Adjusting Photos

FireWorks provides tools to improve or alter the look of photos. Some of its tools are similar to those in the more powerful Photoshop program.

Adjusting Levels

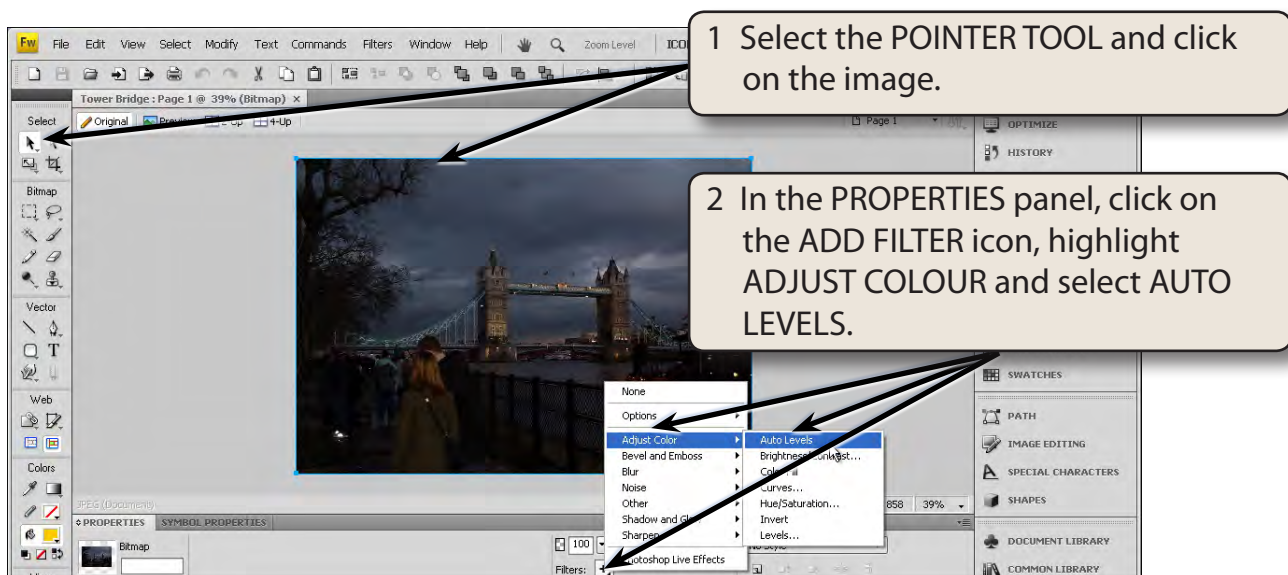Levels allow you to adjust the dark areas, light areas and midtones of a photo.

A   Loading the Photo

A photo that is too dark because it was taken at dusk has been prepared for you.

1   Load FireWorks or close the current file then click on the OPEN icon the WELCOME screen.

2   Access the FWcs4 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 13 folder and open the file:

<p align="center">Tower Bridge</p>

3   Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to set the view to FIT ALL.

