

Refining Your Image:

Eliminate Distractions; Enhance Positives
Session 4

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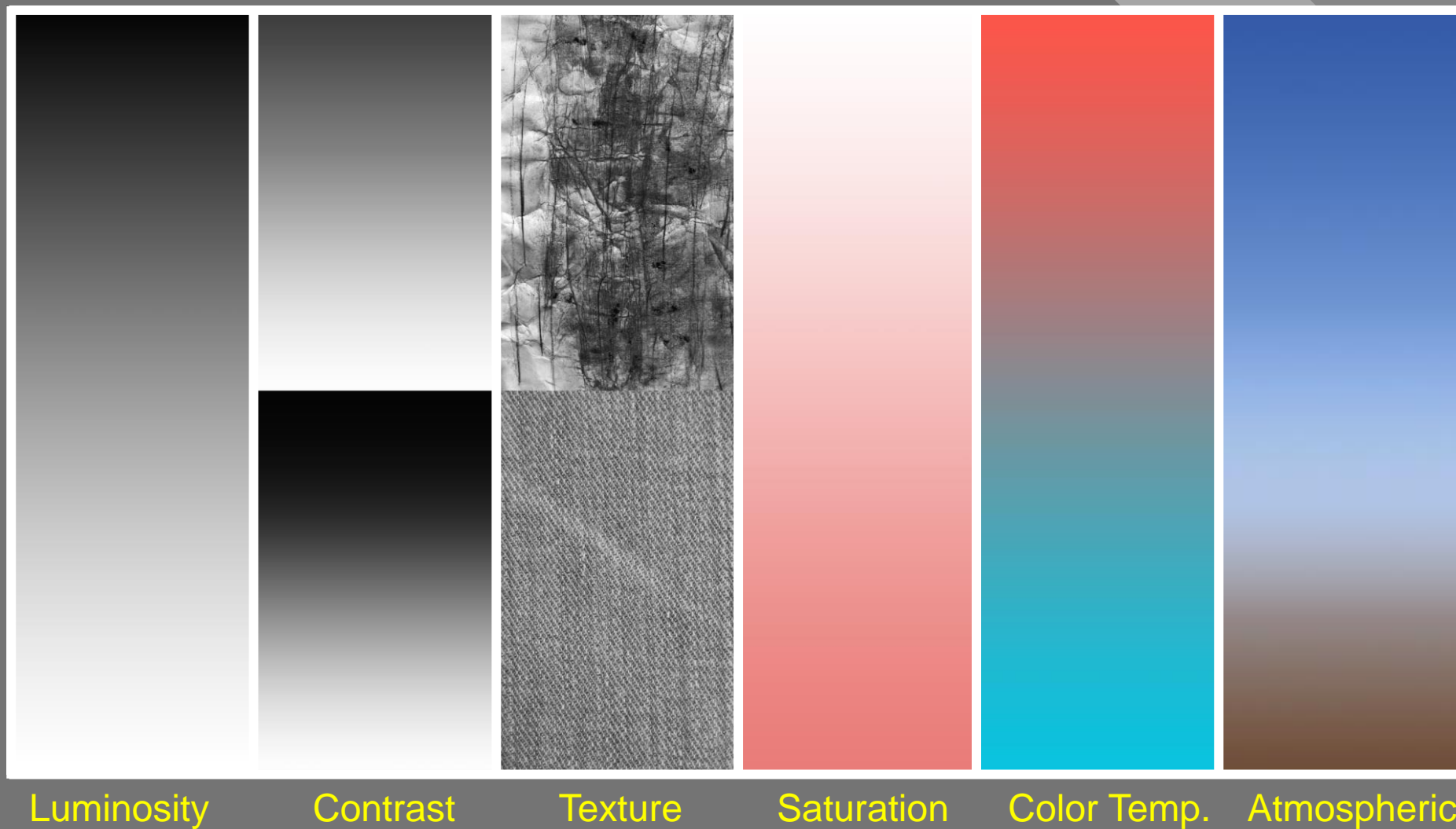
Goals

1. Become more aware of distractions
2. Learn to draw the viewer's eye to your main character

Second Half of the Equation: Accentuating the Positive

It's about what you see...
and what you **do** with what you see.

