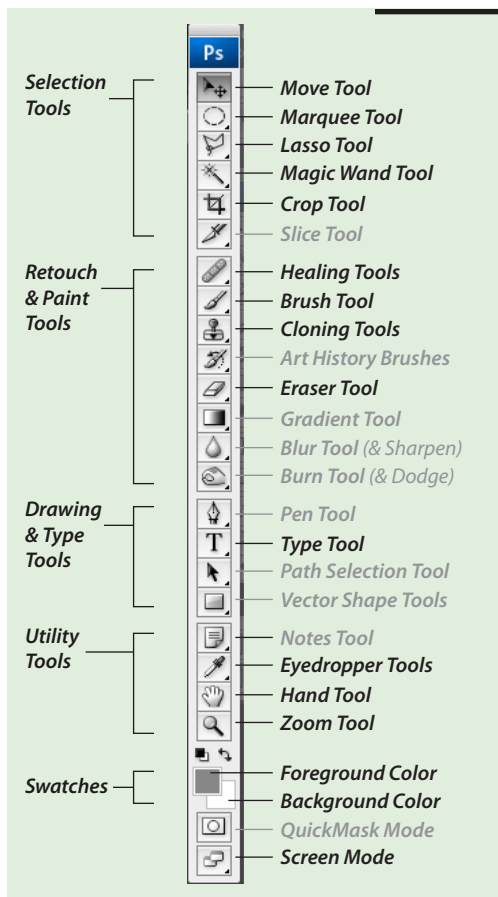
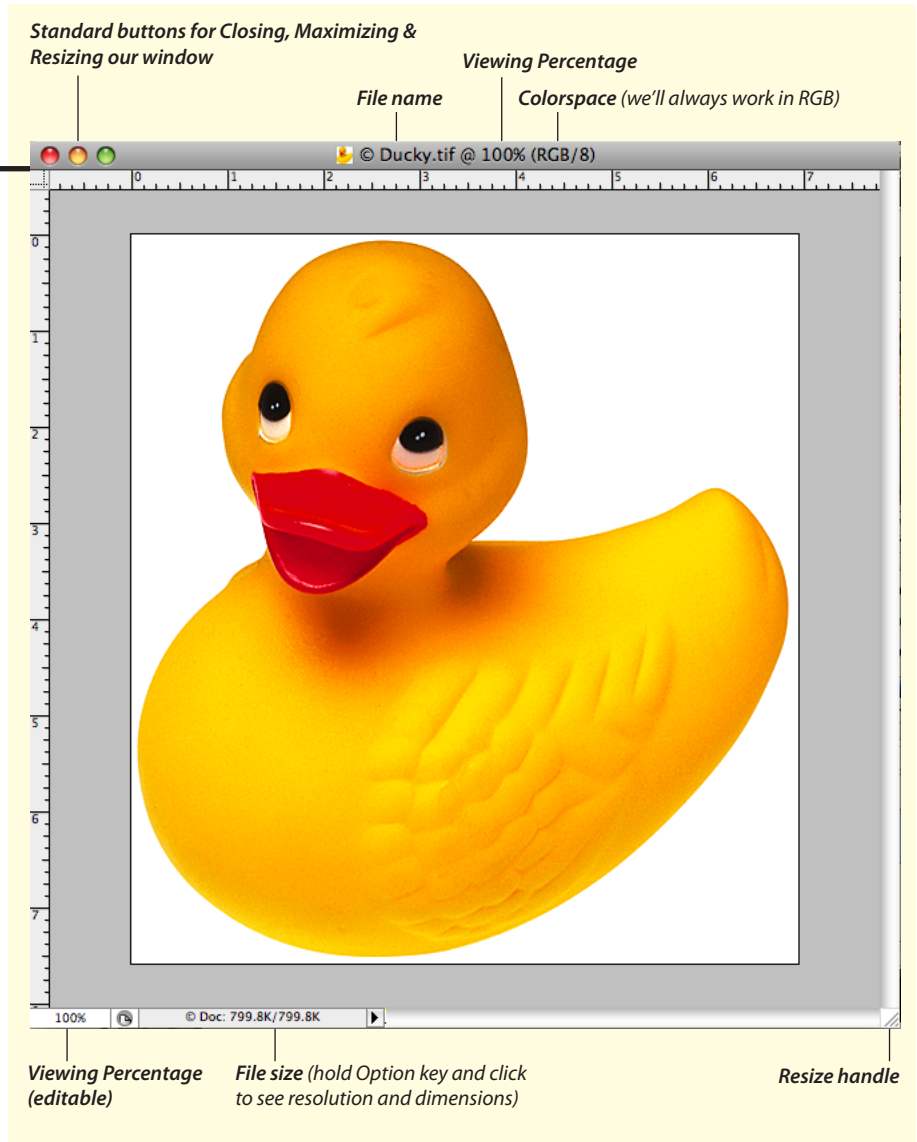


