

REMOVING THE RED EYE IN PHOTOS

(from http://www.meryl.net/blog/archives/2003_08.php#001314)

Using Photoshop 7 though technique works in Photoshop 4+, Photoshop LE, and Photoshop Elements:

1. Open the image.
2. Right-click on the image's title (blue box up top) and select Duplicate.
3. Close the original image.
4. Click Windows | Documents | New Window. This opens another copy, but whatever you do to the copy will happen to the image. In other words, it's the same document with two views.
5. Zoom on one window to 100%.
6. Zoom on the other window as close as possible to get a close view of the eyes.
7. Have both windows in full view. Resize as needed to accomplish this.
8. Create a new layer (doesn't matter which window).
9. Use the eye dropper to pick a color from the iris of the eye, which is usually a gray or black tint with eye color. I couldn't do this since the iris was completely red, so I opened another photo with the same person and used the eye dropper on that photo.
10. Switch to the brush tool and select a soft-edged brush.
11. Resize the pixel as needed.
12. With the layer selected, right-click on the layer | Blending Options | Blend Mode | Color.
13. In the Layers box, click Opacity and set it low around 30%. Experiment.
14. Paint over the red part of the eye on the new layer.
15. When satisfied with the results, merge down and save or File | Save for Web | Save as a JPG file.

Other things to try in the process:

After painting the iris, click Filters | Blur | Gaussian and try a 1-pixel blur to soften the edges. With the layer selected, right-click on the layer | Blending Options | Blend Mode | Saturation. This takes the red out, but might leave the eyes too gray and hollow.

If so, duplicate the saturation layer by dragging the layer to the New Layer icon. Right-click on the new (copied) layer | Blending Options | Blend Mode | Hue. This should put color back while preserving highlights. If the color is too strong, lower the opacity of the Hue layer. [Meryl]

A free program that is great for editing photos is Picasso. Just download and follow instructions