

SHARPEN projects

Manual

Content

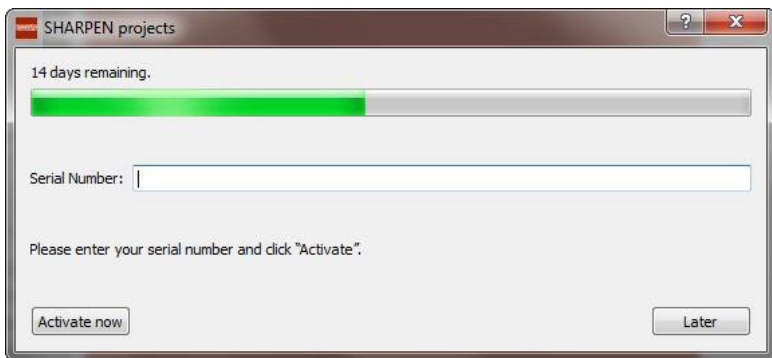
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1. Activation

Upon starting **SHARPEN projects** for the first time, you will be prompted to activate the program. Proceed as follows:

Install **SHARPEN projects** as described by the installation wizard.

Input your serial number. For the box version, this can be found on the accompanying booklet. If you have chosen to download the program, you will have received the serial number by email directly following your purchase.



Finally, click on the "Activate" button. The software has now been successfully activated!

Note: **SHARPEN projects** can be installed on up to two computers using the same serial number.

A second serial number is not necessary. When installing the program on a second device, simply enter the serial number again and press "Activate".

2. Highlights

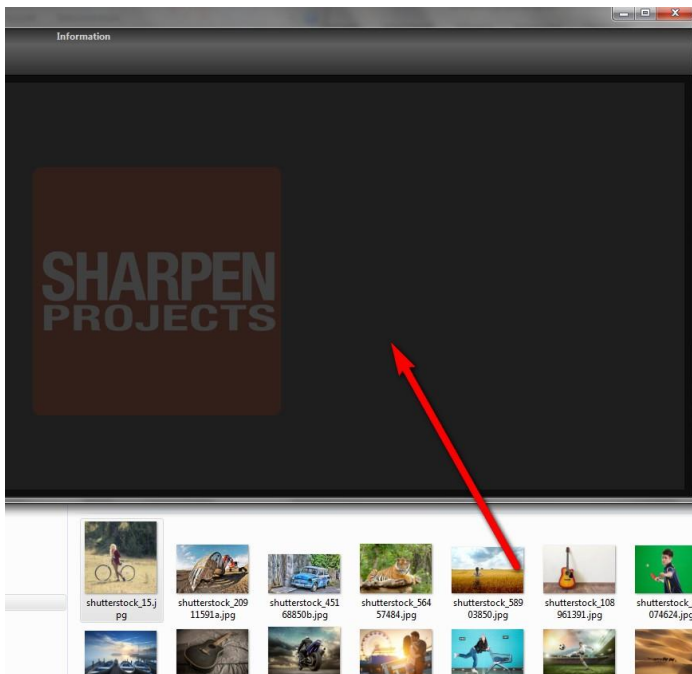
SHARPEN projects offers many new features. Here is an overview of some of the most important program highlights:

- ✓ “Adaptive Multi-Scale Tremor Removal” for shake correction up to 100 pixels
- ✓ “Adaptive Gradient Sharpening” for portrait sharpness
- ✓ Haze & fog corrector
- ✓ Optimised colour and luminance crispness
- ✓ Adobe Lightroom, Photoshop and Photoshop Elements plug-ins
- ✓ Graphic history viewer for most recently edited images and projects
- ✓ Integrated cropping with 71 format templates and guide lines, like the golden spiral
- ✓ Supports all standard camera RAW formats
- ✓ Comparison window including Adams' luminance zone system
- ✓ Undo option with integrated timeline view
- ✓ Optimised processing through multi-processor support and graphic cards
- ✓ Scratch and sensor error correction
- ✓ Selectable colour spaces for varying focus nuances
- ✓ Automatic blur correction
- ✓ Customisable work interface
- ✓ 22 Presets

3. Photos Done Quickly

You can obtain a finished image in just 4 clicks with **SHARPEN projects**:

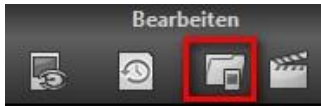
1. Load Images
2. Post-Processing Preset Selection
3. Image Optimisation
4. Select Image Detail and Save