Introduction to Photoshop

Photoshop is a very powerful program which edits bitmap images. One might argue that it is primarily used for editing photos, but we're going to use it in this class as a design and layout tool. Layers are one of the most important aspects of the program, which we'll be utilizing to build our moodboards and design comps. But first let's take a quick look at Photoshop's primary tools and commands.

Document Window

Lets take a quick look at a document window and what it can tell us:



Tool Panel

The tool panel can be moved from its docked position, but I think you'll find the default location to be convenient.

Selection Tools are used to select a portion of an image so that you can work on just that area (i.e. apply a filter, cut or copy, etc)

Edit Tools make changes to your image anywhere they touch it (can be used on whole image or just selected areas).

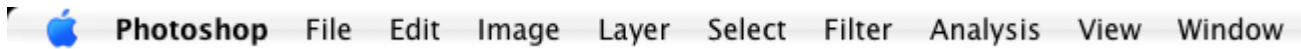
Swatches are the currently selected colors you are working with.

For more details, go to:


http://www.freemtimefoto.com/photoshop_cs3_toolbox

Menus

Menus are used for you to access commonly used functions. We'll step through the common ones you'll need for our class. Also take note of the keyboard shortcuts that appear in the menu dropdowns. You'll find that you can save a lot of time utilizing these for the menu commands you use the most.



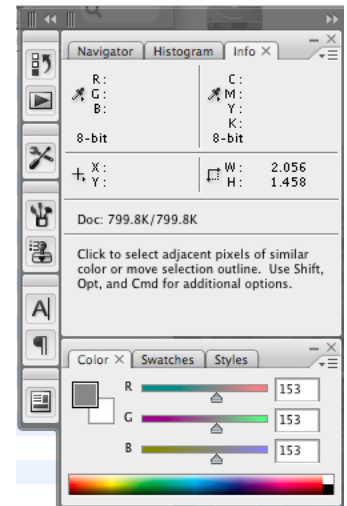
Keep in mind that there are not only menus along the top of your window, but they are also located in other locations in Photoshop.

- **Contextual Menus** popup when you right-click your mouse. These menus change based on the element your mouse is currently over (hold down the control key and click if you have a one-button mouse).
- As we saw a few minutes ago many of the **Tools** have related tools when you click and hold on the tool in the tools panel (technically not a menu, but worth mentioning again).
- Also, most of the Panels have **Options Menus** located under the Menu icon 

Panels (formerly palettes)

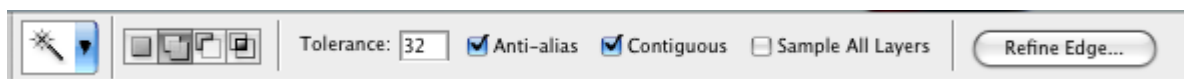
Panels can not only be moved wherever you want them on your screen, but you can now change where they dock and you can minimize them down to small icons. This gives you tremendous control over your screen real estate! If you've closed a panel that you need again, go select it from the Window menu.

You can even press the Tab key to hide all panels, or shift-Tab to hide the panels on the right side. When you have the panels hidden like this, you can still access the tools if you're really good with your keyboard shortcuts, or you can move your mouse to their previous location on the screen and they'll pop back up.



Control Palette

This is the contextual bar at the top of your window (below the menus) which changes based on what tool you currently have. In this palette you can change how the tool works. For instance, you can control specifics about how the Magic Wand works:



Selection, Selection, Selection!

