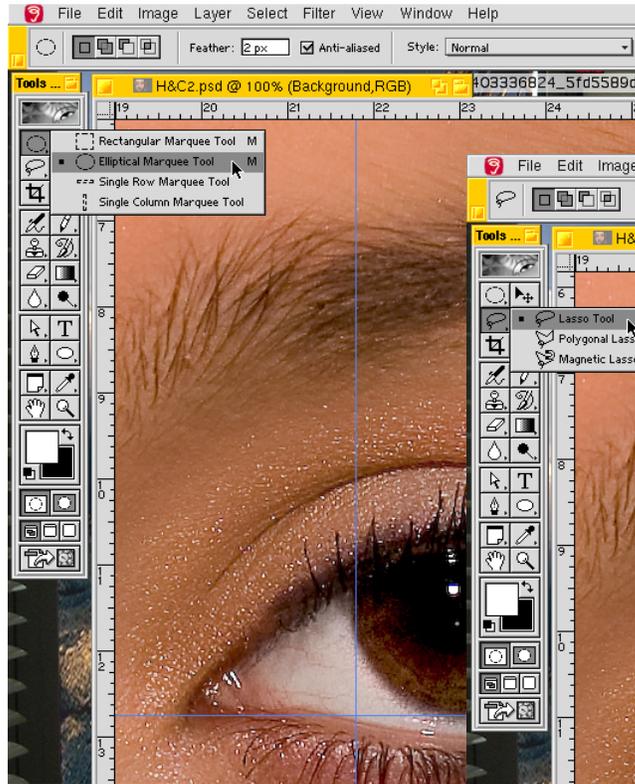


The most common tool I use for retouching is the Lasso Tool. You should find it very useful and quick for making selections. For doing facial retouching, I usually have the feather amounts quite strong. The softness of the effect has a lot to do with the feathering.. We are working on an original photo from Hoddo1812 at flickr.com, who had requested some help with make up and enhancing their photo.

I first used the Lasso Tool to make quick selections around each of the model's eyes. I contrasted this selection and sharpened it as well... wanting to bring out more of the sparkles above her eyes.

Next was to select the pupils for some tweaking. I used the Elliptical Marquee Tool, with the feather set for 2 pixels (*screen 1*). I then switched to the Lasso Tool, and also had the feather set for 2 pixels (*screen 2*). I held down the alt key, and subtracted the portion that included her eyelid (*screen 3*). I contrasted this selection, and also sharpened it (*screen 4*). There is so much that can be done with the iris of an eye, many hidden details in there.



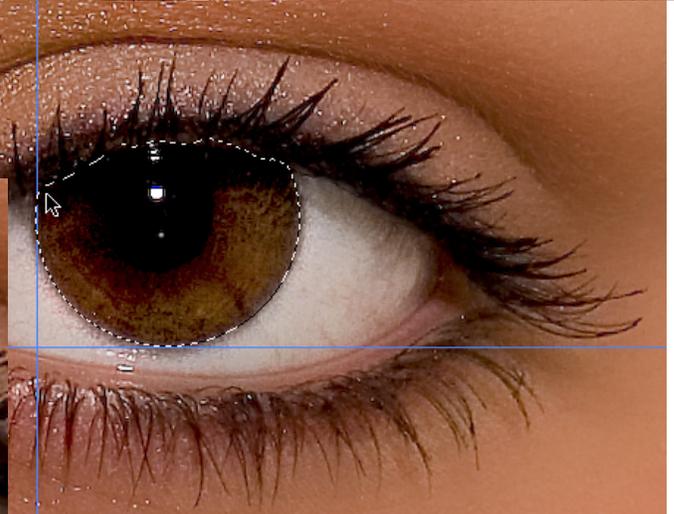
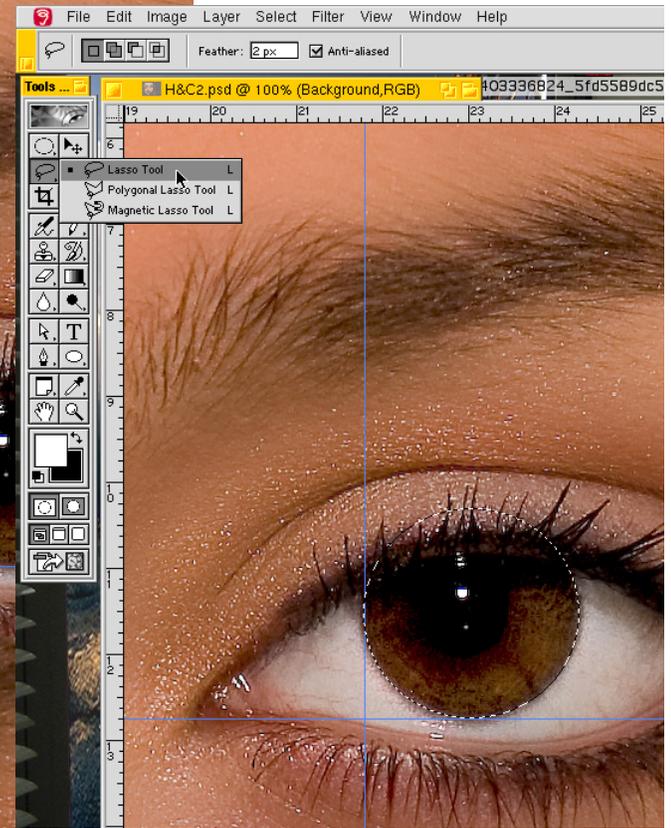
◀ Screen 1

