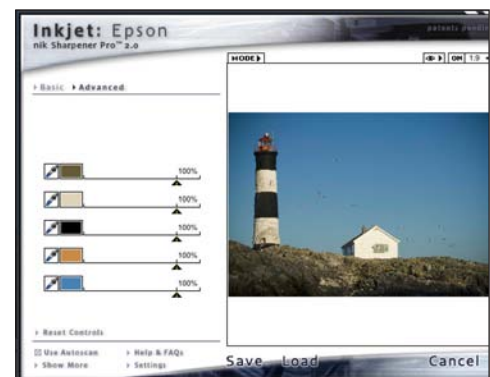


Figure 7: Advanced panel after applying eyedroppers

6. Continue selecting different areas of the image with the eyedropper and adjusting the sharpening to achieve the desired results, up to five colors or hues.

7. As you adjust the sharpening amount by color, it is possible to see a visual analysis of the exact sharpening. By clicking on the **Analysis** mode, two additional options of viewing are possible. The **Analysis** mode is represented by the “eye” icon. (See Figure 8)



Figure 8: Analysis mode

8. The first option in the pull down menu shows the image without a visual representation. Simply click on and off the image in the preview window to see the sharpening effect.

By clicking on the ratio or the + button you can magnify the image and more accurately see the effect.

9. The second selection in the pull down menu offers a red-striped visual of the applied sharpening. Stripes are based on opacity ie. the darker the stripes the more sharpening, the lighter the stripes the less sharpening. (See Figure 9)

10. The third or bottom selection offers the user another way to view the sharpening effect. The image turns red where the most sharpening is represented by the darkest red areas, and less sharpening is represented by the lighter red areas. (See Figure 10)

11. Return to the **Preview** window by selecting the top image in the **Analysis** pull down menu. Once the desired amount of sharpening is determined, click **OK** to apply the sharpening filter effects to the image. (See Figure 11)

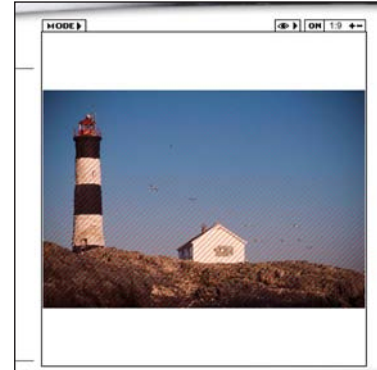


Figure 9: Interaction between sharpening and the original



Figure 10: Sharpening Level Analysis

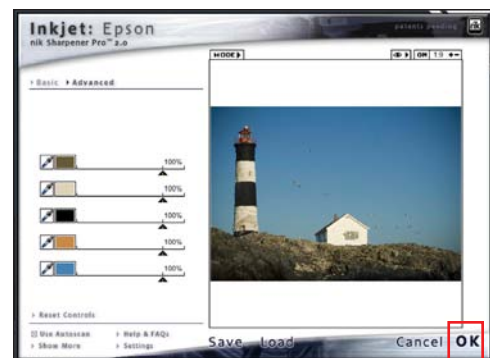


Figure 11: Apply Sharpening Effect