

Applying Filters

Filters can be applied to selections or entire photos to enhance the visual effect or perform common editing effects. In this chapter you will apply filters to a selected area and to a whole layer.

Loading the Sample Photo

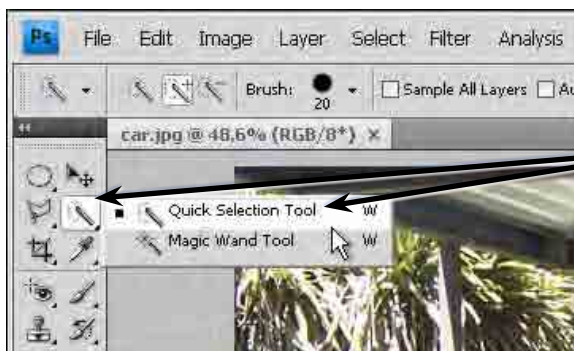
Another photo of a car will be used.

- 1 Load Photoshop or close the current file.
- 2 Display the FILE menu and select OPEN.
- 3 Access the PScs4 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 14 folder and load the CAR file.

Selecting the Background

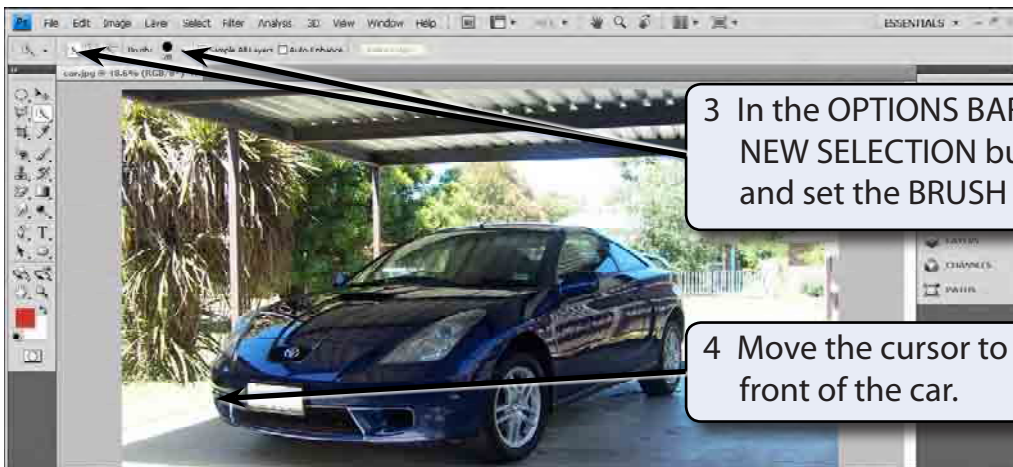
Blurring Filters will be applied to the background so it will need to be selected. To do this the car is first selected then removed from the selection.

A Selecting the Car



1 Select the QUICK SELECTION TOOL from the TOOLS panel.

- 2 Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to set the view to FIT ON SCREEN.



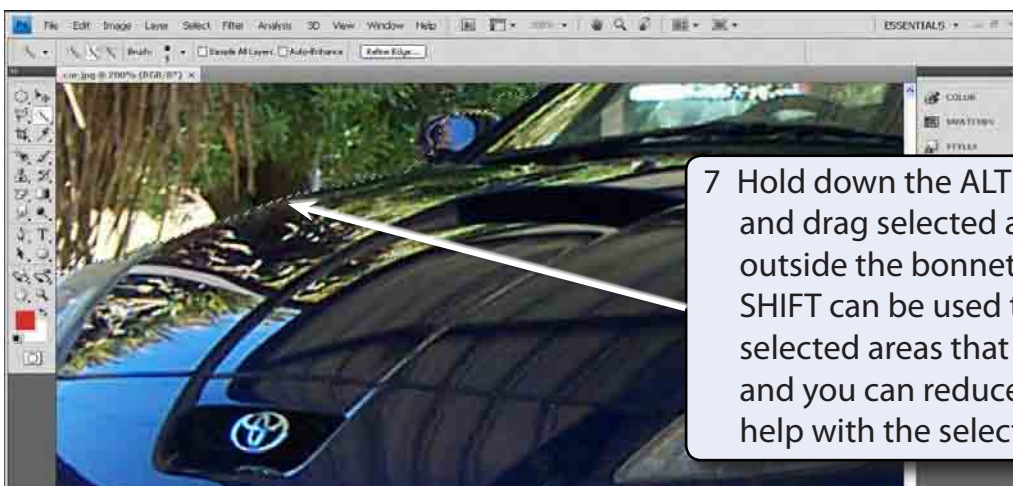
3 In the OPTIONS BAR check that the NEW SELECTION button is selected and set the BRUSH SIZE to 20 px.