Review: Transition Types



Vincent Versace Example

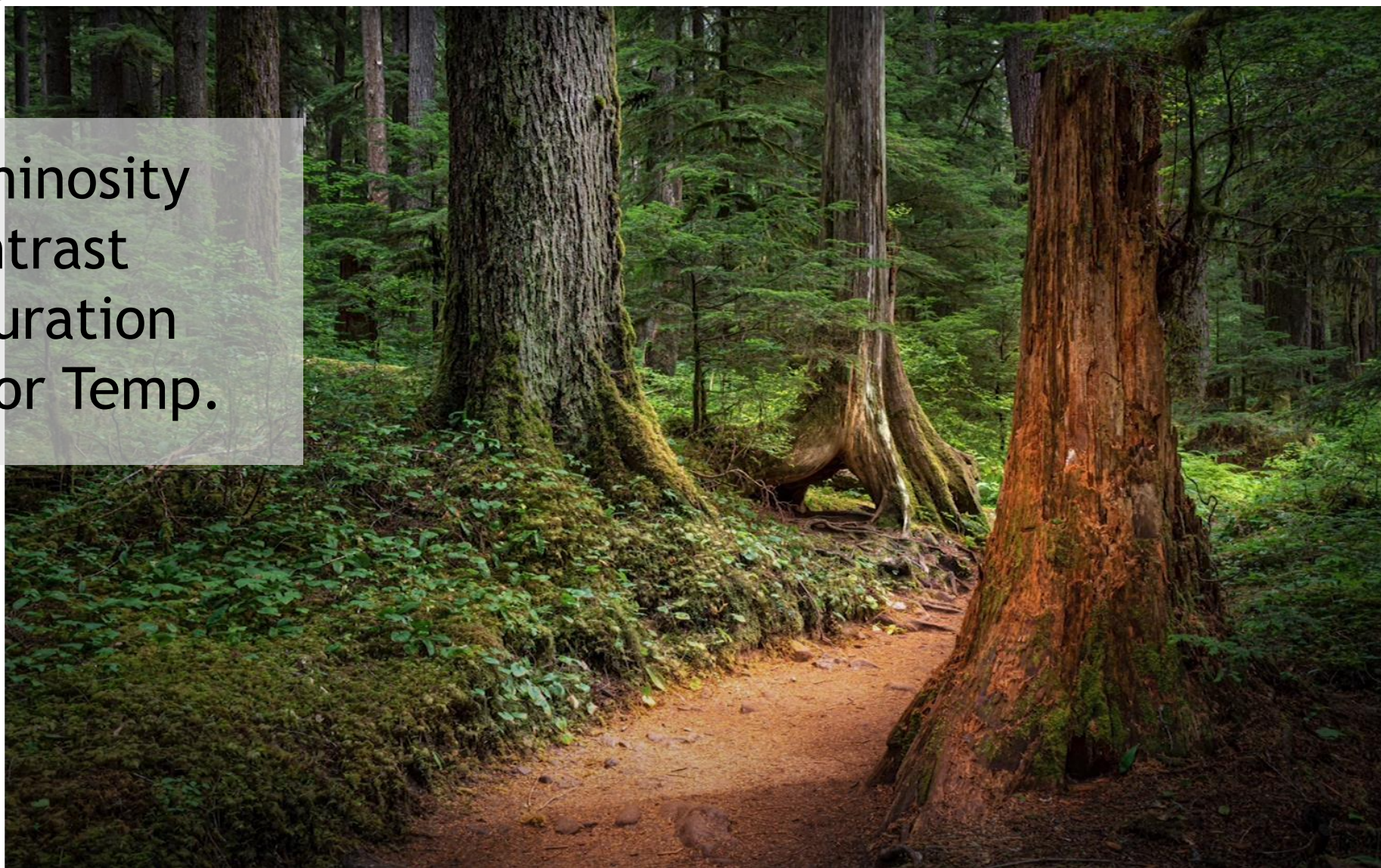


- Luminosity
- Contrast
- Saturation
- Color Temp.
- Texture

Vincent Versace

Joe Brady Example

- Luminosity
- Contrast
- Saturation
- Color Temp.

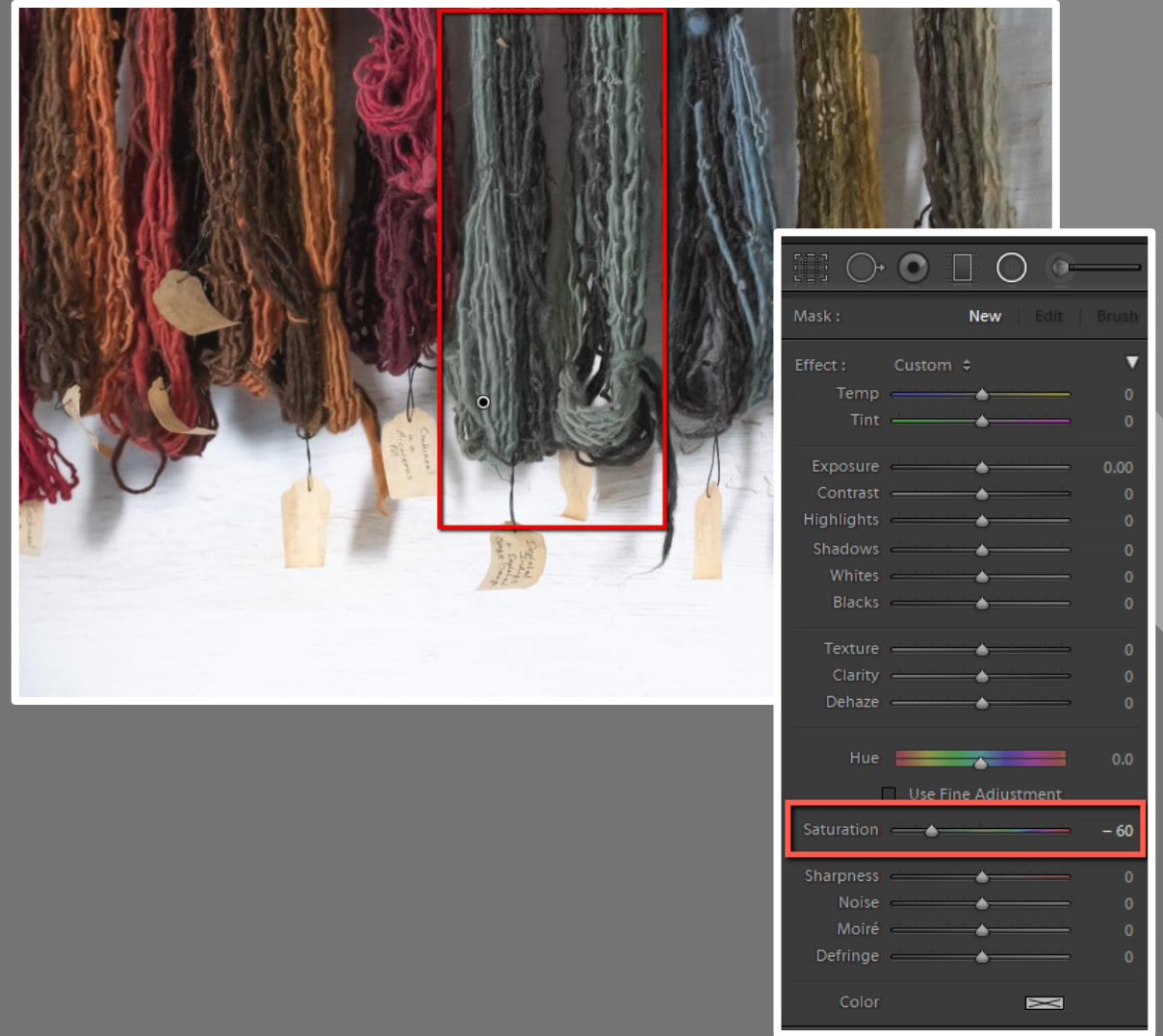
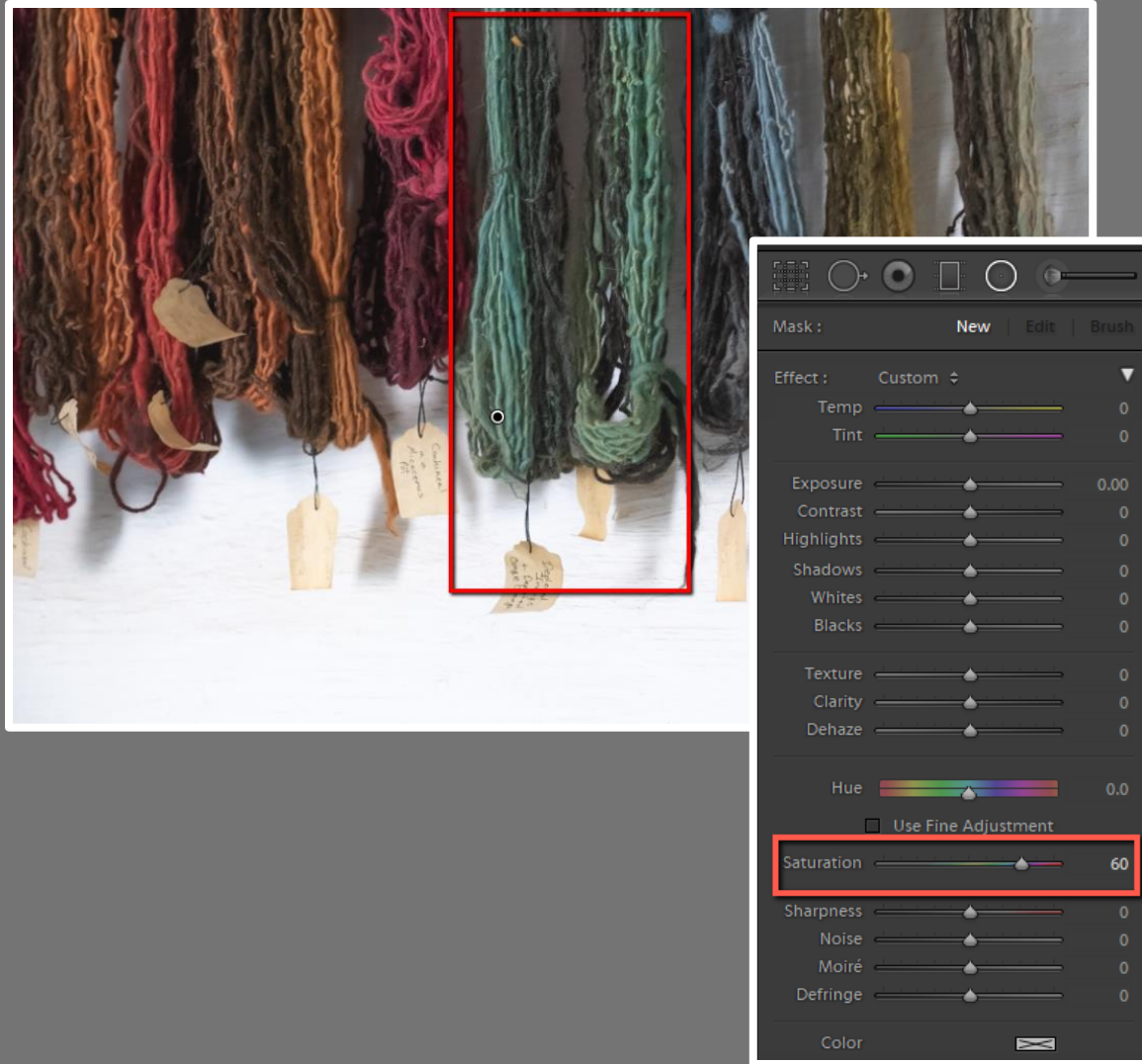


