Colour Adjustments

Chapter 18

You have adjusted photographs in a number of ways during these tutorials. When you want to professionally improve the colour of a photo, Photoshop provides numerous techniques such as the MATCH COLOUR TOOL, the VIBRANCE TOOL or the CURVES TOOL.

Match Colour

When you quickly want to adjust the colours in a photo the MATCH COLOUR TOOL can be very effective.

A Loading the Sample Photo

- 1 Load Photoshop or close the current file and select OPEN from the FILE menu.
- 2 Access the PScs4 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 18 folder and open the file:

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4 The MATCH COLOUR TOOL can be used to reduce this effect. Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to set the view to FIT ON SCREEN.

B Using the Match Colour Dialogue Box

1 Display the IMAGE menu, highlight ADJUSTMENTS and select MATCH COLOUR to open the MATCH COLOUR dialogue box.



- NOTE: i You can turn off the PREVIEW box to look at the original photo to see the improvement, then turn the PREVIEW back on.
 - ii You can turn NEUTRALISE off and try adjusting the LUMINATION and COLOUR INTENSITY if you want to adjust the photo manually.
- 3 Select OK and use SAVE AS from the FILE menu to save the photo in your STORAGE folder as a PHOTOSHOP file under the file name:

Match Colour

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The Vibrance Tool

You can insert a VIBRANCE layer which adjusts the saturation of the colours so that the less saturated colours are increased more than the colours that are more saturated.

A Loading the Sample Photo

- 1 Close the MATCH COLOUR file and select OPEN from the FILE menu.
- 2 Access the PScs4 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 18 folder and re-open the file:

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B Using the Vibrance Layer



- NOTE: i You can expand the LAYERS panel and turn off the view of the VIBRANCE layer to see the effect that it has, then turn the VIBRANCE layer back on.
 - ii Applying a VIBRANCE layer can be very effective in softening skin tones. You might like to try this on the PORTRAIT image from Chapter 16.
- 3 Use SAVE AS from the FILE menu to save the image in your STORAGE folder as: Vibrance

The Curves Tool

The MATCH COLOUR TOOL does a good job of adjusting the colours in a photo. However, for professional results usually the CURVES TOOL is more accurate.

A Loading the Sample Photo

- 1 Close the VIBRANCE file and select OPEN from the FILE menu.
- 2 Access the PScs4 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 18 folder and re-open the file:

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B Inserting the Curves Layer

The CURVES TOOL can be applied from its Adjustment layer or from its dialogue box, which can be opened from the ADJUSTMENTS section of the IMAGE menu.