4 Move the cursor to the bottom left front of the car.

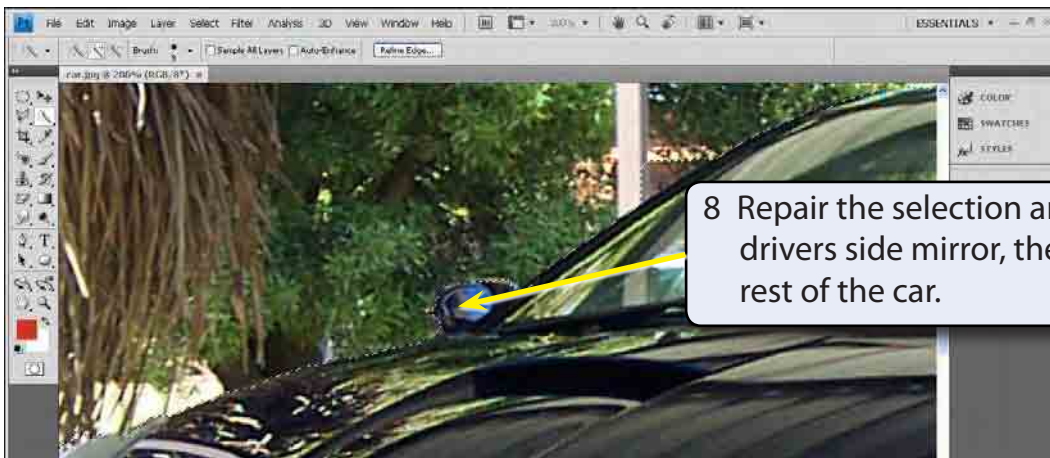


5 Click and drag around the car until it is fully selected.

6 The program may have problems at the left of the car as the colour difference is not great and at the front right tyre. Zoom in on the left of the car.



7 Hold down the ALT or OPTION key and drag selected areas that are outside the bonnet of the car. The SHIFT can be used to add to the selected areas that are inside the car and you can reduce the brush size to help with the selection.



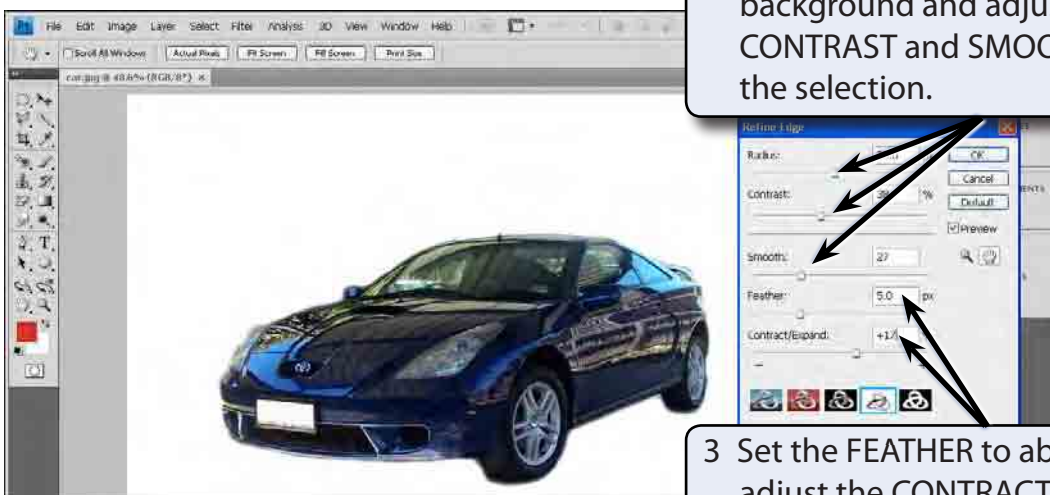
NOTE: The selection of the car will not need to be exact in this case as the blur filter will hide some of the selections.

- 9 Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to return the view to FIT ON SCREEN

B Refining the Edges

The selection of the car can be refined.

- 1 Click on the REFINE EDGE button in the OPTIONS BAR.



- 3 Set the FEATHER to about 5 px, adjust the CONTRACT/EXPAND value and select OK.

C Inversing the Selection

To select the background rather than the car, the selection needs to be inverted.

- 1 Display the SELECT menu and select INVERSE.



Applying a Gaussian Blur

A commonly used blur effect is a Gaussian Blur.

- 1 Display the FILTER menu, highlight BLUR and select GAUSSIAN BLUR.