You can simply drag and drop your images onto the start screen

4. Importing Image Material

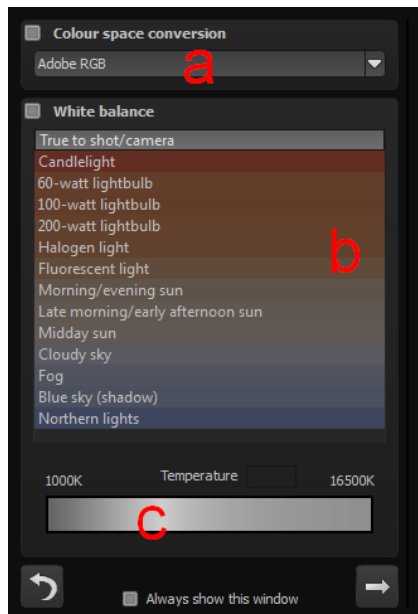
To load a single image, simply drag and drop the images onto the start screen. Alternatively, you can also use the toolbar buttons or drop-down file menu.



5. Image Preparation

Go to “Extras” → “Preparing image...” to get to image preparation. Here you can precisely configure the image preparation.

For the first steps, please use the standard settings. These default settings can be restored with the arrow at the bottom left. Nothing can be irretrievably adjusted.

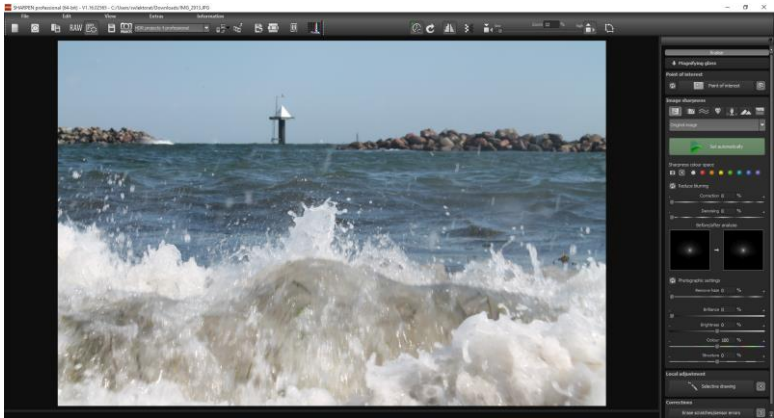


- a. Colour space conversion: advanced users can choose a colour space here - for all other users, it is recommended to not make any adjustments, to avoid incorrect colour rendering later.
- b. White balance: corrects colour casts that occur with shots taken, for example, in a warmly lit room. To start, leave this setting unchanged.
- c. Regulate how cool or warm your image appears with the colour temperature control.

6. Image Optimisation

➤ Sharpness

The image focus controls on the right hand side of the screen are divided into the following categories:



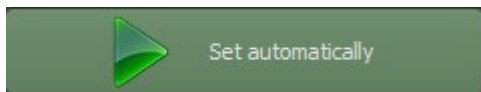
(I) Category

The following sharpness categories are available (from left to right):

- All Presets
- Blurring Presets
- Haze & Fog Presets
- General Image Sharpness Presets
- Portrait

(II) Automatic Processing

The “Set automatically” button automatically modifies the currently loaded image.



The automatic processing analyses the existing image material and looks for suitable presets based on the selected category.

The photo will be processed immediately and the automatically adjusted result will be instantly displayed.



Automatic sharpness before and after comparison

We recommend to always use the automatic first, and then to modify the sharpness settings (see IV) as well as the photographic settings (see V) as desired.

(III) Sharpness Colour Space

Sharpness colour spaces are a special feature in **SHARPEN projects**. This option allows you to specify a colour space for image sharpening processing.



- The camera symbol on the left sets the algorithms for the common colours in the image
- The eye symbol adjusts the photo to best correspond to the colour sensitivity of the human eye
- The following eight coloured buttons are responsible for increasing the precision of the sharpness processing for a particular tone, and thus render a finer focus

(IV) Image Sharpness and Settings

The following section is for the manual corrector settings. There are different controls according to the selected category.

The three integrated processes are as follows:

➤ **Reduce Blurring**

With help from PSF (Point Spread Function), this process analyses an image's blur by assessing blurry areas around a particular spot in the picture.

