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PERFECT YOUR PHOTOS WITH ADOBE LIGHTROOM MOBILE

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WHAT IS LIGHTROOM MOBILE?

Adobe Lightroom for mobile is full-featured photography app for mobile photographers of every skill level. It has all the editing features you'd ever want. It's also great for organizing, finding, and sharing your photos. Lightroom mobile even includes its own camera with auto and pro controls.

Lightroom mobile is available as a free app with plenty of useful features. If you want even more editing features (called Premium features) and the ability to sync to Lightroom on other devices, you can subscribe to an Adobe Creative Cloud plan that includes Lightroom. See plans and pricing at Adobe.com

You can use Lightroom mobile on your iPad, iPhone, or Android device. It supports JPEG, PNG, and Adobe DNG image formats. It also supports raw files from digital cameras if you have an active Adobe Creative Cloud membership or trial.

INSTALL LIGHTROOM MOBILE

- Download Lightroom from the Apple App Store (for iOS mobile devices) or the Google Play Store (for Android mobile devices).

- Make sure you're connected to the Internet during set up.

- Launch the app on your mobile device.

- Sign in with your Adobe ID or a social login.

- You may see some welcome screens and permissions requests. Click through those to the first screen of the Lightroom app.

EDIT PHOTOS IN LIGHTROOM MOBILE DIRECTLY FROM YOUR DEVICE

Until recently you had to import photos into Lightroom to edit and organize them in the app. Now you can edit photos in Lightroom directly from the camera roll on your device without importing them into Lightroom first. We'll call this the Device workflow. It's a simpler, time-saving workflow if the main reason you want to use Lightroom is for its great editing controls. This time-saving feature was introduced in June 2023, so make sure you have an up-to-date version of Lightroom mobile.

THE DEVICE WORKFLOW

1. At the bottom of the first screen of the Lightroom app, choose Device.

   • Choosing Device gives you a grid view of all the photos that are in the native camera roll on your device.

   • More importantly, you can also edit these photos in Lightroom without having to import them.

2. To start editing a photo from Device view, just tap one of the photos in the grid.
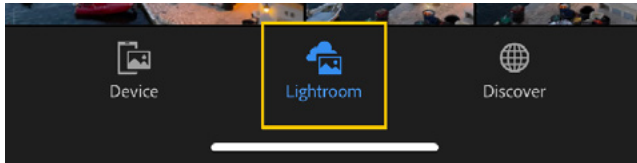
3. The photo you're editing will be imported into Lightroom automatically. After editing, the photo will appear in both Lightroom view and Device view in the Lightroom app. You can tap it in either place to open a larger view of the photo in Lightroom.

   • It will appear in Lightroom view with your edits.

   • It will also appear in Device view without your Lightroom edits, but with an Lr badge indicating it has been edited in Lightroom. Tapping it here opens it in a larger view with your Lightroom edits, ready for further editing.

THE LIGHTROOM WORKFLOW

The Device workflow above isn't the only way to work with the Lightroom mobile app. If you want to use Lightroom to organize your photos, not just to edit them, you may prefer the original Lightroom workflow:

1. At the bottom of the first screen of the Lightroom app, choose Lightroom.

   • Choosing Lightroom displays only photos have been imported into Lightroom or that you captured with the Lightroom camera.

2. Import photos into Lightroom

   • One strategy is to import into Lightroom only select photos from your camera roll, like favorites or photos you want to edit

   • Another strategy is to automatically import all photos you take with your device camera into Lightroom. (Tap the 3 dots at top right > choose App Settings > Import, flip the Photos switch to the right.) Be aware that this can use a lot of space on your mobile device.

3. To start editing a photo in Lightroom view:

   • Tap a photo in the grid. This opens that photo in Info mode.

   • Then, go to the menu at the top left of the screen and switch it from Info to Edit.

EDITING YOUR PHOTOS

Lightroom mobile biggest strength is editing. Rather than just dragging lots of editing sliders indiscriminately, think about what needs fixing the most. Likely candidates are exposure, color, detail, and composition. Then use the editing tools that are most likely to address those problems.

Be aware that the location of editing sliders may be different depending on the version of Lightroom mobile you have. Keep your Lightroom updated to experience the most current editing control layout.