B   Applying Auto Levels

FireWorks provides an AUTO LEVELS filter that tries to automatically repair the colour levels of a photo.
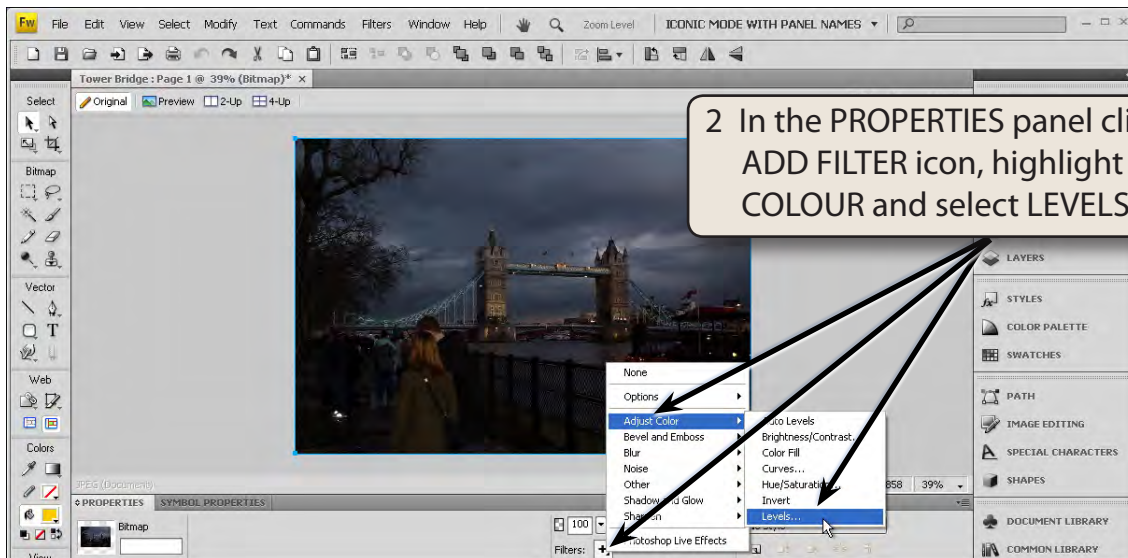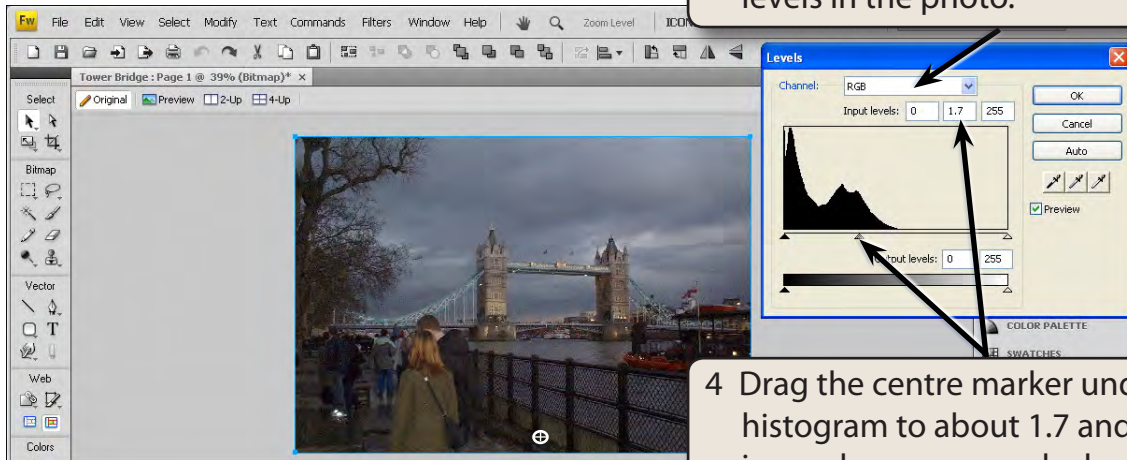

1 Select the POINTER TOOL and click on the image.

2 In the PROPERTIES panel, click on the ADD FILTER icon, highlight ADJUST COLOUR and select AUTO LEVELS.

3 The program adjust the levels to improve the clarity of the photo.

C Manually Adjusting Levels

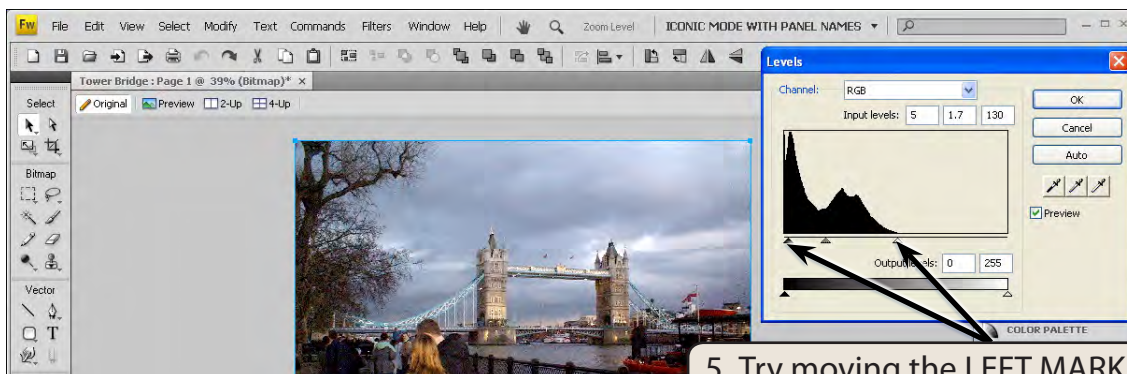The levels can be adjusted manually if you want more control over the way the photo is changed.

1 Display the EDIT menu and select UNDO SET LIVE FILTER (or press CTRL+Z or COMMAND+Z) to return to the original photo.

2 In the PROPERTIES panel click on the ADD FILTER icon, highlight ADJUST COLOUR and select LEVELS.

3 The LEVELS dialogue box is opened showing a histogram of the colour levels in the photo.

4 Drag the centre marker under the histogram to about 1.7 and the image becomes much clearer. It is excluding some of the darker colours from the right of the histogram.

5 Try moving the LEFT MARKER (for blacks) to about 5 and the RIGHT MARKER (whites) to 1.30 to adjust the photo further.

6   Adjust the LEVEL markers until you are happy with the results and select OK.