The following settings are available:

Corrector	Blur corrector intensity
Radius	Blur corrector size
Quality	Processing quality
Fineness	Processing precision
Denosing	Noise removal intensity

➤ **Adaptive Focus**

The adaptive image sharpness analyses the structure of the current image material and sharpens the detailed areas in the photo. The focus of the flatter areas of the image remains untouched.

This process is well suited for portraits and is also applied in the portrait category.

The following settings are available:

Sharpness	Sharpness intensity
Fineness	Processing precision
Denosing	Noise removal intensity

➤ **Overall Image Sharpness**

Overall image sharpness is a valuable process for generally improving focus.

This feature is especially well suited for architectural shots.

The following settings are available:

Sharpness	Overall sharpening intensity
Quality	Processing quality
Denosing	Noise removal intensity

Additionally, sharpness can be controlled through brightness and colour optimisation.

(V) Photographic Settings

The photographic settings allow for further brilliance, structure, brightness and colour adjustments.

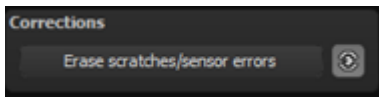
Additionally, there is a special process to correct haze and fog.

These settings can also be accessed through the automatic “haze & fog” category.



Before and after comparison of the automatic haze & fog corrector

7. Scratch and Sensor Errors



Micro-contrast enhancement used in photography unfortunately shows every unwanted sensor imperfection that every photographer, despite internal camera sensor cleaning, knows and dreads. Don't stress - just eliminate them! With the easy to apply correction function from **SHARPEN projects**, it can even be fun.

Pro Tip: This intelligent correction doesn't only remove sensor spots, but other disturbing things too - a deserted beach has never been so easy to produce.

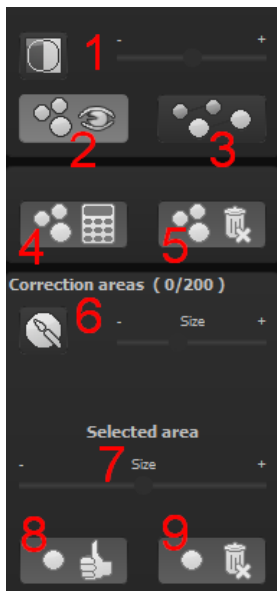
Lightly mark defects in your motif, the program will automatically substitute these areas with other appropriate parts of the image.

Here's how to go about correcting:

Select the brush tool under **(6)** and click on the point of the image that you would like to correct. A circle will appear beside it that will serve as a source.

Move this circle to a place on the image that can act as a source for the first marking. The selected area will then be improved based on the source.

Prior to this, you can reveal sensor spots, which will appear as a bright patch in the image, with **(1)**.



(2) allows you to expose or hide the fixed areas. Even when the corrections are still active, even if they have been blended in. Hiding is solely to enable a before and after comparison.

You can select multiple areas to correct by simply clicking on the brush symbol **(6)** and adding another point.

The button marked **(3)** can blend the targeted corrections in and out, which also controls clarity.

(5) deletes the added corrections.

The section marked **(7)** controls the size of the area that is to be corrected.

You also have the option to automatically search for the best source area for the improvement. Click on the **(8)** button.

Button **(4)** calculates the appropriate correction spots for all of the points automatically set using **(8)**.

All currently selected corrections can be deleted with the **(9)** button.



The sensor spots are circled in red



The sensor spot corrector marks all of the patches and determines a source within the image that can be used as a substitute.



Successful sensor spot correction.

8. Further Options

➤ Comparison View



Do you want a comparison to your original image? Simply right click on the middle of the image to see the before/after result. A quick check on the editing process is available at any time. For an extensive overview with selectable areas and luminance display, click on the symbol bar.



➤ High-Quality Display

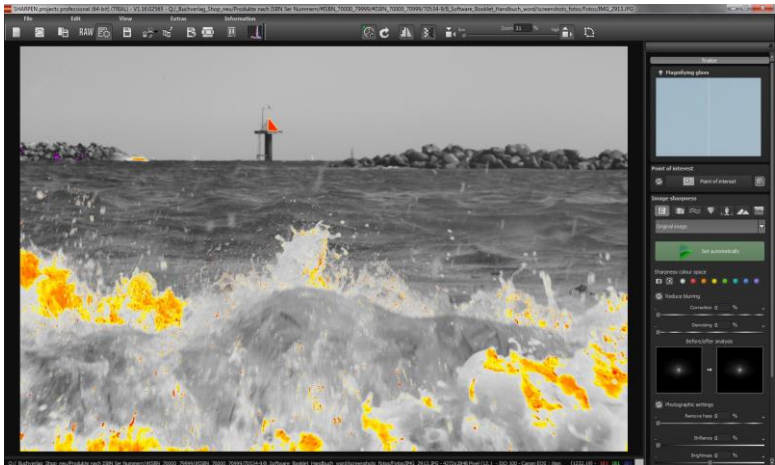


Activate this option to see the preview image in high-resolution. If the preview is set at 100%, there will be no difference. If you zoom in on a section of the photo however, there is a noticeable difference in quality.

