

SHARPENING in PS ELEMENTS

Selective Sharpening

If you want to apply sharpening only to some areas (say the eyes of a portrait but not the facial skin, do this:

1. Create a duplicate layer of what you want to sharpen.
2. Apply your sharpening to the duplicate layer (you might also want to slightly oversharpen).
3. Create a **Layer Mask** for the duplicate layer.
4. Paint black into the areas of the **Layer Mask** that you don't want sharpened.
5. Adjust the **Opacity** of the layer downwards if you oversharpened.

OR

1. Use smart selection tool to select what you want to sharpen
2. Use USM etc.

Edge Sharpening

1. Duplicate background layer
2. Filter -> Stylize -> Emboss, Height 3-5 pixels
3. Change blend mode to Hard Light
4. Lower opacity if necessary

High Pass Sharpening

On the **Layer** palette select your **Background Layer** and *right click*. Select **Duplicate Layer**.

- *With this new layer highlighted select **Filter / Other / High Pass**. Set the **Radius** to **10** and click **OK**.*

- *Zoom into your image to **Actual Pixels** level so you can better see what you're going to do next.*
- *Go back to the **Layer Palette** and select **Hard Light** from the left drop down.*
- *Now go to the **Opacity Slider** and select a level of sharpening that seems best to you. Usually something between 20% and 70% will be best.*

USM Settings

Flowers, puppies, people 150, 1, 10

Out of focus with good edges 65, 4, 3

General 85, 1, 4

After downsizing for web, 300, 0.1, 4

Increasing clarity 20, 60, 0