Joe Brady

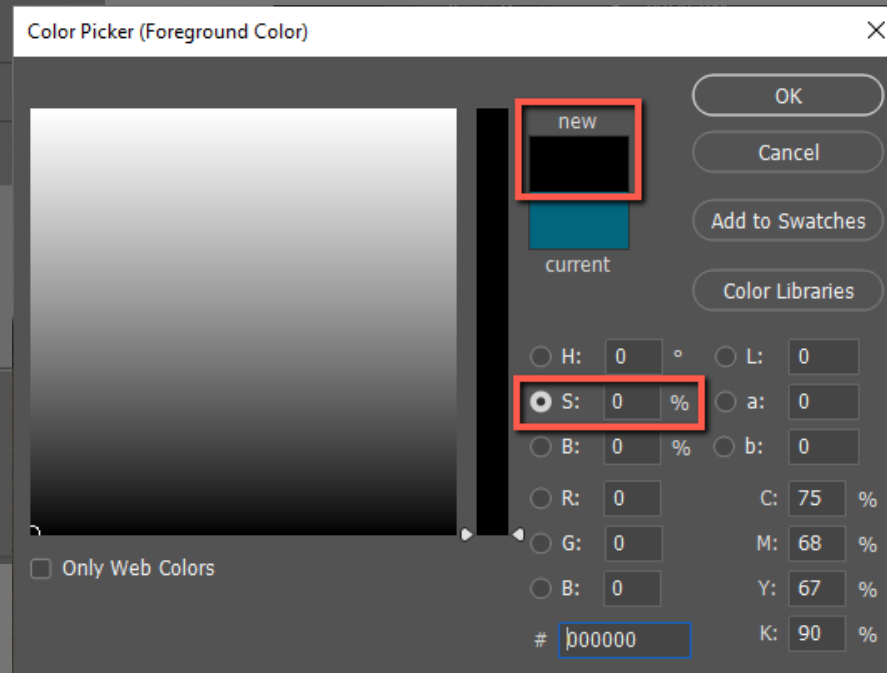
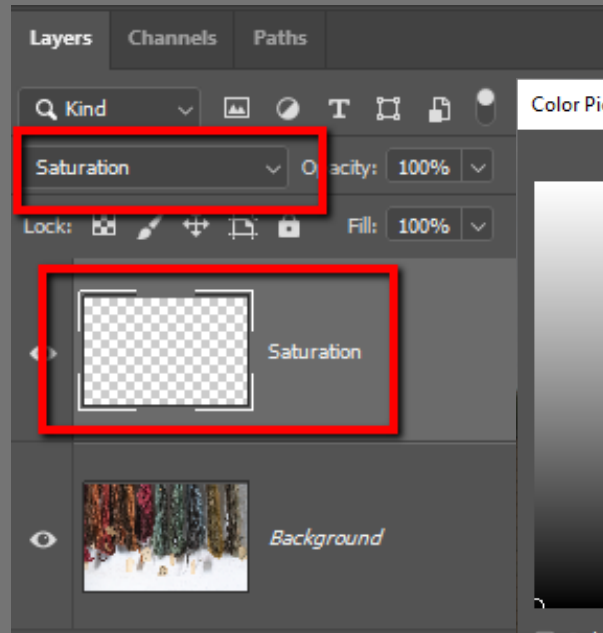
Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
- Dodge and Burn
- • Saturation Adjustment
- Blurring
- Foreground / Background Relationship
- Transposition (flipping the image)
- Vignette and Spotlight