➤ **Border Pixel Display**



The border pixel display helps to reveal areas that tend towards maximal light and dark values, that is to white and black. Dark border pixels are depicted by blue and light pixels by orange.



Depiction of border pixels in dark blue and orange tones

If you would want to brighten this image, you have to be careful of the orange border pixels. The bright areas of the waves should not become too white, in order to avoid losing detail. In technical terms, these patches are called “burned highlights”. The border pixel view helps to find these critical image areas.

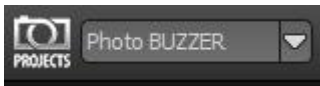
9. Workflow

➤ Edit final image further in an external program

SHARPEN projects offers interaction with external programs. That way you can take a successful result to another photo editing program and continue there.

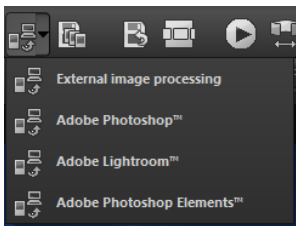
➤ Open in other *projects* programs

Click on the “Projects” symbol in the toolbar to open the image in a different program from the projects series. Use the drop-down menu beside the symbol to choose one of the programs that you already have installed on your computer.

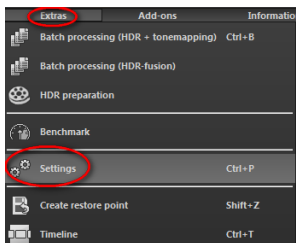


➤ Open in other photo-editing programs

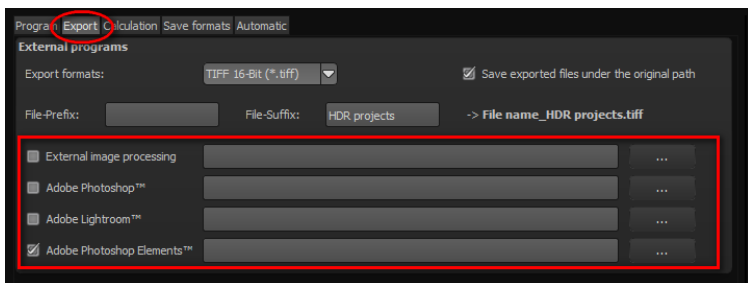
To directly open the image in another photo editing program, such as Adobe Photoshop, click on the corresponding button in the symbol bar.



If necessary, go through the settings to show the path to the program. Click on “Extras” in the menu and select “Settings” in the drop-down menu:



Next, click on the “Export” tab. You can enter the name of a photo editing program here, and save it for later as well.



➤ Work with a timeline and restore points

This option can be found in the symbol bar at the top edge of the screen:



“Create Restore Point” saves an in-between point of the current settings. You can now always return to this stage of your editing. You can save as many editing restore points as you like. The timeline displays the restore points and makes it possible to call up any phase with just a single click:



This function is especially useful when, for example, you are satisfied with an image, yet want to continue trying out different settings and effects. Simply set a restore point and carry on editing your picture. If you want to go back, simply click on your restore point in the timeline.

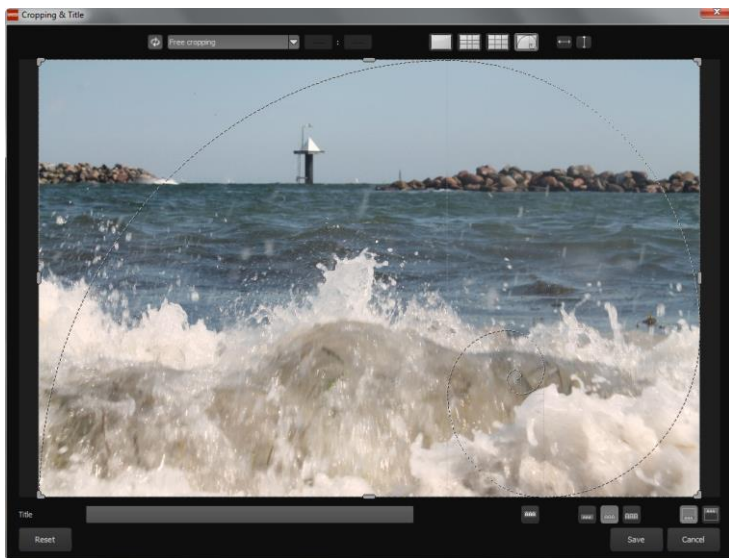
10. Selecting and Saving Selections of Images

To save a final image, click on the button in the toolbar, go through the file menu or use the corresponding keyboard shortcut (Ctrl+S).



