

CONTENT AWARE SCALING

Resizing Just Parts of Your Image While Important Parts Stay Intact

Overview

- Content-Aware Scale (CAS) resizes an image without changing important visual content
- Very helpful in upscaling or downscaling images to improve a composition or fit a layout
- CAS works on layers and selections and all bit depths

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Outline

- Making digital camera images fit in traditional photography sizes
- Bringing key elements of an image closer together
- Distortion protection
- Stretching a portion of an image
- Recap of the CAS options bar features

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Making Digital Camera Images Fit Traditional Photography Sizes

- Open an image and create the final size as an 8 x 10 using Image Size and Canvas Size, placing the image as appropriate
- Select original image. Open the CAS command. Pick point of emphasis in the CAS Options bar. Drag the image handle to fill the canvas
- Commit transform. Deselect if necessary. Done

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Bringing Key Elements of an Image Closer Together

- Open target image. Select All or convert Background to a layer
- Open CAS, pick point of emphasis, and drag image handle to bring key elements together
- Examine key elements to assure that they have not been distorted. If they have been see later portion of lesson. If not proceed
- Commit transform. Deselect if necessary. Crop as appropriate. Done

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Distortion Protection

- Proceed as before. View. If unsatisfactory, and there are people in image that should be preserved, select the person icon in the CAS options bar. View
- If unsatisfactory select the areas that are key to preservation. Save the selection, creating an alpha channel. Repeat the CAS command and select the Protect>alpha channel in the CAS options bar. View

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Stretching a Portion of an Image

- Extend the canvas as desired
- Follow the steps to protect from distortion
- View and save

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Recap of the CAS Options Bar Features

- Reference Point Location
- Amount: Default is 100%
- Protect: Chooses an alpha channel to protect
- Protect Skin Tones: Attempts to preserve regions that contain skin-tones

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Sources

- Kelby, "The Adobe Photoshop CS4 Book for Digital Photographers," pp 192 – 195
- Maximum Adobe Photoshop CS4 Tour, "Seminar Workbook," pp 38 – 39
- Adobe User Manual "Using Photoshop CS4," pp 220 – 222
- <http://tv.adobe.com/?trackingid=DXFLE#vi+f1504v1003> Content Aware Scale Deeper Look