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So whether you just want to enhance a cellphone snap or meticulously edit and refine a high-res image, you can do it here. Want more? Any user anywhere with any degree of skill can make creative edits and adjustments in the Quick workspace, learn new tricks in the Guided GUI and then fly solo in the Expert interface. In fact, they can do all three using the same image during the same editing session. Quick interface. Yellow arrow points to long list of automatic enhancements that can be applied, undone, redone, combined, etc., until average images look great. Or at least better. Quick interface has tools to accomplish basic Adjustments like Smart Fix, Sharpen, Exposure, and so on in the easiest possible way. Quick also allows some pretty sophisticated enhancements, like Auto Haze Removal, Auto Shake Reduction and Colorize. Plus you can apply Effects. 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You’ll be glad you did. Not for you? Then keep this thought handy. There will be a day this winter when it’s so cold that you don’t want to go outside for any reason (except maybe free Krispy Kreme). That’s a perfect day to download Photoshop Elements 2022 and begin your 30-day free trial. —Jon Sienkiewicz (As an Amazon Associate, Shutterbug earns from qualifying purchases linked in this story.) Page 2By now you’ve caught on that Adobe updates, refines and improves Photoshop Elements every fall, adding more and more rich features each year. The 2022 version is the most powerful ever, and possibly the best dollar-value-bargain in the world of digital photo editing. If you’re not familiar with the basics of Photoshop Elements in general you might want to skip down to the section labeled Overview. Since most Shutterbug readers are aware that Elements is more than just the onramp to Adobe Creative Cloud, let’s begin with the enhancements over last year’s edition. What’s new? 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Four new Guided Edits for a total of 87 so you can easily grow your skills. All new photo and video slideshow styles so you can craft fun personalized creations. Let’s dive into what’s new and enhanced for these releases. Instantly turn photos into art Adobe Sensei AI technology allows you to easily transform your photos into art in just one click. Choose from amazing artistic effects inspired by famous works of art and popular art styles that you can apply to all or part of your photo and easily adjust the results for exactly the look you want. Create not-so-still photos As we head into the holiday season, explore adding moving overlays like snowflakes, hearts and sparkles to your images and play around with fun animated frames. Then save your designs as MP4s to easily share on social or use in your holiday cards. Warp photos to fit any shape The possibilities are endless with Adobe Sensei AI technology. Now you can place one photo inside another by wrapping it around an object like a coffee mug or fitting it inside shapes like the lenses of sunglasses. There’s no limit to what you can create! Pick the perfect aspect ratio We all love to share on social media and Premiere Elements now allows you to easily edit and export your videos in social-friendly vertical or square formats without losing content. You can also add motion titles, mattes, and backgrounds designed for non-horizontal videos. Whether you’re trying to capture a kid’s birthday party or their big soccer game, it can be hard to get quality video footage when there is a lot of motion. Adobe Sensei AI technology can automatically re-frame your subject to keep the most important part of the action in the frame. Guided edits Easily grow your skills with Guided Edits by simply following the easy steps to make basic tweaks, artistic creations, and everything in between. Photoshop Elements and Premiere Elements boast 87 Guided Edits and are introducing four all-new options this year, including one for making your furry and feathered friends look their best. Use Photoshop Elements to frame them up just right, adjust color and lighting, select and refine detailed edges like fur, and remove collars and leashes in a few simple steps. Perfect pet Extend photo backgrounds Create a stunning landscape or reposition your subject for the perfect social post by easily extending your photo’s background. The magic of Content-Aware Fill technology in Photoshop Elements makes it all possible. Add fun animated overlays Jazz up any video in Premiere Elements with flitting butterflies, encircling hearts, and other beautiful and whimsical animations. Create a whole new look in a few quick steps. Adjust shadows and highlights Easily reveal hidden details in the darkest or brightest areas of your videos so there’s more to see in every scene. Explore new slideshow styles Show off your photos and videos with new animated slideshow templates in a range of fun styles. In addition to a refreshed look and feel that makes both Photoshop and Premiere Elements easier to navigate, we have updated the Organizer to allow you to view GIFs in just one click. To create an even more hassle-free experience, new Automatic Software Updates allow you to update your version of Photoshop and Premiere Elements without dealing with