➤ Cropping and captions

As soon as you have initiated to save a file, the cropping and caption window will open.



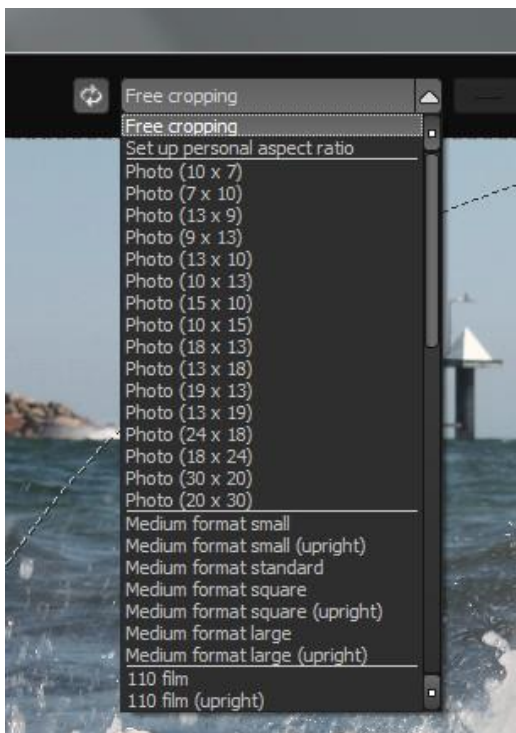
At the top are several practical aids for perfect image composition and cropping.

You can set the aspect ratio and activate guidelines like the rule of thirds, the golden section or the golden spiral.

The centre of the window shows your final image. Fix the area to be saved by adjusting the corners and borders of the photo.

At the bottom is an option to enter a caption. You can determine the size, position and background for the text. The size of the text will be automatically coordinated to the final cropping.

You can either crop free-handedly or use one of the 71 provided formats.



Please note: If you choose the cropping, e.g. 13 x 18, the final image will not be saved as 13 x 18 cm, rather as a ratio of 13 to 18.

As soon as the image has been cropped and captioned, confirm the save and the following window will prompt you to select a file format and name your file.

11. Plug-in Installation

SHARPEN projects can also be used as a plug-in for Adobe® Photoshop. Newer versions of Photoshop are automatically detected by **SHARPEN projects** during installation and the plug-ins are installed in the respective plug-in folder. Older versions of Photoshop might require manual installation.

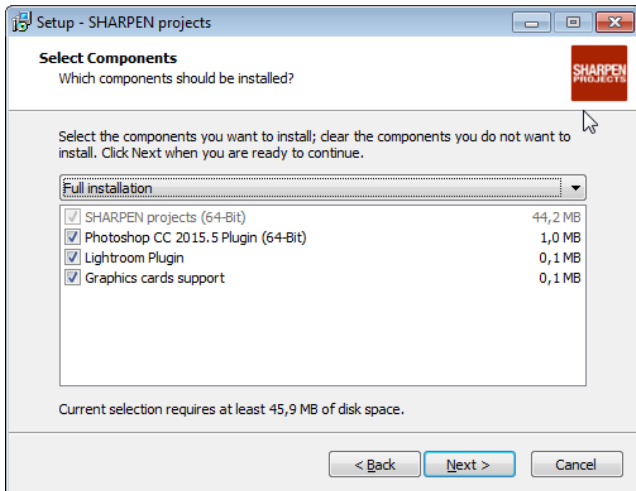
If you purchased your software as a download or if you have lost your CD, the plug-ins are also available for download at:

www.projects-software.com/plugins

Using plug-ins with Windows

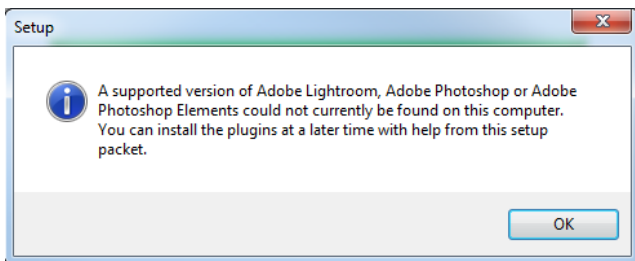
Adobe Photoshop & Adobe Photoshop Elements