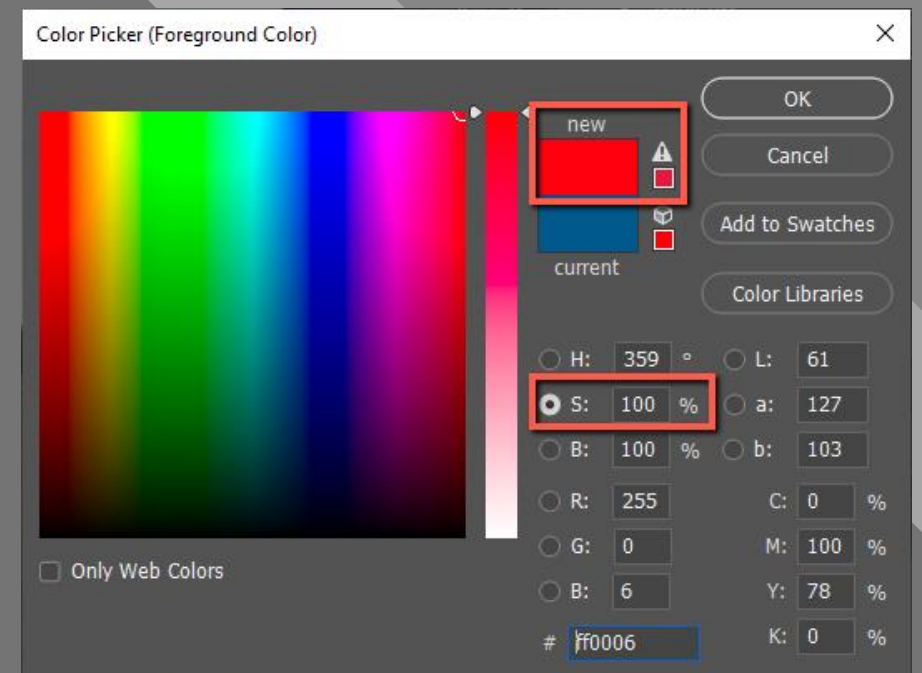
Saturating / Desaturating: Lightroom



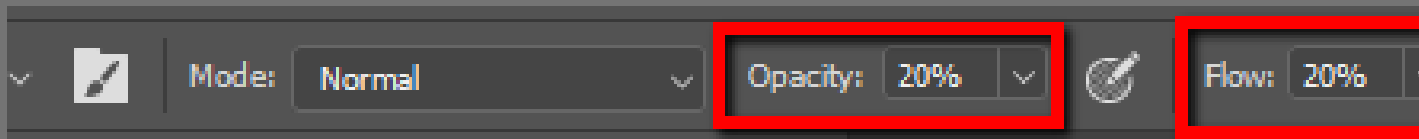
Saturating / Desaturating: Photoshop



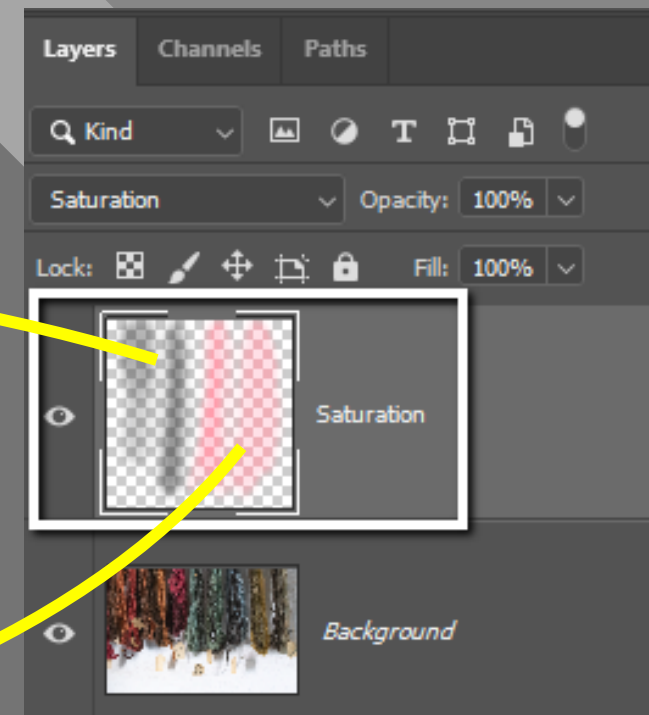
To Desaturate...



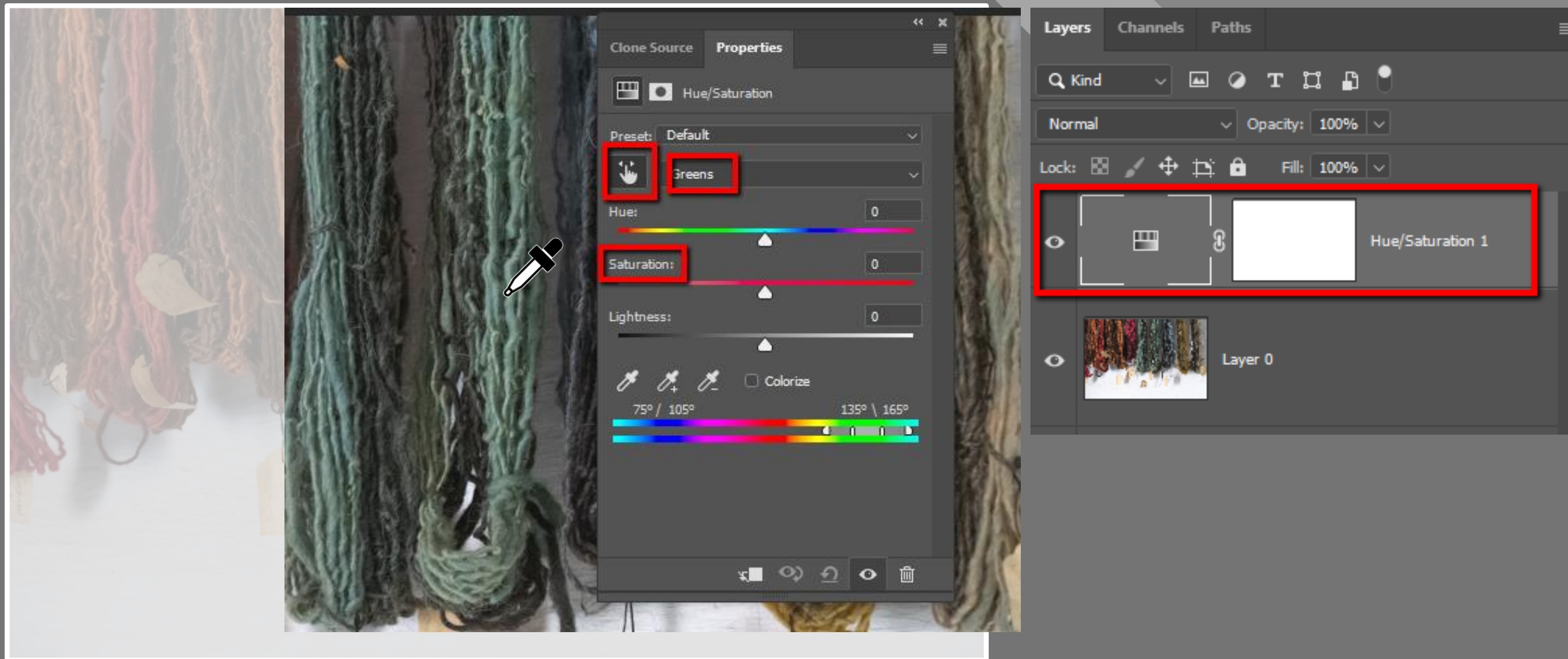
To Saturate...