dialogue boxes. For a complete list of what’s new this year, please visit the Photoshop Elements 2022 and Premiere Elements 2022 What’s New page and follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Photoshop ElementsInstantly turn photos into artIn one click, transform your photos with effects inspired by famous works of art or popular art styles. Choose from several artistic effects that you can apply to all or part of your photo, and easily adjust the results for exactly the look you want.Create not-so-still photosAdd moving overlays like snowflakes and sparkles and create fun animated frames. Then save your photos as MP4s to share on social and more.Basic controls include move/add/remove to fine-tune the overlay via the mask.Ability to send the moving element behind the subject with one click.Output Format: MP4 or GIF.Warp photos to fit any shapePlace one photo inside another by wrapping it around an object like a coffee mug or fitting it inside shapes like the lenses of your subject’s sunglasses. There's no limit to what you can create!Extend photo backgroundsCreate a stunning landscape or reposition your subject for the perfect social post by easily extending your photo’s background. The magic of Content-Aware Fill technology makes it all possible.Create perfect pet picsMake your furry and feathered friends look their best. Frame them up just right, adjust color and lighting, select and refine detailed edges like fur, fix pet-eye, and remove collars, and leashes in a few simple steps.Export moving photos as MP4sSave your moving photos and quote graphics as MP4s for easy sharing to Instagram and other social sites.Premiere ElementsPick the perfect aspect ratioEdit and export your videos in social-friendly vertical or square aspect ratios without losing content. Add motion titles, mattes, and backgrounds designed for non-horizontal videos, too.Auto-reframe your subjectEasily resize your videos for social media and more while keeping the most important part of the action in the frame. Works great for clips with a lot of movement, like a kid’s birthday party or a sporting event.Adjust shadows and highlightsEasily reveal hidden details in the darkest or brightest areas of your videos so there’s more to see in every scene.Add fun animated overlaysJazz up any video with flitting butterflies, encircling hearts, and other beautiful and whimsical animations. Create a whole new look in a few quick steps.Compress video files for easy sharingUse a simple slider to reduce the size of your movies so you can easily upload them to web and social sites, send them in text messages , and more. Box Contains Adobe Photoshop Elements 2022 & Adobe Premiere Elements 2022 Why you can trust Digital Camera World Our expert reviewers spend hours testing and comparing products and services so you can choose the best for you. Find out how we test. Photoshop Elements 2022 is pitched as a novice-friendly alternative to Photoshop itself. The original version of Adobe Photoshop itself started out as a basic photo-fixer. Over the decades it has evolved into the much more complex and sophisticated Photoshop CC (Creative Cloud), which is packed full of tools and menu commands that cater for the needs of animators, web-designers and even 3D modellers. To a casual photographer the full version of Photoshop is daunting and time-consuming to master, especially when they may just want to tweak colour, tone and composition before sharing their shots on social media. They may also prefer to buy a photo-fixing app outright instead of paying a monthly $9.99/£9.98 subscription for Photoshop CC (as part of the Adobe Photography Plan). Fortunately the more photo-fixing focussed Photoshop Elements 2022 is available for a one-off purchase of fee substantially lower than an Adobe Photography Plan annual subscription, with an even cheaper upgrade price if you already own an earlier version. You may like As with its predecessors, Photoshop Elements 2022 is designed to help photographers create eye-catching images with the minimum of effort. It cuts to the chase by focusing on overcoming common photo problems such as revealing under-exposed shadow detail or straightening tilted horizons. Thanks to features such as Adobe Sensei AI it also enables you to give your images a more creative makeover without requiring years of experience using the full version of Photoshop.The 2022 Elements Organiser features some fresh animated slideshow themes to help share your shots in new ways. (Image credit: George Cairns)InterfaceUnlike the black and dark grey panels of many current apps (including the full version of Photoshop), Photoshop Elements 2022 still sports the light grey interface that it has worn for many years, giving it a dated appearance. The large icons and buttons would look more at home in an app aimed at children rather than adults. In Adobe’s defence this lack of design change may be attractive to regular Photoshop Elements users who don’t want to send time adapting to a new workspace design. As with previous incarnations, the Photoshop Elements workspace is divided into three sections – Quick, Guided and Expert. The Quick workspace features an Adjustments panel that lets you fix Exposure, Color and Sharpen issues in a few clicks by clicking on preview