The following window will appear when installing **SHARPEN projects** :



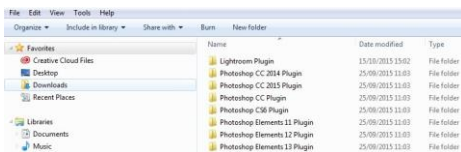
Select the version of Photoshop where you would like to install the **SHARPEN projects** plug-in. Click on “next” and follow the instructions from the installation assistant. The plug-ins will then be automatically installed.

If your version of Photoshop is not automatically recognised, the following notification will appear:

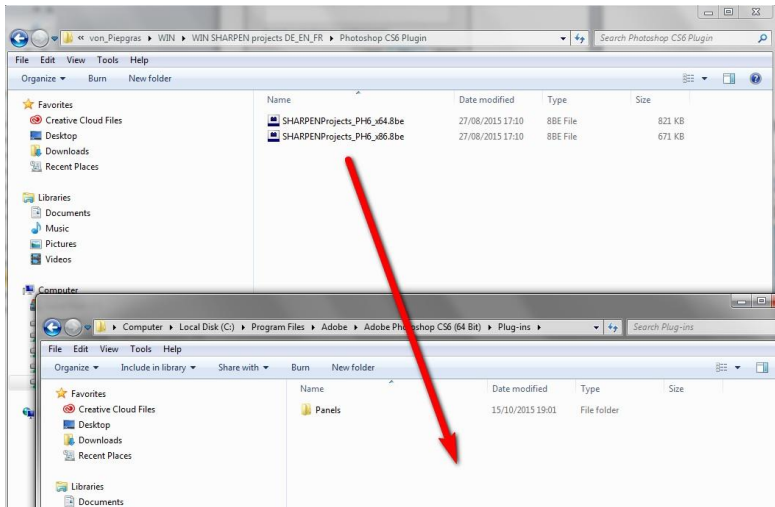


In this case, the plug-in must be manually copied into the “Photoshop Plug-in Folder”. Click on “Open Plug-ins Folder” on the start screen. Windows Explorer will then open with all available Photoshop plug-ins.

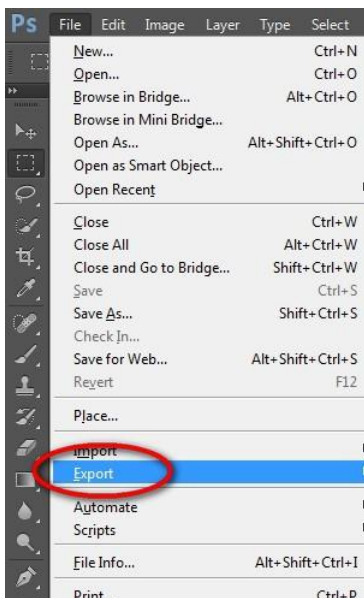
Open the folder for your version of Photoshop and drag & drop the plug-in found in this folder to the Photoshop



plug-in folder, which normally can be found through “Programs → Adobe → Adobe Photoshop → Plug-ins”. The plug-in can also be copy & pasted into the Photoshop plug-in folder.



Finally, the plug-in can be found in Photoshop through “File → Export → SHARPEN projects”.



Using plug-ins with Mac OS X

Adobe Photoshop & Adobe Photoshop Elements

Plug-ins can be found on the start screen in the “Plug-ins” folder. Select the appropriate folder for your version of Photoshop (we chose Photoshop CS6 for our example). Double click the .zip file to extract the plug-ins.

Next, drag & drop the plug-in to the plug-in folder for your version of Photoshop, which is normally labeled as “plug-ins”.

Start up your version of Photoshop, load an image and navigate to “File → Export → SHARPEN projects”. One click will start the plug-in. The image will now be opened in ***SHARPEN projects***.

Adobe Lightroom with Windows

For Adobe Lightroom, it is often the case that plug-ins are not automatically installed. Continue as follows:

Copy the plug-in folder “Lightroom Plug-in” from your CD-ROM.

