

PhotoshopCafe ACTIONS & AUTOMATION IN PHOTOSHOP CS4

Summary of Contents

Getting Started

Introduction

This clip gives you a basic introduction to Actions and Photoshop's automation and recording features.

Actions Panel

In this clip I demonstrate how to access the Actions panel.

Panel Modes

The Actions Menu has a number of useful controls for recording, playing, editing and loading actions.

Playback modes

There are 2 different modes the Actions Panel can assume: Button Mode and Edit/List mode. These features are covered here.

Action Sets

What is the difference between an Action Set and an Action? Let's find out.

Loading sets

In order to play an action, it must be plugged into Photoshop.

Toggle Commands

Learn how to turn commands in an action on and off.

Controls

The Actions Panel has a number of controls for recording and editing actions.

Controls pt 2

Many of the Action recording and playback functions are also accessed via the Actions Panel Menu.

Remove actions

Actions and Action Sets are easily removed and replaced in the Actions Panel.

Playback actions

Let's look at Action playback 'in action'.

Create Action

Create a simple action: Part 1

Create action pt 2

Create a simple action: Part 2

Building Sets

Time to build your own Action Set.

Stop Message

Stop messages help to guide the way with additional information.

Playback Stop

There are times you may want to stop an action before it is finished. Here's how.

Create action pt3

Create a simple action: Part 3

Test Action

Once created, an Action should be tested to ensure it is working properly.

Duplicate Action

You may choose to duplicate some commands in your actions: here's how.

Rename / resave

Duplicating Actions and Commands: Part 2

Pause Command

This shows how to pause an action at certain steps or commands.

Add to Actions

Adding new commands to actions.

Actions making Actions

Using actions as foundations for new actions is a popular trick. Allow me to demonstrate.

Batch Process

Tying Actions to Batch Processing increases productivity and saves time. The next 4 videos show you exactly.

Batch Process pt 2

Batch Processing, Part 2

Batch Process pt 3

Batch Processing, Part 3

Batch Process pt 4

Batch Processing, Part 4

Droplets

Similar to Batch Processing, Droplets are wonderful time savers for 'Power Users'.

Inset Menu Item

Insert menu commands into actions using the Insert Menu Item feature.

Combining Actions

Combine Actions with other actions to double their power!

Watermarks

Watermarking photos is a highly sought after function. Actions allow you to do this with one click of the mouse.

Watermarks pt2

Use Batch to watermark hundreds or even thousands of images while you are away from your computer!

Action as text

Save an action as a text file and print your own Photoshop tutorials.

Automation Features

Photoshop has additional automation features other than actions: we'll look at them here.

Re-Record

Re-record commands for some interesting Action variations.

Action Examples

Action Examples - Part 1

Action Examples pt 2

Action Examples - Part 2

Action Examples pt 3

Action Examples - Part 3

Action FX site

Visit ActionFx.com for over 125,000 Actions, Brushes, Shapes and other Photoshop presets!