

SELECTIONS

To work on photos in Lightroom, you have to first click on the photos to select them. Selections in Lightroom catch most people out at some stage, because there are multiple levels of selection, rather than simply selected or not selected.

What's the difference between the selection shades of grey?

When you select photos in Lightroom's Grid view or in the Filmstrip, you'll notice that there are 3 different shades of grey. Because Lightroom allows you to synchronize settings across multiple photos, there needs to be a way of choosing the source of the settings as well as the target photos, so Lightroom has 3 levels of selection, rather than 2—or 2 levels of selection plus a deselected state, depending on how you look at it.



The lightest shade of grey is the active, or most-selected, photo. If you're synchronizing settings across multiple photos, Lightroom will take the settings from that active photo and apply it to the others.

The mid grey is also selected, but is not the active photo. If you're synchronizing settings across multiple photos, Lightroom will apply the settings to those photos.

The darkest shade of grey isn't selected.