Saturating / Desaturating: Photoshop



Saturating / Desaturating: Photoshop



Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
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- Foreground / Background Relationship
- Transposition (flipping the image)
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Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Post-production Transitions:

- Luminosity
- Saturation
- Detail/texture
- Color temperature



RAW File

Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Distractions:

- Sides and top
- Warm background areas
- Textured background
- Light areas



RAW File

Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- Blur background
- Dodge and burn
- Noise reduction, sharpen, vignette, spotlight



RAW File

Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

- Basic tone and color



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

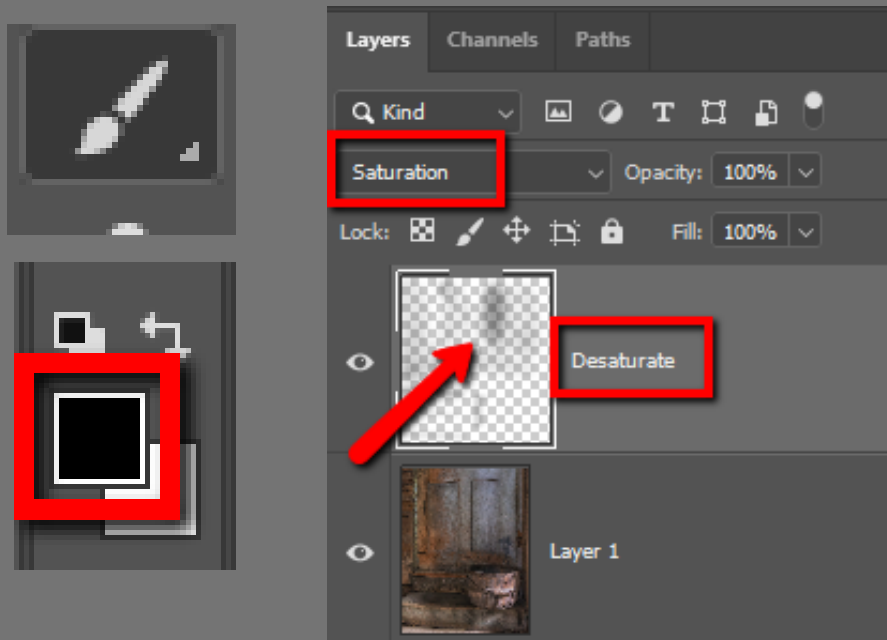
- Basic tone and color
- Crop



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

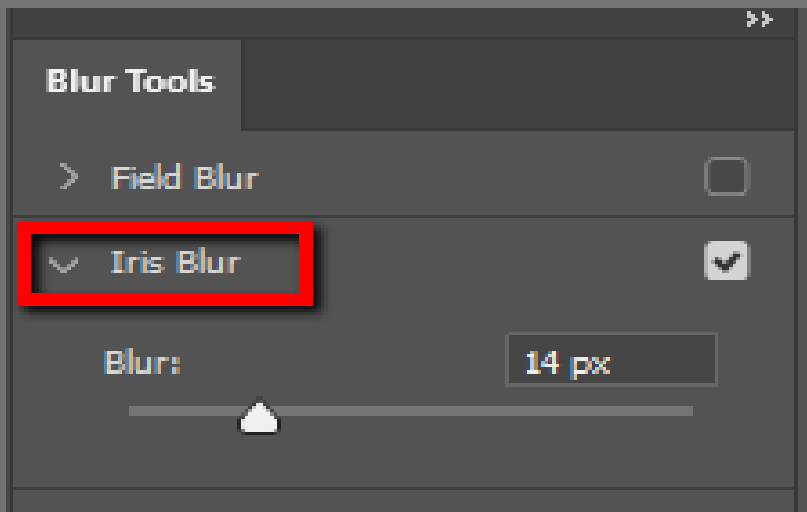
- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

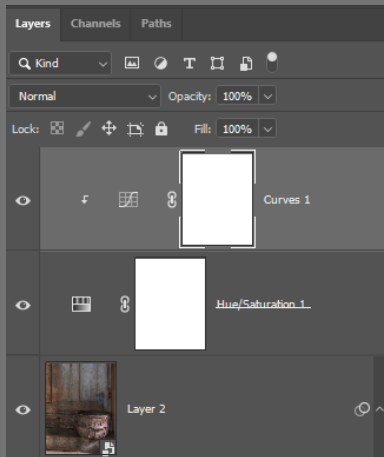
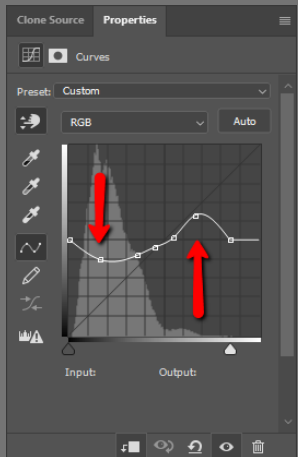
- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- **Blur background**



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

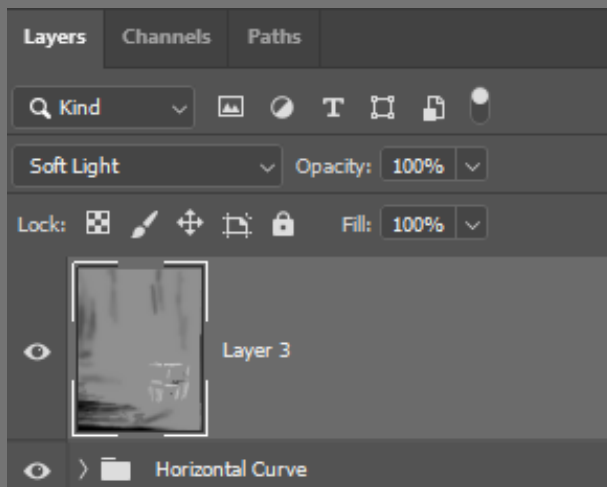
- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- Blur background
- Dodge and burn—step 1



