

Adobe Lightroom Shortcuts

In the session we discussed workflow practices, using Adobe Lightroom as an example. Lightroom is not the only choice but it is the most widely accessible and complete software available for this necessary process. Lightroom is quick and intuitive to use by clicking on the appropriate panels but workflow can be sped up significantly, as with most software, by learning a range of keyboard shortcuts.

I have listed the ones I use most often below and will provide a pdf. with a more comprehensive list for you to download.

Firstly, when looking at your images in the Library Module, it is useful to select pictures that are strong contenders for your edit, rather than work on the entire import in the Develop Module. To view and compare your images:

Grid (thumbnails):	G
Loupe:	E
Compare:	C
Survey:	N
To view Full Screen:	F
To hide the panels but preserve tool bar:	shift cmd F
To Hide Toolbar:	T
To alter Light Mode (darken screen):	L

You can select and classify your images using star ratings, colours, and flags. I use flags on the basis that the image will either be used or not used; I see no point in deciding the difference between say a 3 or 4 star image – it slows the process down.

To select by flag, press P for 'pick'.

If you decide to deselect a flagged image, press U. This allows you to quickly sift through images in the Loupe mode, selecting an edit to take into the Develop module.

Flag: **P**

Un-flag: **U**

Once you have picked your edit, go to Filter in the toolbar and select 'Flagged' from the drop-down menu. The un-flagged images will disappear and you can go to the Develop module.

In Develop, it is worth deciding which adjustment panels you need and collapse any that you don't in order to speed-up the scrolling. You should only have the flagged 'picks' you selected in the library module ready for adjustment.

To show clipping (loss of highlight and shadow detail) – by default blocked shadows are blue, blown highlights are red – press the J key. You can observe these alter as you change Exposure, Highlight, Shadow etc.

Show Clipping: **J**

Viewing and comparing the processed image with the unprocessed:

Before: ****

Compare before/after: **Y**

Split Screen: **shift Y**

If you want a quick preview of how an image will look in black and white without bothering the Grayscale panel:

V

(toggle on the V to switch between colour and black and white)

To hide panels: **Tab**

Hide all panels: **shift tab**

Apart from the various development panels, you should get to know the Tools panel at the top to selectively work on individual images. The shortcuts are as follows:

Adjustment Brush: **K**

Graduated Filter: **M**

Spot Removal: **Q**

Crop: **R**

White Balance: **W**

When selecting a tool, an adjustment panel will appear below with the previous adjustments still entered. If you wish to reset them all, double click on the word **Effect** at the top of the panel.

To reset a single slider, double click the name of the adjustment.

To view the effect of the brush, press **O** (overlay in whichever mode you are in).

View overlay: **O**

To erase an applied effect: **Option (alt) key**

Hide Pins: **H**

To edit in Photoshop: **cmd E**

(When you save the image from Photoshop, it will appear back in your edit, adjacent to the original raw file, unless you Save As and change the file name, in which case it will appear alphabetically.)

Collections

The system of creating an edit from a shoot as the reference for easy access, to archive them, is to create a collection. Select all the images, or select the ones you want, if you want to edit any out at this stage. Click on the + next to Collections, name and create. If you want to add these pictures to an existing collection, you can drag the selected edit to the appropriate collection.

A good shortcut if you want to add individual images to a collection as you go, is this:

Right click on the collection folder you want to use: select 'Set as Target Collection'.

Now, as you click on pictures in turn, if you want to add a picture to the designated collection, press the **B** button on the keyboard.

Add to Targeted
Collection:

B

This list is just a taster with some of the shortcuts I use regularly. Some are the same or similar for Adobe Camera Raw and Photoshop, so I might add some of those too at some point.

Finally, if you don't have a list in front of you or forget the shortcut you want, press these buttons:

Cmd + /

(Command, plus, forward slash)

It will bring up a window showing you the full list of keyboard shortcuts for whichever LR module you are in. Write it on a Post-It note and stick it in the eye-line at your workstation.

Happy workflow.

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