

RETOUCHING AN OLD PHOTOGRAPH

Sooner or later you or some friend will come across an old photograph of a family member or friend or whatever that has not been stored properly and is really showing a lot of damage. Because they know you know how to use Photoshop will be asked if you can fix it. This project will give you a chance to practice some of the techniques to accomplish that.

Subject An old damaged photograph. I have provided one for you to download and use if you do not personally have one of your own. If you are using a personal photo then the first step will be to scan it to create the digital file you will work with.

Procedure This will be straightforward but tedious. Treat it like any other photo editing problem. Start with global issues of contrast and tonalities. Then examine the photo to sort out the problems. Start with things like dust spots and thin paper creases. Use the “Dust and Scratches” approach we used with retouching portraits. You may need to use the clone/rubberstamp to replace any lost detail. Larger areas of damage may need a combination of the clone/rubber stamp, the healing brush or even patch tool. Faded areas can be dealt with using any or all of the burning and dodging techniques we have covered.

If you have used your own photo then turn in two files: the original scan and the completed retouching job. If you have used the supplied file then just turn in the final retouch.

Rename then “yourname_photoretouch_final (or original).jpeg” and reformat them to 100 ppi, 1,000 pixels on the largest dimension.

To Turn-in 1 or 2 files labeled as above (as an attachment to Blackboard in the “Retouch 2” assignment section).

Grading Grading will be based on the grading form. Download a copy for your reference and/or read the online material on the grade form and what the criteria mean.
