

2007-02 Selective Color Change

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An easy way to select a color range and then replace the color range with another is found in Photoshop CS2 and CS3. The capability of selecting a color range is often faster than having to select the area(s) of interest using the more common selection tools. Here we will use the Color Range tool to select the area(s) to be changed, and then use the Hue/Saturation tool or the Color Balance tool to change the color to that which is desired.

Selection:

1. Open image and decide upon the area(s) that are to have their color changed
2. Choose the Select > Color Range tool. Pick Sampled Colors in the top menu, Selection in the set of radio buttons and None as the Selection Preview
3. Use the Eye Dropper tool to begin the selection. Drag the Eye Dropper+ tool to complete the initial selection. Drag this latter tool around to complete the selection. The Eye Dropper- tool may also be used
4. Play with the Fuzziness setting to achieve proper selection
5. Select OK. The selection will now be visible
6. Use the Lasso Tool to complete the selection (adding or subtracting)
7. Feather the selection appropriately
8. Save the selection

Changing Color:

1. Add a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer and modify the color range, either using the Master channel or any of the six individual channels
2. As an alternative, a Color Balance adjustment layer may be used
3. On the adjustment layer(s) play with the opacity and select an alternative blending mode (Color or Luminosity) as appropriate
4. Save as a PSD to allow further adjustments