

Introduction

A Quick Introduction to this Book

Adobe® Photoshop® Lightroom™ 1.0 was released on February 19th 2007 after a long public beta period, and rapidly become a hit. Thousands of users flooded the forums, looking for answers to their questions. In the 2 1/2 years that have followed, Lightroom has continued to gain popularity, become the program of choice for amateur and professional photographers alike.

This book is not intended to be a step by step introduction to Lightroom - there are already books which fill that need and some things are far too obvious to need a book anyway - but there is one big gap - troubleshooting and reference material.

When you have a question, where do you look? Do you trawl through thousands of web pages looking for the information you need? Perhaps post on a forum and wait for hours for anyone to reply? Maybe try to figure out the Help files? From now on, you look right here!

Adobe Lightroom 3 - The Missing FAQ is a compilation of the most frequently asked questions, which you'll find listed in the Table of Contents... In Detail on the preceding pages. It's currently available in PDF format so you can

easily search for the information you need, and the final release will also be available in paperback.

What's a Rough Cut?

Lightroom 3 beta is just that - a beta version. A lot will change between the beta version and the final release of 3.0. There are plenty of bugs and things to be tidied up, and it's not feature complete yet, but it's an excellent opportunity to get feedback from the users on the things you do like, and the things you don't.

A rough cut of a book is like a beta version - it's an early draft. It's not finished. So far I've updated the information from the Lightroom 2 version of this book for version 3 beta, and added lots of questions which have appeared on the forums over the last year or so. I've got stacks of information yet to be sorted and included, many sections to rewrite, a full index to build, and Lightroom 3 beta is far from feature complete, so there are plenty of new features yet to be included in the final release of this book too.

Just like the beta of the program itself, I'd love to hear your feedback on the things you like about this book, and the things you don't. If you come across a question that I've missed, or something that's not clear, or you just want to tell me how much you love the book, my email address is victoria@victoriabampton.com. I promise to reply to every email I receive.

The Book Format

As you glance through the pages of this book, you'll notice it's split into chapters for each of the Lightroom modules and other important topics. Within each chapter are a series of questions and their answers, divided further into groups of similar questions.

As you read on, you'll also notice clickable sidebar links to other related topics marked with a pin, particularly useful if you're searching for the answer to a specific issue, or wanting to find out a little more about the current topic. Those cross-references usually refer to questions outside of the current topic grouping, rather than the question on the previous page!

In the front you'll find a list of all of the questions covered in this book. In the PDF format you can also use the search facility or bookmarks to find exactly the information you need. By the time Lightroom is out of beta, and this book is getting ready for paperback, there will also be an extensive index in the back.

The final chapters list various other useful information, particularly default file locations for preferences, presets and catalogs for each operating system, and also a list of all of the known keyboard shortcuts.

Windows or Mac?

The simple answer is... it doesn't matter. The screenshots are of the Mac version, but the Windows version is almost identical. Lightroom is entirely cross-platform, and therefore this book will follow the same pattern. Where keyboard shortcuts differ by platform, both are noted.

The one exception will be the shortcut to view a context-sensitive menu, which is right-click (Windows) / Ctrl-click (Mac). I'll keep that simple and just refer to right-clicking as many Mac users use 2-button mice these days, however if you are a Mac user with a one-button mouse, just remember that right-click is the same as Ctrl-click.



Also check...

Clickable links
are marked here
in the sidebar

Paperbacks and FREE PDF's

As this book was originally designed for the PDF format, with easy search and clickable links, anyone purchasing the paperback can also request the color PDF version ABSOLUTELY FREE!

To claim your free PDF copy, all you need to do is email me at victoria@victoriabampton.com with a copy of your purchase receipt and this code:

(yes, it's blank, you're reading the PDF)

And if you've bought the PDF, decided it's wonderful, and would now like a paperback copy (black & white only), visit <http://www.lightroomqueen.com/shoppingcart.php> for a discounted upgrade price on the paperback, which just covers the cost of printing and shipping. As this rough cut public beta version of the book is only available in PDF format, your paperback version will ship just after Lightroom 3.0 final release ships.