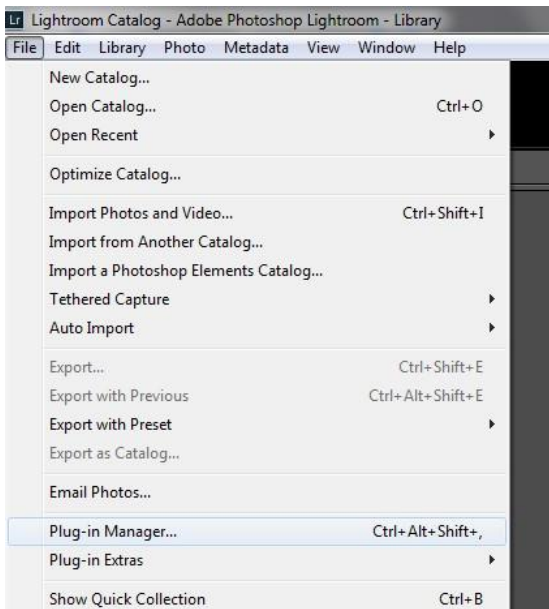
If you have no CD, the plug-in is also available for download at: www.projects-software.com/plugins

Paste the folder where you want it to be located.

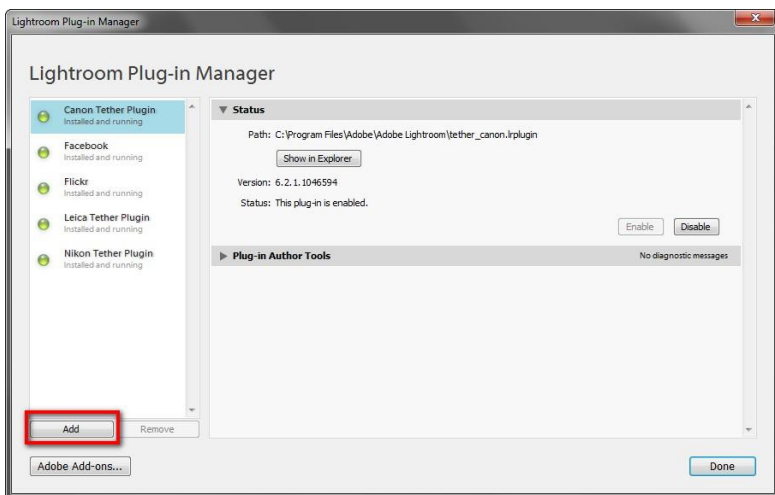
We recommend the folder where also your presets are stored:

C:\Users\username\SHARPEN Projects.

Start Lightroom und navigate to “File” → “Plug-In Manager”.



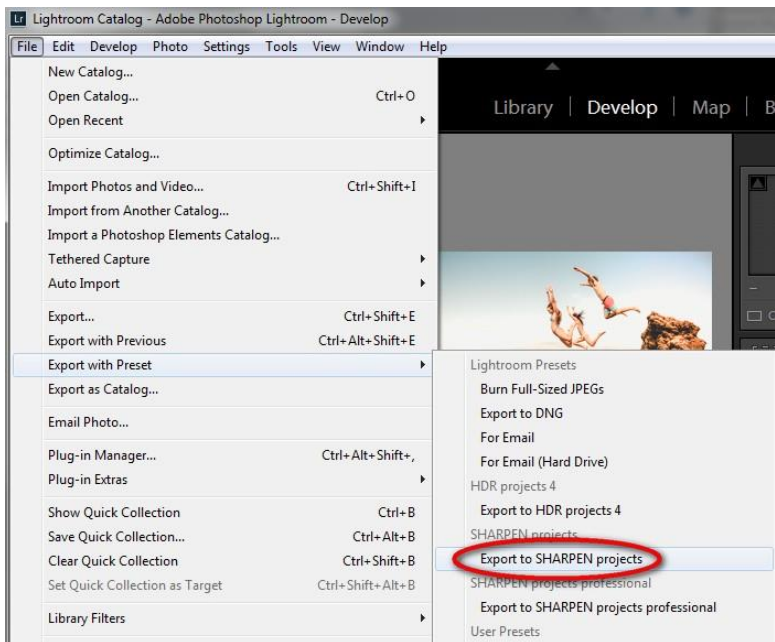
Click the “Add” button in the Lightroom Plug-In Manager.



Navigate to the appropriate Lightroom plug-in for **SHARPEN projects** that you just added to your PC.

Click on “Select Folder” and then “Done”.