**HINT:**

Remember, you can combine all different tools, and feather amounts to your selections. You can save the selection as well.

▼ Screen 2

Just go to the Select pull down window.



▲ Screen 3

**HINT:**

Remember to use your guide lines. Click and drag them out from the top and left rulers. The intersection of the lines is where you start for the elliptical marquee tool.

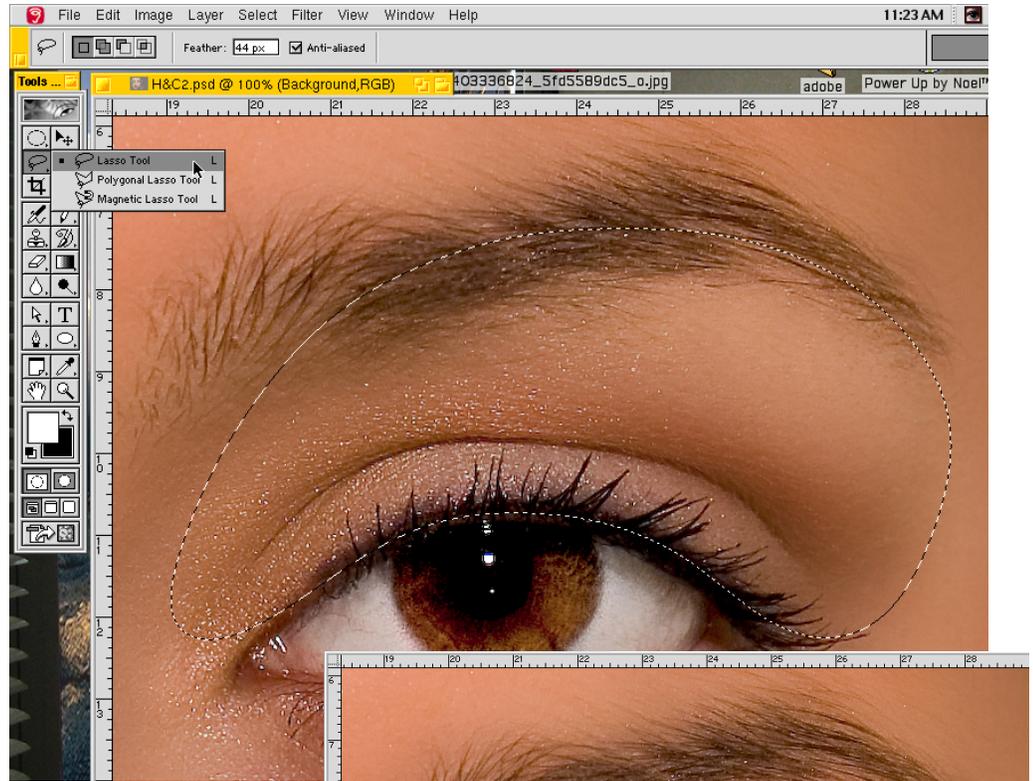
Also, depending on your photo, you may wish to add color to selected area as well...and refer to Lesson 2D to work on the whites. This photo did not require any work on the whites, but many times you will need to adjust them too.

◀ Screen 4

Let's add some eye shadow to the model. Use the Lasso Tool, and have your feather set for 44 pixels (screen 5). Make a quick selection at the edge of her eyelid and through her eyebrow. Copy this to a new layer. Choose the Color Balance function from the Adjust portion of the Image pull down menu. Add some red, magenta, and yellow (screen 6). Play around with the sliders some, and see what you like. The changes are simple and can create some dramatic affects.

