

"Free for Personal Use!"

# MASKING IN ADOBE LIGHTROM CLASSIC

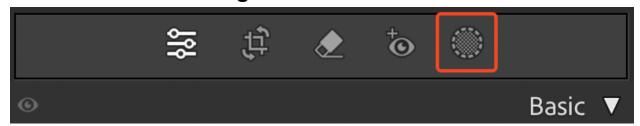
Here's a detailed step-by-step guide on how to use masking inside **Adobe Lightroom Classic**. Once you review it, let me know if you'd like it formatted into a PDF.

MASKS: Black-Hides, and White-Reveals

## 1. Open Your Image in Lightroom Classic

- Launch Adobe Lightroom Classic and open the Develop Module by clicking on the Develop tab at the top of the screen or pressing D on your keyboard.
- Select the image you want to edit from the filmstrip at the bottom.

# 2. Access the Masking Tools



- On the **right-hand panel**, locate the toolbar at the top of the adjustments section.
- Click on the Masking icon (a circle icon with a dotted outline). This opens the Masking panel, where you can create and manage masks.



# 3. Choose a Masking Type

Lightroom Classic provides various masking options. Select one based on your needs:

#### a. Brush

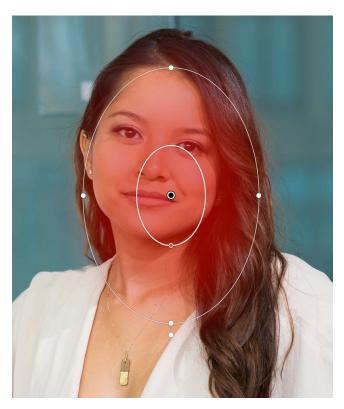
- Use this for freehand selections.
- Click on Brush.
- Adjust the size, feather, and flow in the **Brush settings**.
- Paint over the area you want to mask.

#### b. Linear Gradient



- Ideal for gradual adjustments across a part of the image.
- Click on Linear Gradient.

- Drag the gradient from the starting point to the desired direction on the image.
- Adjust the width and angle as needed.



#### c. Radial Gradient

- Best for circular or elliptical adjustments.
  - Click on Radial Gradient.
- Drag to create an ellipse over the area.
- Adjust the size and shape as needed.

#### d. Select Subject-uses Al

- Automatically detects and masks the primary subject in the image.
- Click on Select Subject.
- Lightroom will process and create a mask around the subject.

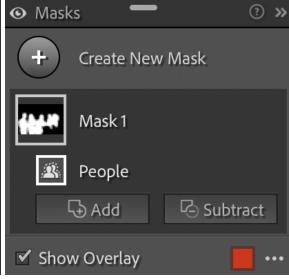
#### e. Select Sky-uses Al

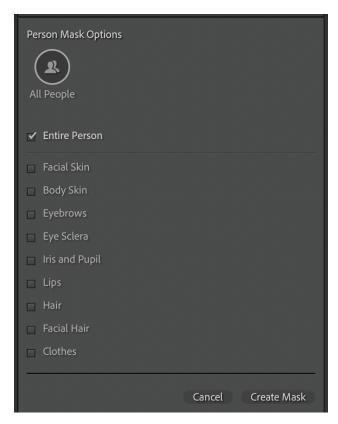
- Automatically detects and masks the primary sky in the image.
- Click on **Select Sky**.
- Lightroom will process and create a mask around the sky.

## f. Select Background-uses Al

- Automatically detects and masks the primary background in the image.
- Click on Select Background.
- Lightroom will process and create a mask around the background.







#### g. Select People-uses Al

- Automatically detects and masks people in the image.
  - Click on Select People.
- Lightroom will process and create a mask around a person or the selected people.
- Lightroom can also select certain aspects of people like:
  - Facial Skin
  - Body Skin
  - Eyebrows
  - Eye Sclera(whites of eyes)
  - Iris and Pupil
  - Lips
  - o Hair
  - Facial Hair
  - Clothes
- You can select all people and create a full body or specific mask wit options above
  - Select individual people and create a

Lightroom will process and create a mask around your selections for people

#### h. Select Objects-uses Al

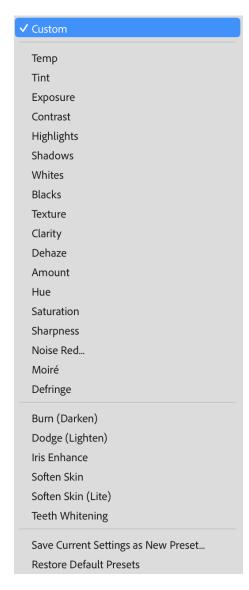


- Detects and masks objects you manually brush over in the image.
- Click on Select Ojects.
- Paint over the object with the brush
- Lightroom will process and create a mask around the object.

#### i. Select Range-Luminance, Color, and Depth

- Allows you to make selections by luminance(brightness), color, and depth
- Click on the area you would like to select and Lightroom will select those values
- You can modify the area that is selected by adjusting a range selector. See below





#### 4. Fine-tune Your Mask

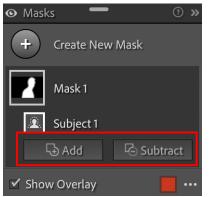
- After creating a mask, use the sliders in the adjustment panel to make edits.
  - o **Exposure**: Adjust brightness.
  - o Contrast: Increase or decrease contrast.
  - o **Texture**: Enhance or soften textures.
  - Clarity: Add sharpness or softness.
  - Color: Adjust temperature, tint, or

saturation.

 Looking at the image to the right you can also apply presets to your mask.

#### 5. Add or Subtract from a Mask

- Click **Add** or **Subtract** in the Masking panel to refine your selection:
- Add: Includes additional areas in the mask using tools like Brush or Gradients.
- Subtract: Removes areas from the mask for more precise control.



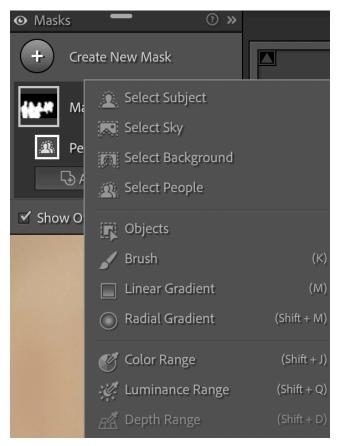
# 6. Use Overlays for Visual Guidance

- Toggle the mask overlay by pressing O on your keyboard.
- This highlights the masked area in red (or another color you set).

## 7. Manage Multiple Masks

- Each mask appears as a separate entry in the **Masking panel**.
- Rename, hide, or delete masks by right-clicking on their label.
- You can activate a mask by left-clicking on it.

#### 8. Create New Mask



- Click the + called Create New Mask.
- Each mask appears as a separate entry in the **Masking panel**.
- Rename, hide, or delete masks by right-clicking on their label.

#### 8. Save Your Work

- Once satisfied, click on the Library
  Module or press G to save your edits automatically.
- Export the image if you need a final copy by selecting **File > Export**.

# 9. Practice & Experiment

Experiment with combining masks

and adjusting settings for complex edits.

Don't hesitate to reset adjustments if needed.