In Lightroom, the plug-in can be found through “File → Export with Preset → Export to SHARPEN projects”.



ALTERNATIVE:

Right-click on the image directly in Lightroom and select „Export → Export to SHARPEN projects“.

Adobe Lightroom with Mac

For Adobe Lightroom, the plug-in will not be automatically installed. Continue as follows:

Install **SHARPEN projects** to the program link of your Mac.

Copy the plug-in .zip file from the “Lightroom Plug-in” folder on your CD-ROM. Double click on the .zip file to extract the plug-in to a folder where you want it to be located.

We recommend the folder where also your presets are stored:

C:\Benutzer(Users)\username\SHARPEN Projects.

Start Lightroom und navigate to “File → Plug-In Manager”.

Click the “Add” button in the Lightroom Plug-In Manager.

Navigate to the appropriate Lightroom plug-in for **SHARPEN projects** that you just added to your PC.

Click on “Select Folder” and then “Done”.

Sometimes it can be necessary to close Lightroom and then to re-start. Afterwards, the plug-in will be installed and activated.

There are more ways to export your image from Lightroom to **SHARPEN projects**:

„File → Export with Preset → Export to SHARPEN projects“.

ALTERNATIVE:

Right-click on the image directly in Lightroom and select „Export → Export to SHARPEN projects“.

12. Keyboard Shortcuts

Menu Functions:

Windows

Ctrl + N

Ctrl + Shift + O

Ctrl + S

Ctrl + B

Shift + Z

Ctrl + Z

Ctrl + T

F4

F7

Ctrl + E

Ctrl + H

Ctrl + F

ESC

Ctrl + P

Shift + F1

@

Ctrl + F4

Apple

cmd + N

cmd + Shift + O

cmd + S

cmd + B

Shift + Z

cmd + Z

cmd + T

F4

F7

cmd + E

cmd + H

cmd + F

ESC

cmd + P

Shift + F1

@

cmd + Q

New project

Upload single image

Save result

Open batch processing

Create restore point

Return to restore point

Show/hide timeline view

Open RAW mode

Show post-processing view

Show exif information

Show/hide histogram

Open/close full screen

Close full screen

Open settings

Open about window

Show product homepage

Close application

Image Functions:

Windows

Apple

Ctrl + Plus	cmd + Plus	Zoom in
Ctrl + Minus	cmd + Minus	Zoom out
Ctrl + 0	cmd + 0	Zoom to 100%
L	L	Set magnified view
Double Click	Double Click	Switch between "Fit" and "1:1" views

Scratch/Sensor Spot Removal:

Windows

Apple

N	N	Add new contour area
C	C	Activate/deactivate contour display
Page Up	Page Up	Select next contour area
Page Down	Page Down	Select previous contour area
Cursor Left	Cursor Left	Move selected area 1 pixel to the left
Shift + Cursor Left	Shift + Cursor Left	Move selected area 5 pixel to the left
Ctrl + Cursor Left	cmd + Cursor-Left	Move selected area 10 pixel to the left
Cursor Right	Cursor Right	Move selected area 1 pixel to the right
Shift + Cursor Right	Shift + Cursor Right	Move selected area 5 pixel to the right
Ctrl + Cursor Right	cmd + Cursor Right	Move selected area 10 pixel to the right
Cursor-Up	Cursor-Up	Move selected area 1 pixel up
Shift + Cursor-Up	Shift + Cursor-Up	Move selected area 5 pixel up
Ctrl + Cursor-Up	cmd + Cursor-Up	Move selected area 10 pixel up
Cursor-Down	Cursor-Down	Move selected area 1 pixel down
Delete	Delete	Delete selected contour area
Plus	Plus	Increase selected contour area
Minus	Minus	Reduce selected contour area
Ctrl + Plus	cmd + Plus	Zoom in
Ctrl + Minus	cmd + Minus	Zoom out

Hotline/Support

If you have questions regarding the installation, problems or errors of the software, please contact the **FRANZIS customer support team**.

E-Mail: support@franzis.de

Please understand that your questions can only be answered directly by FRANZIS customer support. This is to give us the opportunity to constantly enhance our customer service for you and to make sure that you receive only the most qualified answers to all of your questions as fast as possible.

This is how our customer support works best:

Please have the most important details about your computer and about our product at hand when you call our customer support. These include:

- Name of the product
- Product ISBN (which you can find on the back of the packaging, above the easy to spot barcode).
- Operating system of your computer
- Technical details of your computer including all your peripheral devices

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