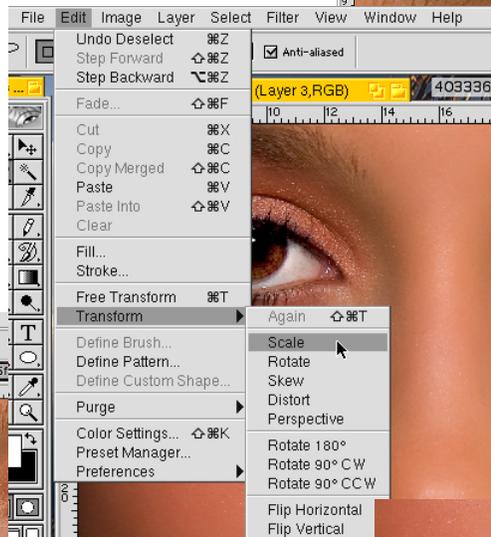
Now change the feather to 12 pixels and select a portion of her lower left lip. Go through the portion where her lips meet, and select down into her chin some. (screen 7). Copy this portion from your duplicated background layer that you have already enhanced somewhat. Paste to a new layer and choose scale (screen 8), from the Transform menu.

Once you get the bounding box, pull down on the center box of the bottom line (screen 9). Get the lip to a fullness that you like, then dupe the layer...and flip it horizontally, from the same transform function window as the scale feature was located. Slide it into place and erase as needed (screen 10).