FREE LIGHTROOM FEATURES FOR FIXING COMMON PROBLEMS

The free version of Lightroom mobile has plenty of features for fixing common photo issues:

Auto adjustment: If you're not sure what needs fixing, or you just want a good starting place for editing, try the **Auto** button. It can improve light and color with one click.

Or try a Preset:

Exposure: If your photo is too dark or too light, try the **Light** sliders-
Exposure, Contrast, Highlights, Shadows, Whites, Blacks

Color: If the colors in your photo are too dull, control color intensity with the
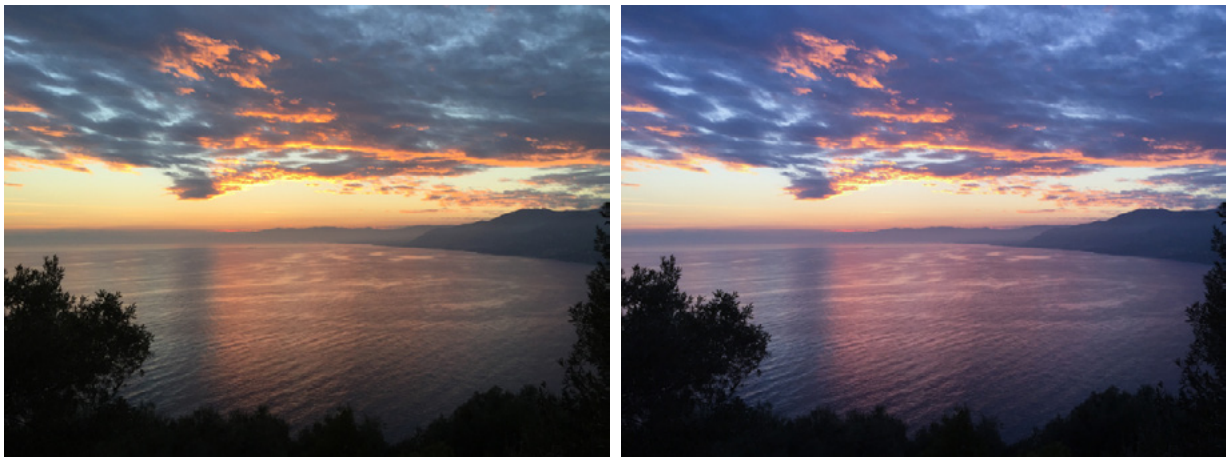**Saturation** slider.

If there's a person in the photo, try the more subtle **Vibrance** slider to control color intensity.

If the overall color balance in your photo is off try the **Temperature** and **Tint** sliders.

The **Temperature** and **Tint** sliders are also useful for achieving a different color look than you have in your original photo:

Detail: If the scene is too hazy, cut through it with the **Dehaze** slider.

Composition: If your photo isn't the right shape or size for you use case, or if it needs straightening, use the **Crop** tool.
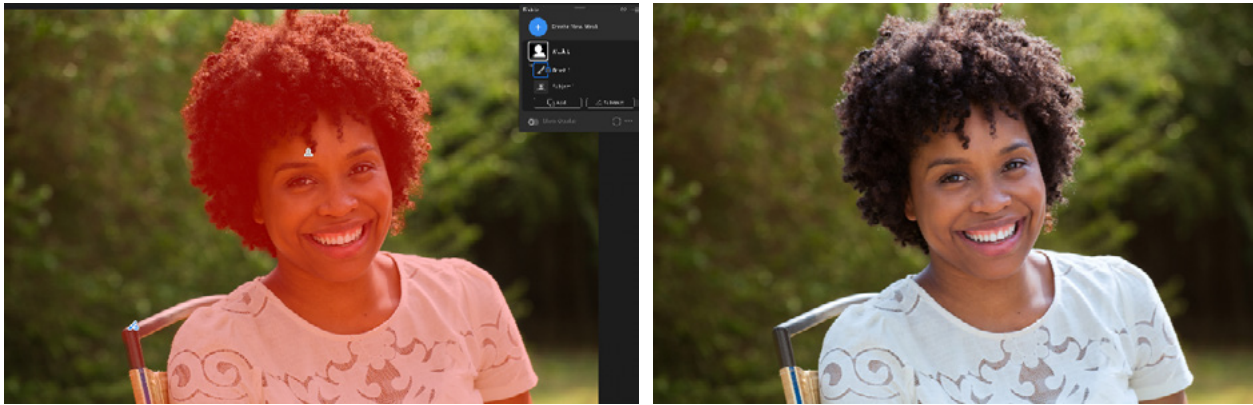