The biggest hurdle to overcome in Adobe Photoshop is creating accurate selections. They are what makes what you do in Photoshop look the best it can be.

Selections are what you create when you want to take something out of a picture, move it to a new one, etc. If you get sloppy then it will show in the final product.

1. Marquee Tools: This set of tools allows you to create selections that are a preset shape. Rectangles, squares, circles, ovals and single row and column of pixels.

2. Lasso Tools: These are freeform tools that create selections from straight lines. To turn corners, you use a series of small clicks to turn a corner. to undo an area that you chose, press the delete key to back up to the previous click.

Lasso Tool: Using this tool, you can freehand your selection with the mouse or a Wacom tablet. By holding down the option/alt key and using this tool, you keep the lines constrained to a straight line. if you let go while in the middle of this option, it will snap to where you started and create your selection.

Polygonal Lasso Tool: This works like the previous tool but you don't have to hold down the option/alt key.

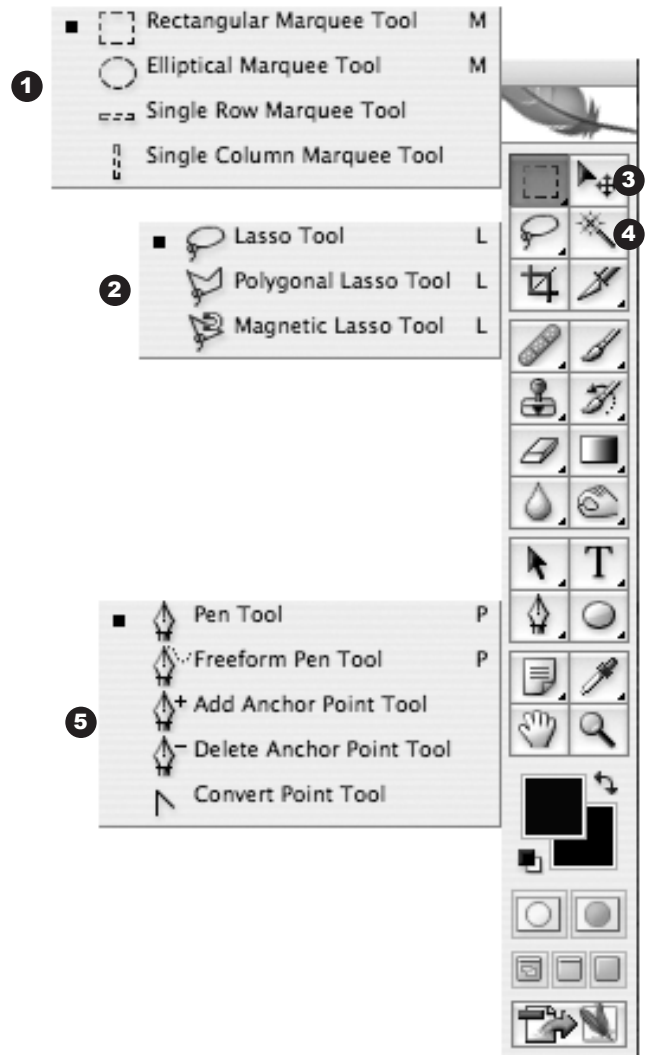
Magnetic Lasso Tool: When you start using this tool, it will cling to the object as if it were magnetic. If you select an area that you don't want, press the delete key to back up.

3. Move Tool: This will let you move your selection, once created, to a new area or a new document. The Move Tool is also used to move Layers around and change their order in the Layers Palette.

4. Magic Wand: Lets you select an area of similar pixel color. Use the Tolerance, in the options palette, to choose how much you want to select. 0 (zero) is the smallest amount it will select and 255 is the largest.

5. Pen Tool: Allows you to create selections by using Bezier Curves. This is the most accurate way to create selections. The reason for this is that you can go back and edit your selection and adjust for any area that you might have messed up on.

You can also add, delete and change direction of your anchor points.



Homework

Read the article on the History of the Internet at

<http://dev.opera.com/articles/view/2-the-history-of-the-internet-and-the-w/>