

MASKING CHEAT SHEET

TERMS, DEFINITIONS, AND KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

PHOTOSHOP

REVEAL ALL MASK White (in Layers view) = No Color (in Preview) = 0% Reveal of the Lower Layer. Paint with Black to reveal lower layer, or a percentage of grey, to reveal a portion of the lower layer.

HIDE ALL MASK Black (in Layers view) = Red (in Preview when turned on) = 100% Reveal of Lower Layer. Paint with White to block lower layer or a percentage of grey to block a portion of the lower layer.

TO "SHOW" THE LAYER Mask in the Photoshop Preview Window Place the cursor over the Layer Mask Icon in the Layer. Press the Option+Shift Keys (Mac) or Alt+Shift(PC), left click the mouse to reveal the red mask. Click again to hide the mask in the Preview Window.

QUICK MASK MODE Quick mask mode is a tool to make critical selections on a layer.

SELECT AND MASK MODE This tool makes a selection and then turns it into a selection, layer mask, new layer, new layer with a layer mask, a new document, or a new document with a layer mask.

ALPHA CHANNEL A selection, or a mask turned into a selection, can be saved as an Alpha Channel as a selection or as a mask.

HIDE MARCHING ANTS A mask, in Photoshop, is often turned into a "Selection" that is represented by the "Marching Ants" icon. You can turn the visibility of the Marching Ants "On & Off" by pressing "Command + H" (Mac) or Control + H (PC).

LIGHTROOM MASK

■ The red mask indicates a "Reveal All" mask- meaning any changes made will occur in the red areas.

■ When you select "Invert Mask" the red areas will become clear, and the non-red areas will become masked.

■ The "Brush" tool will automatically "Add" to a mask. To delete portions of a mask, you must change the brush to the "Erase" brush.

■ The "Adjustment Brush" will automatically "Create" or "Add" to a mask. To delete from that mask, you must hold down the "Option" key (Mac) or Alt (PC) while painting over the existing mask.

■ To toggle the visibility of a mask on & off – press the "O" key.

ACR MASKING

TO RESET ALL "ADJUSTMENT BRUSH" SETTINGS TO 0 do a "Command+Option+R" (Mac) or Control+Alt+R (PC).

ADOBE ELEMENTS MASKING

To "Turn On and Off" the "Black & White Viewing Mode" left click on the mask icon in the layers palette while holding down the "Option" key (Mac) or Alt (PC).

REFINE EDGE Toggle "Show Radius" on and off by pressing the "J" key.

SHOW ORIGINAL Toggle "Show Original" on and off by pressing the "P" key.

GENERAL

Feathering refers to the line of demarcation between where a mask exists and where it ends. A hard feather (say 0) creates fast transition from mask to no mask. A soft feather (say 100) creates a very slow transition from mask to no mask.

Artifact, as relates to digital photographic editing, is an undesirable visible defect. Look for artifacts by setting the image Preview Window to 100% and scrolling across the entire photograph.