PREMIUM FEATURES FOR FIXING COMMON PHOTO PROBLEMS:

The features mentioned above are free. There are also some Premium features that come in handy for common photo fixes:

Perspective: If your photo has a perspective issue (like a building that looks like it's leaning backward) use the Premium Geometry tools.

Local adjustments: If you want to adjust only part of a photo, like a sky or a subject, use the Premium **Masking** tools.

Retouching: If your photo has unwanted or distracting elements to remove, try the Premium content-aware **Healing** tool.

ORGANIZING YOUR PHOTOS IN LIGHTROOM MOBILE

Albums are a great way to organize photos so that you can quickly find particular photos. There are lots of ways to set up albums. Here are a few ideas.

USE PICKS TO IDENTIFY YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS

You can mark any photo with a Pick or Reject flag, or a Star rating. To keep it simple, consider using only Pick flags as a way to mark your favorites.

- Go to the menu at the top left of the screen and switch it to Review.

- Select a photo and click the Pick flag.

USE ALBUMS TO KEEP TRACK OF PHOTOS BY:

- Topics

- Locations

- Events

- Dates

- Picks (a simple way to make and quickly access a portfolio of your favorite photos)

- Editing workflow (original, edits in progress, edits complete, shared)

HOW TO USE ALBUMS

CREATE AN ALBUM

- Tap the Back arrow at the top left to go back to the Lightroom grid view

- Tap the Album menu at the top left to see all the built-in Albums and any Albums you've already made

- Click the Create New button to make a new Album

ADD PHOTOS TO AN ALBUM

- Select one or more images.

- Then click Move and choose an Album

- A photo can be in more than one Album

- Removing a photo from an Album does not delete the photo from your device or from Lightroom

ORGANIZE ALBUMS INTO FOLDERS

- Albums can be organized into Folders in Lightroom Mobile. This is a good way to keep your list of Albums from getting long and unorganized.

- Click the Create new button and choose Folder

- Click the 3 dots to the right of an Album, choose Move, and select a Folder to move the Album to

WRAP UP

There's a lot more you can do to your images in Lightroom mobile. So keep exploring as you use Adobe Lightroom mobile to edit and organize your own photos. If you need more information about Lightroom Mobile, here are some useful resources.

RESOURCES

Adobe user guide for editing in Lightroom mobile iOS:
https://helpx.adobe.com/lightroom-cc/using/edit-photos-mobile-ios.html

Adobe user guide for editing in Lightroom mobile Android:
https://helpx.adobe.com/lightroom-cc/using/edit-photos-mobile-android.html

Lightroom Mobile FAQ: What features do I get for free? What additional features do I get when I purchase a Creative Cloud subscription?
https://helpx.adobe.com/mobile-apps/help/lightroom-mobile-faq.html

You can use all the capture, organization, and sharing features in Lightroom for mobile for free. You can also use most of the editing features for free.

When you purchase a Creative Cloud Photography plan subscription you also get:

- *The ability to sync your Lightroom photos on all your devices including your computer.*

- *Photoshop — the world's most powerful photo-editing tool.*

- *A customized website to showcase your photos powered by Adobe Portfolio.*

- *The ability to access the photos you have in Lightroom in other Adobe mobile apps including Photoshop on iPad, Adobe Spark Page, Adobe Spark Video, and more.*

- *Access to the following premium features in Adobe Lightroom for mobile:*

  - *Cloud storage*
  - *Sync presets and profiles*
  - *Healing brush*
  - *Selective Adjustments*
  - *Sensei search*

  - *Geometry tools*
  - *Raw editing on phone or tablet*
  - *People Photo sorting*
  - *Batch editing*