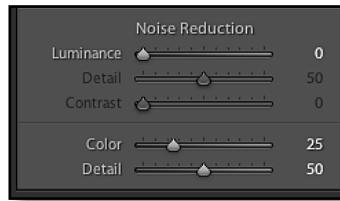


How do I use the different Noise Reduction sliders?

Just because there's now an array of noise reduction sliders doesn't mean you need to use them on every photo. Most photos will only require the Luminance and Color sliders. The other sliders are there for more extreme cases, and can be left at their default settings most of the time.



The Luminance slider controls the amount of luminance noise reduction applied, moving from 0, which doesn't apply any noise reduction, through to 100 where the photo has an almost painted effect. The Color slider tries to suppress color noise blobs without losing the edge detail.

The other sliders will only make a real difference to extremely noisy images, such as those produced by the highest ISO rating that your camera offers, or where a high ISO file is extremely underexposed. You're unlikely to see a difference at lower ISO ratings, for better or for worse, so in most cases you won't need to change those settings from their defaults.

The Luminance Detail slider sets the noise threshold, so higher values will preserve more detail but some noise may incorrectly be identified as detail. The Luminance Contrast slider at 0 is a much finer grain than 100. Higher values help to preserve texture, but can introduce a mottling effect, so lower values will usually be preferred. The Color Detail slider refines any fine color edges. At low values it reduces the number of color speckles in those edges but may slightly desaturate them, whereas at high values, it tries to retain the color detail but may introduce color speckles in the process.

If you're looking for an Auto setting, 25 on both the Luminance and Color sliders, with the other sliders at their defaults, will often be a good balance between detail and noise. The values automatically adapt depending on the camera and ISO rating when used with raw files. It's a matter of personal taste, so you might prefer a different value.