thumbnails. You can then fine-tune the adjustments with a slider. The Guided Edit workspace helps newcomers to editing perform a range of practical or creative edits by taking them step-by-step through range of creative techniques (such as how to add motion to stills using the new Animated Overlays Guided Edit (more on that new feature later). After some practice you can graduate to the Expert workspace to make use of powerful compositing tools such as layer masks.Give your social media profile picture an analog look with a one-click classic effect filter. (Image credit: George Cairns)Key featuresIn this section we’ll concentrate here on the new additions to Photoshop Elements 2022 toolset so you can decide on whether it’s worth a purchase (or upgrade). For many years you could apply filters to photos to make them look like paintings. The problem with slapping on filters is that they change the look of a picture’s pixels equally and lack the variety of style and detail that an artist would produce. The Effects panel boasts a new collection of AI powered filters that create more effective looking works of art, applying different styles and brush strokes to different parts of the image. AI enhanced artistic filters apply different strokes to different areas. This Japanese inspired woodblock filter adds carved swirls to the sea but not the boat for example. (Image credit: George Cairns)You can dial down the intensity of the AI filters using a slider and even limit the filter effect to the main subject (or the background) at the tick of a box. Some of the filters produce pretty garish colours - Acrylic we’re looking at you – but you can choose to preserve the photo’s original colours for a more realistic result. Elements still has its traditional collection of filter effects but these are very dated, so the new AI enhanced autistic effects are a welcome addition.An effective way to make your stills standout from the crowd on social media sites is to add motion to them (which creates a Cinemagraph). Photoshop Elements 2022 builds on the Moving Photo tool introduced last year by adding animated overlays. These fun photo-enhancers add particle based-effects (such as floating dandelion seeds or butterflies) to static subjects. The new Moving Overlay tool adds animated particles to static shots, creating a social-media friendly cinemagraph. It even blurs the foreground particles to add a bokeh effect. (Image credit: George Cairns)Overlays use AI to enable you to isolate a subject so that the particles float behind instead of in front of them. You can also control where the particles are visible using a few brush strokes. Overlays provide a quick and easy way to convert stills into eye-catching 6 second looping clips that – once exported as an .mp4 format movie – will draw attention in your social media feed (and top up your endorphin-inducing supply of ‘Likes’).In older versions of Photoshop Elements you could warp text. Now the Transform tools feature the same image-warping tools found in the full version of Photoshop. This enables you to warp/distort a photo using preset shapes (such as arc, bulge etc.) You can also use bezier control handles to perform a custom warp. This ‘warp factor’ enables you to combine the content of multiple layers in even more creative ways. The new Warp Transform tools enable you to bend over backwards when it comes to creative compositing. (Image credit: George Cairns)Guided Edits have always one of Photoshop Element’s strong points, and the latest version features welcome new additions such as the Perfect Pet Guided Edit. This guides you through using a range of tools to replace a pet’s lead or harness with appropriate pixels such as fur. You can also replace flash-induced glowing green eyes with healthy black pupils and enhance details such as fur. Adobe’s online demo video gives the impression that a pet’s collar and lead will vanish in a few brush strokes, but the Perfect Pet Guided Edit requires old fashioned and time-consuming manual handling of the classic Clone Stamp tool.The new Perfect Pet Guided Edit lets you pamper your fur baby digitally and remove leads and harnesses in a few brush swipes. (Image credit: George Cairns)As with the full version of Photoshop, Elements uses Content-Aware technology to speed up your image editing. The new Extend Background Guided edit enables you to generate new content at the edge of the frame, enabling you to turn a vertical portrait-oriented shot into a horizontal landscape shape. This Guided Edit is especially useful when dealing with people in a landscape environment. In our test image the Content-aware fill option couldn’t handle the slight tilt in our shot’s horizon. However the Extend option created extra edge content more seamlessly and effectively to produce a landscape version of the scene. This Guided Edit provides an easy way to re-shape a shot to suit a range of social media dimension requirements such as creating a Facebook cover photo for example.Quality of resultsContent aware technology enables you to extend the edges of a vertical portrait shot to create a horizontal landscape version. (Image credit: George Cairns)The new AI enhanced artistic effect filters are much more effective than the old (and dated) art mimicking filters.