PRO 2.0
RETOUCH

Your essential retouching toolkit

INSTALLATION

Howdy! Pro Retouch 2 is a cinch to install, so we'll cut right to the chase. Your download includes a file called ProRetouch2.atn. Double-click it, and you're done. You'll find Pro Retouch 2 in the actions palette of your most recent Photoshop version.

If that goes awry for some reason, or you need to install Pro Retouch 2 into a different version of Photoshop on your computer, try this:

1 - Open Photoshop.
2 - Make sure your actions palette is visible (Window -> Actions)
3 - From the actions palette menu (in the top-right of the palette), select Load Actions
4 - Navigate to the place you saved the ProRetouch2.atn file and select it.

To speed up the use of Pro Retouch 2, put your actions palette into Button Mode via the actions palette menu. In button mode, simply click the name of the action to run it. The actions are also conveniently color-coded by category in Button Mode.

BASIC USAGE

The actions in Pro Retouch 2 each come with their own instructions. Run the action, and you'll see a message with a brief guide for that action. Hit the Enter key or click Continue to run the action.

Once the action has run, simply use the brush tool to brush the effect onto the photo where you want it. Each action creates a new layer, and you can change the opacity of that layer to control the effect's overall strength. You can also show, hide, or delete the effect by manipulating the action's layer.

Make sure your brush is set to NORMAL mode. We recommend a soft brush with 100% opacity and 40% flow or so. As you work with the actions, you'll discover your own personal preferences, and might want to set the opacity or flow lower (or higher).

WORKFLOW

First, there are several videos available on the Pro Retouch homepage that walk through using the actions. Check em out.

Generally, start at the top, and work your way down the list of actions. The Foundation series of actions can be used on almost any photo to even out skin tone and texture. Work your way down the skin actions, picking actions to address specific issues, and using them on smaller and smaller areas of the image as you refine the photo. Keep it light, and keep it simple. Use actions for Eyes, Mouth, Hair, etc as needed to bring your photo to perfection.

If you only run two actions, make it Foundation Medium (or Lite), and Eye Makeover. This will improve just about any photo in seconds. For light or quick retouching, a quick run of these actions can do wonders.

How far you go, which actions you use, and how heavily you use them is a matter of personal taste. It's useful to alt-click the little eyeball icon next to the background layer from time to time. This will show or hide everything but the background layer, so you can compare your progress. Keep it natural. You can go full plastic, but why would you want to? You never go full plastic.

THANKS FOR BUYING PRO RETOUCH 2!

We hope it makes you a happier, more productive photographer.