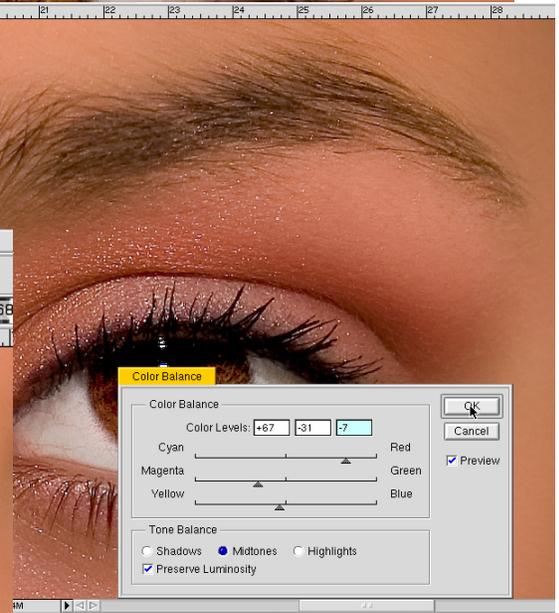


▲ Screen 5

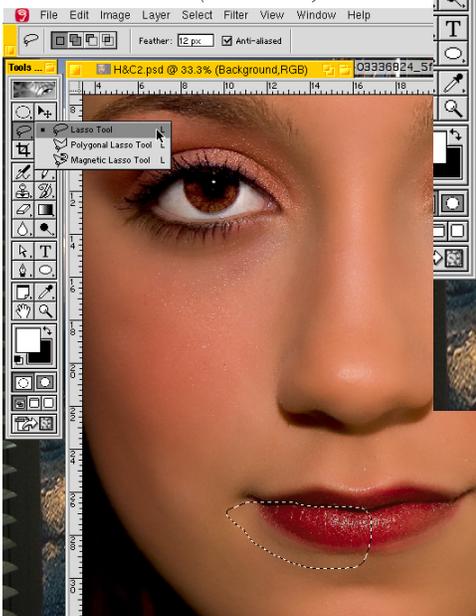
Screen 6 ▶



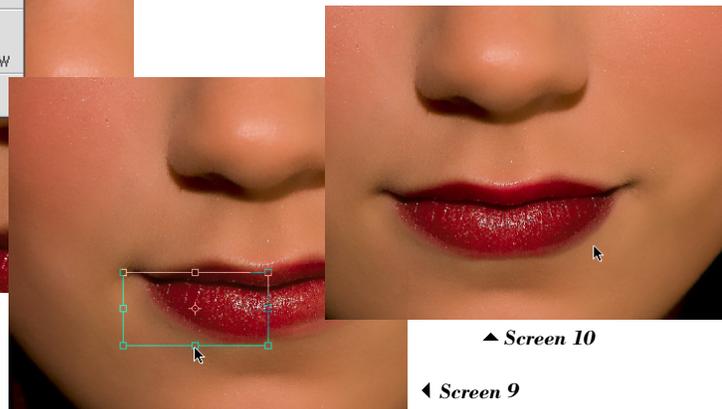
▲ Screen 8



▲ Screen 10



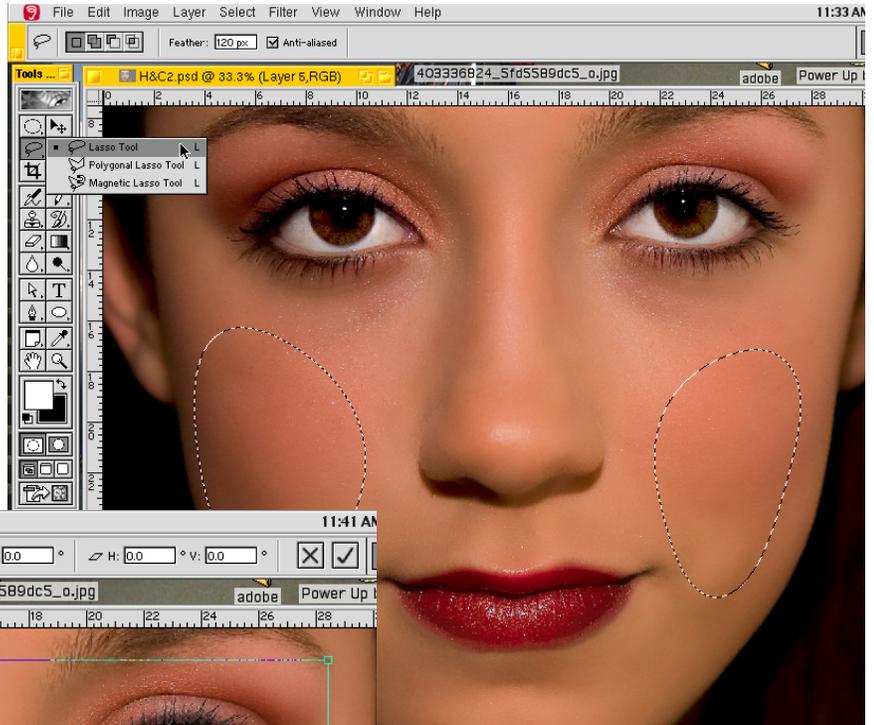
◀ Screen 7



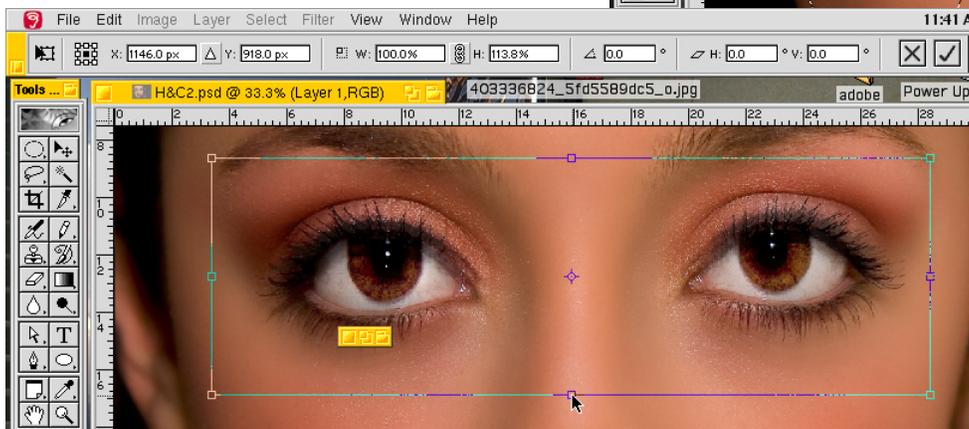
◀ Screen 9

After I filled out the lips a bit, I selected her cheeks using the Lasso Tool and a feather of 20 pixels (screen 11). Select quickly, and in the shape of her cheekbone. I added some red to this selection. At times it may help to brighten this type of selection. The large feather makes for a very soft edge, and very easy to select.

Finally, I again went quickly and roughly around the eyes using the Lasso Tool with a feather of 33 pixels. I copied this selection to a new layer and scaled it only vertically (screen 12). You can see some of the image below on the top edge. Once I slide this into position you will no longer see a defined edge.



▲ Screen 11



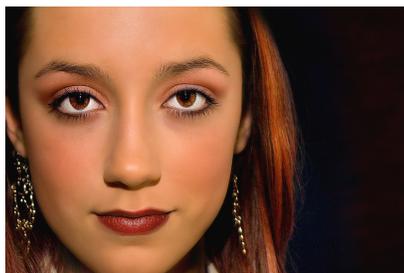
◀ Screen 12

Once the face was where I liked it, I copied out her hair and the background. You can see this as the top layer of the stack (screen 13). I added a bunch of contrast and some brightness to make her hair more pronounced. I added earrings, and a collar.

As you get more comfortable doing these...you may have less layers. You may want to do the edit directly on the duplicated enhanced layer, as well as merge layers as you go. The editing is quite easy, and sometimes the result is fairly subtle, other times it will be more dramatic as the before and after images below illustrate.



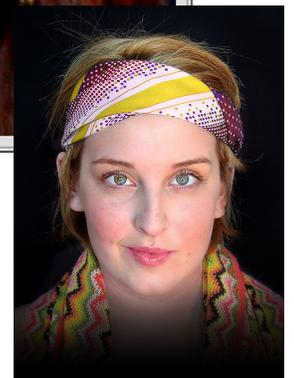
Before



After



Before



After