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

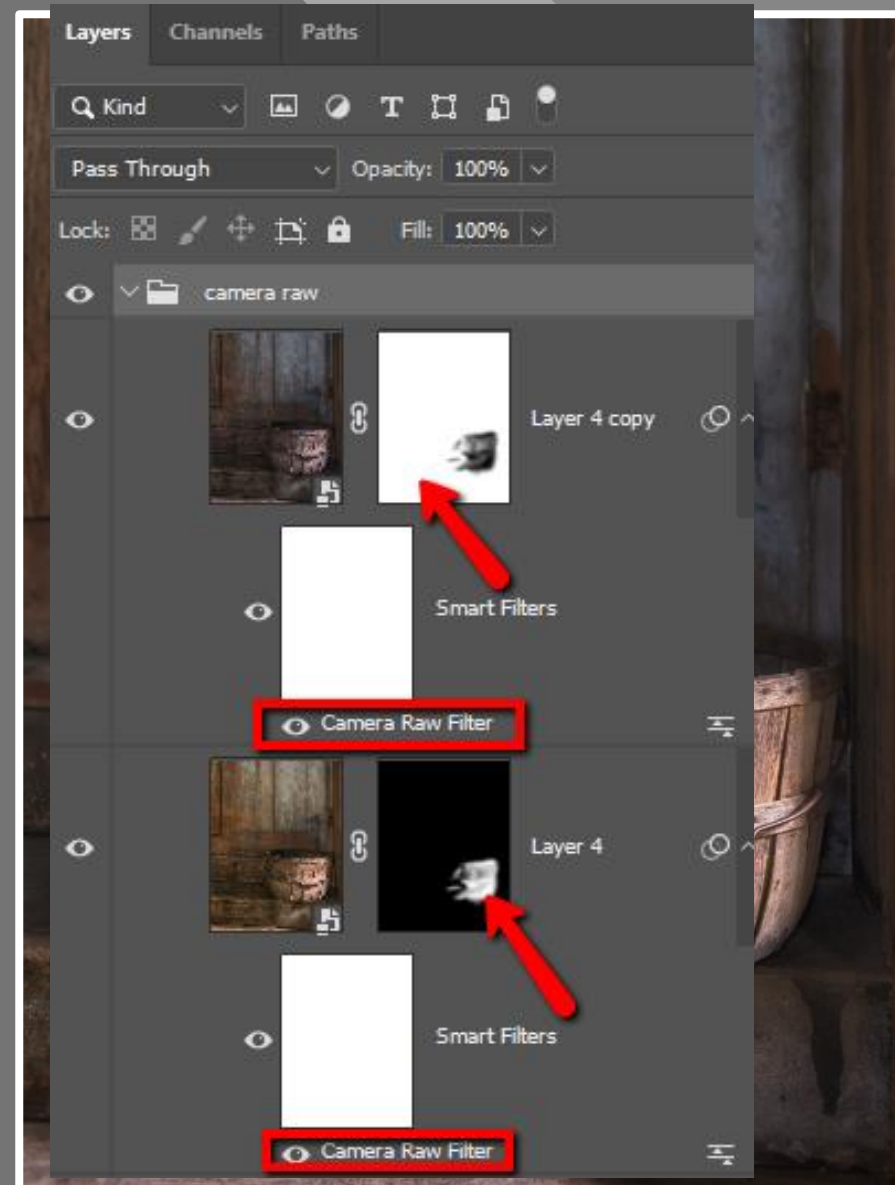
- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- Blur background
- Dodge and burn—step 2



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- Blur background
- Dodge and burn—step 3



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket

Enhancements:

- Basic tone and color
- Crop
- Desaturate background
- Blur background
- Dodge and burn
- Noise reduction, sharpen, vignette, spotlight



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Fruit Basket



RAW File



Final File

Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
- Dodge and Burn
- Saturation Adjustment
- Blurring
- • Foreground / Background Relationship
- Transposition (flipping the image)
- Vignette and Spotlight

Foreground / Background Relationship Example



Before



After

Foreground / Background Relationship Example



© J. Alan Whiteside

Foreground / Background Relationship Example



© J. Alan Whiteside

Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
- Dodge and Burn
- Saturation Adjustment
- Blurring
- Foreground / Background Relationship
- Transposition (flipping the image)
- Vignette and Spotlight



Possible Reasons for Transposing an Image



- Natural flow of energy through the image?
- Gives visual weight to the primary element
- Helps the eye land on the most important element first
- Makes the leading lines work better
- Keeps the subject's eyes in the frame (and the viewer's, too)
- Helps tell a different story (going uphill or downhill?)

Transposing the Image Example



Before



After

Transposing the Image Example

Problems:

- Facing the “wrong” direction
- Cropped too tightly on side and bottom



RAW File

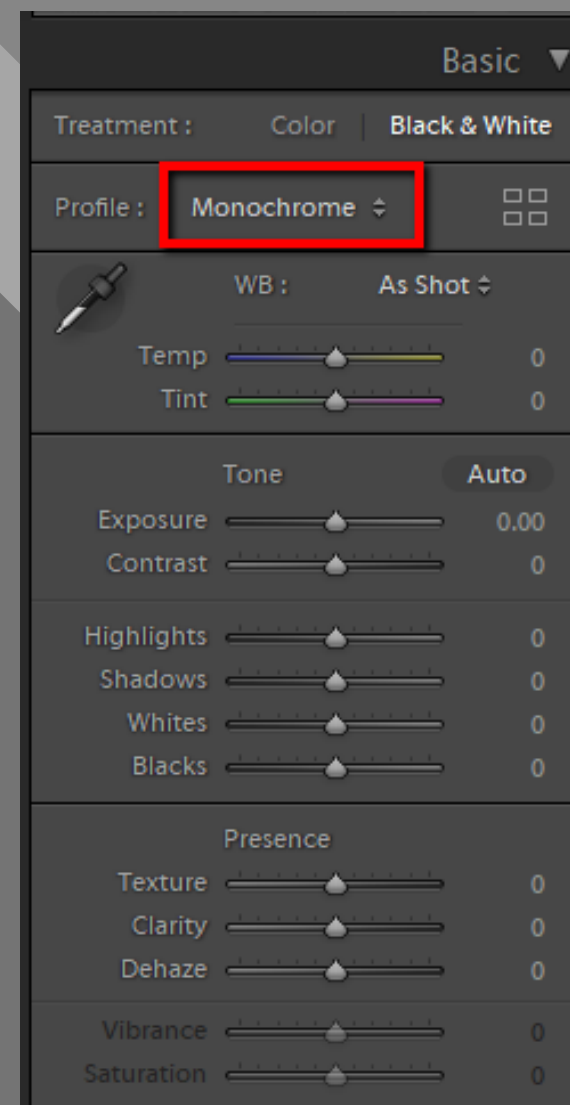
Transposing the Image Example

Image flipped
horizontally

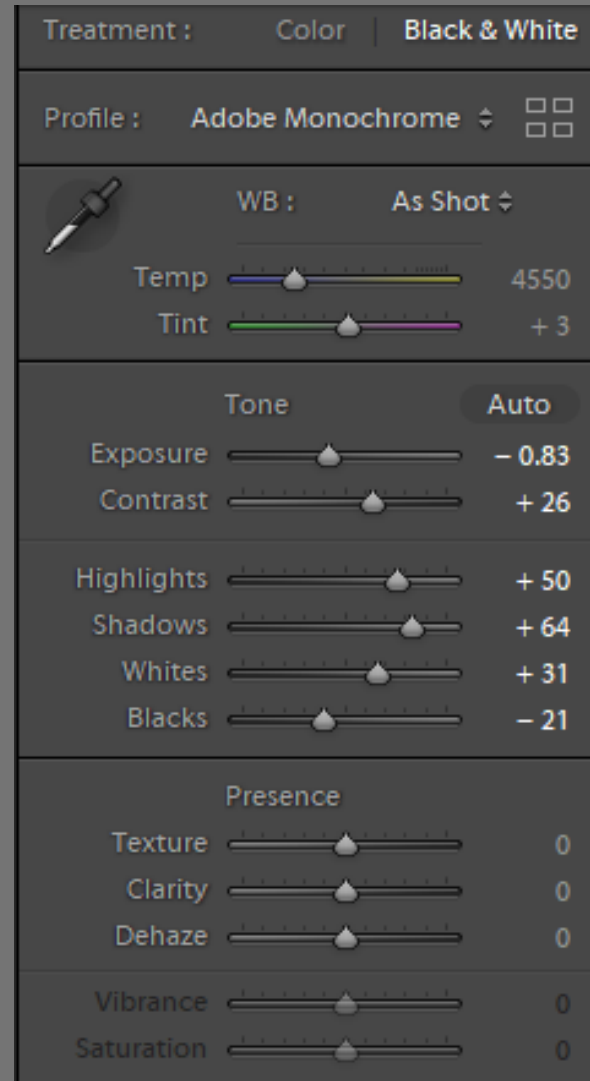
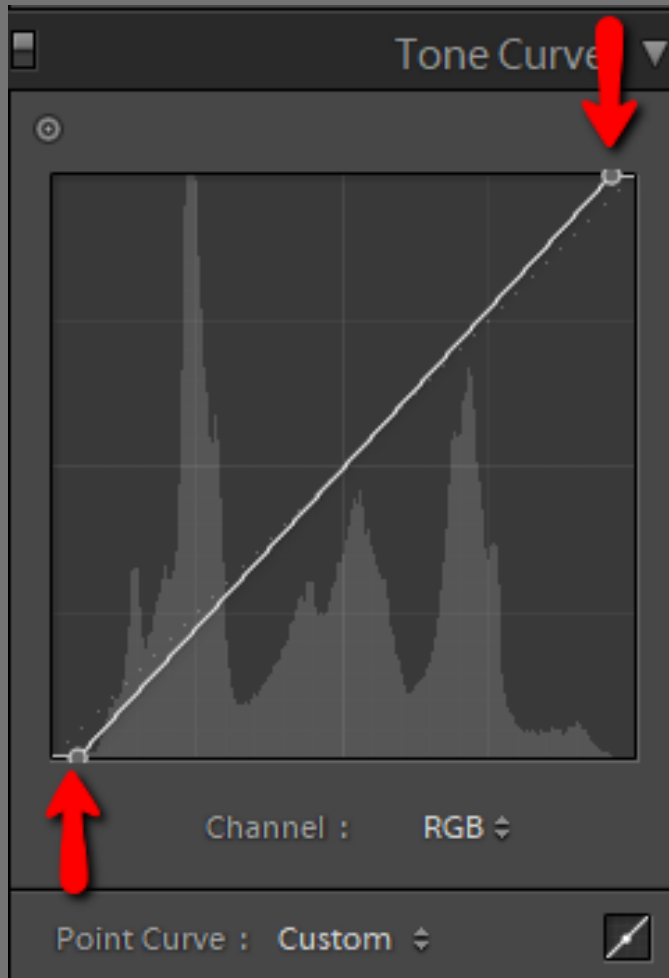


Transposing the Image Example

Image initially
converted to
monochrome



Transposing the Image Example



Transposing the Image Example

Add canvas: left, bottom



Transposing the Image Example

Original



Final

Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall

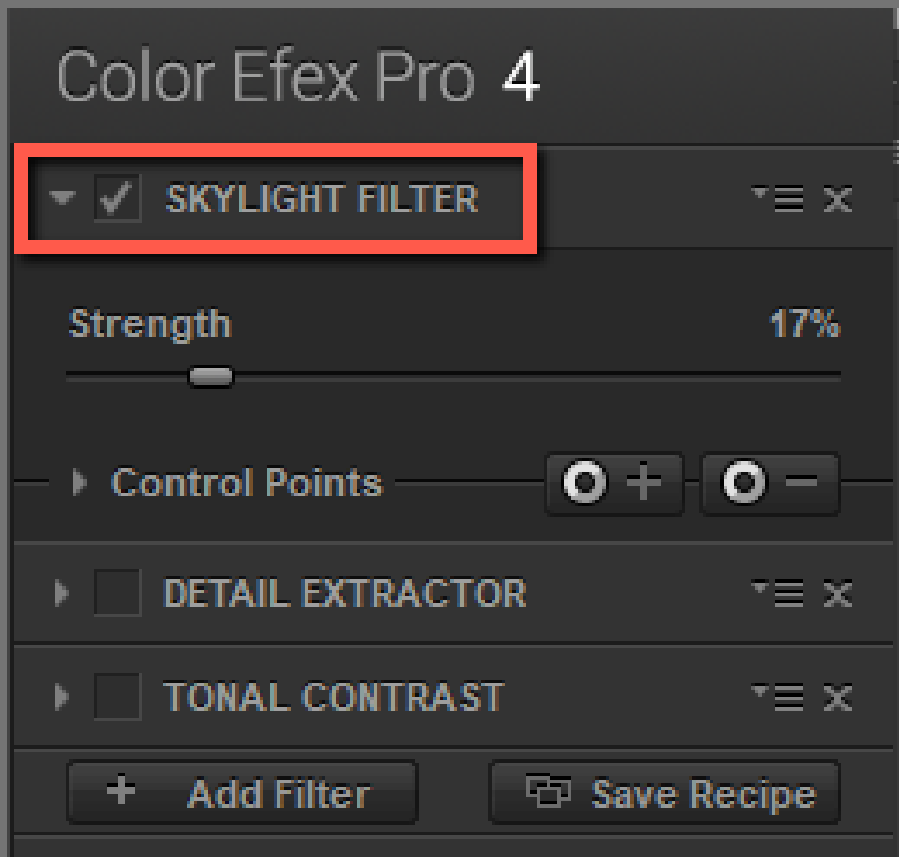
Post-production Transitions:

- Luminosity
- Saturation
- Detail/texture
- Color temperature

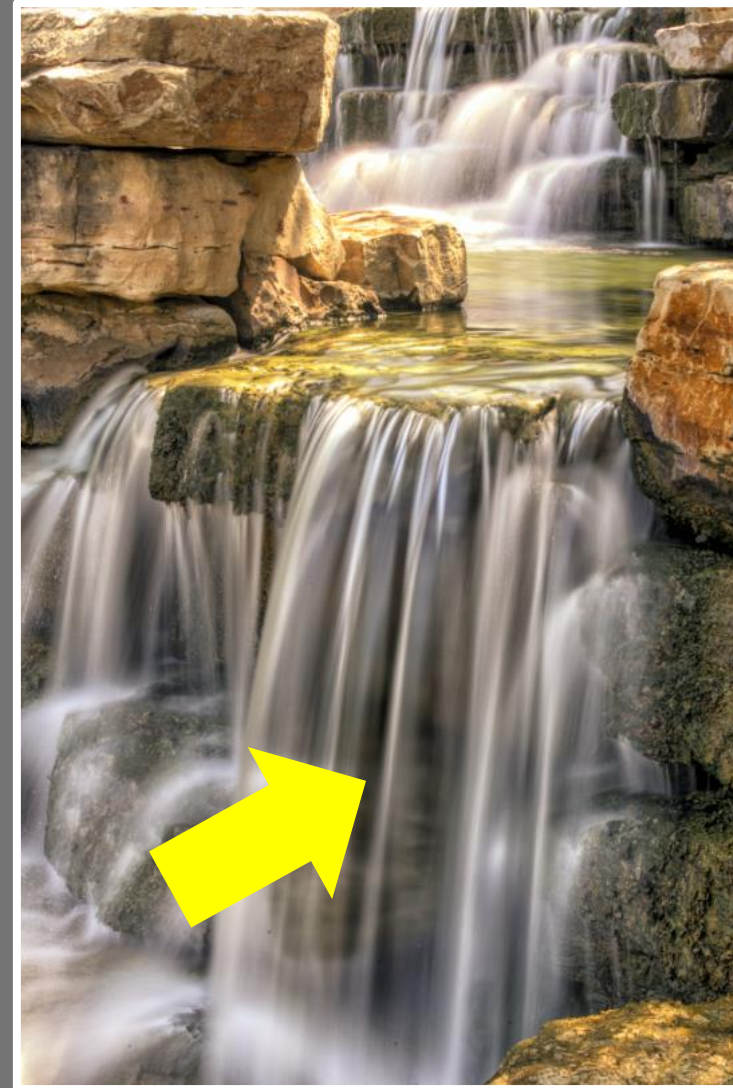
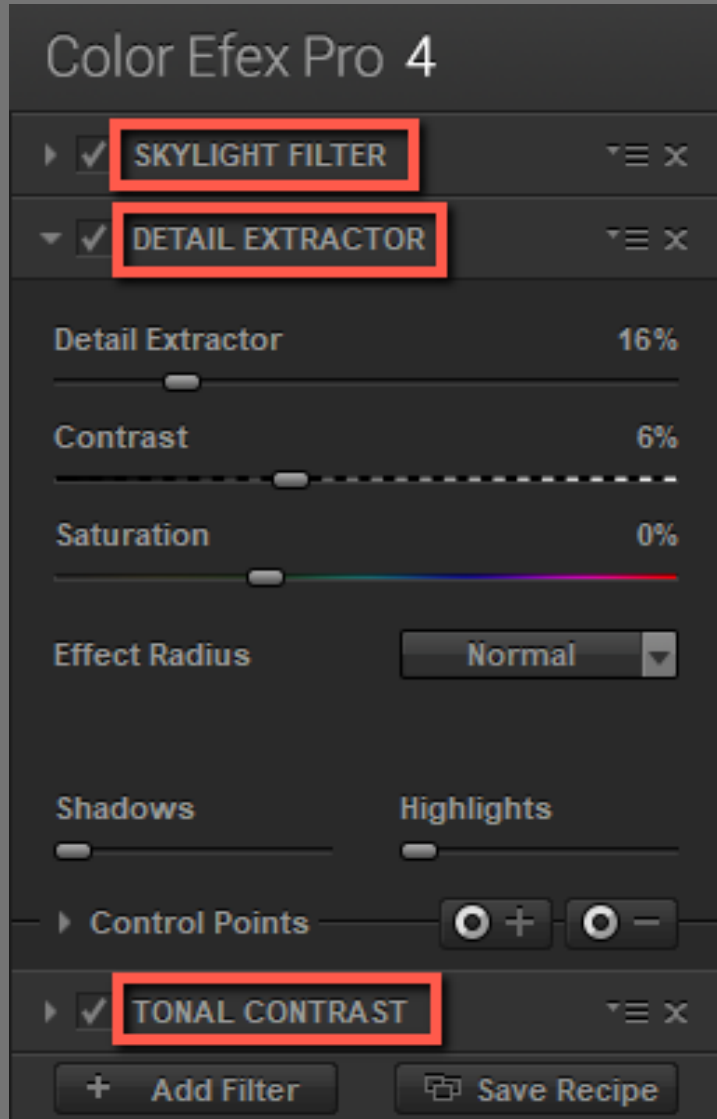


RAW File

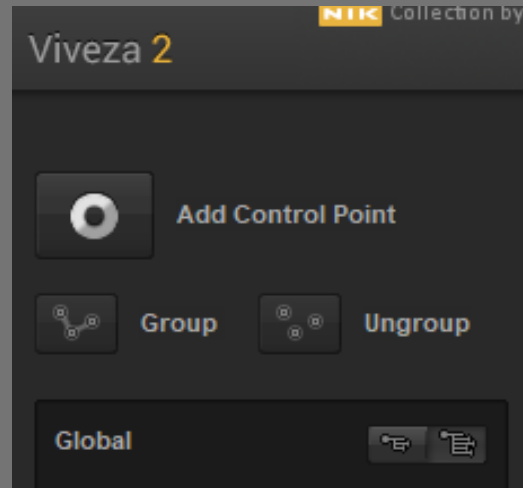
Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



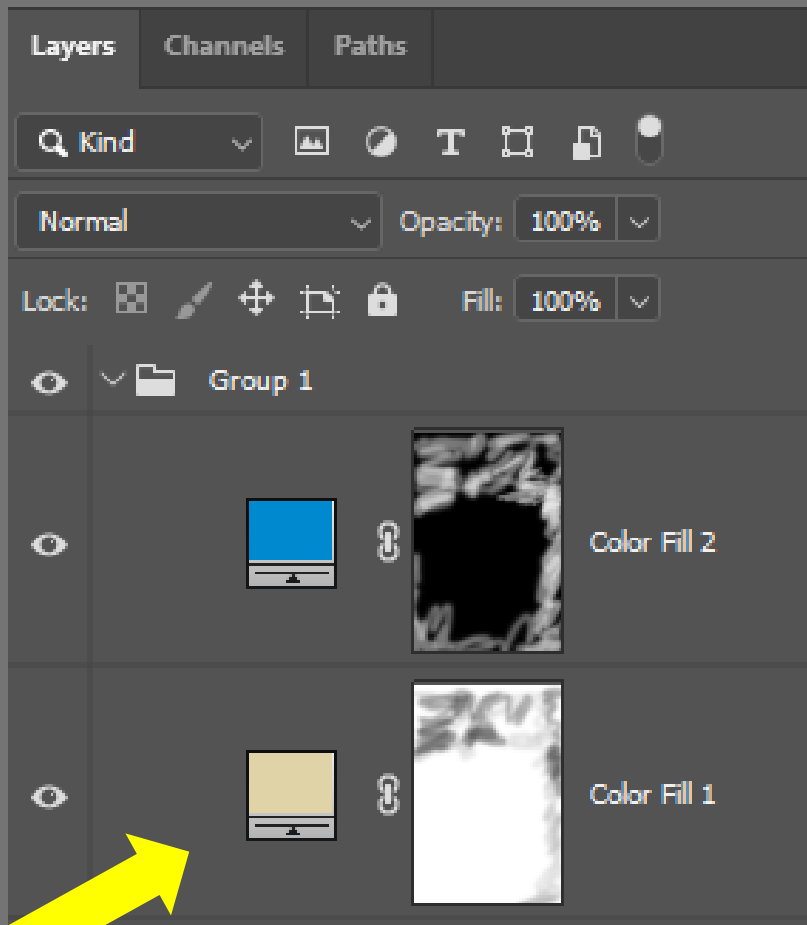
Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



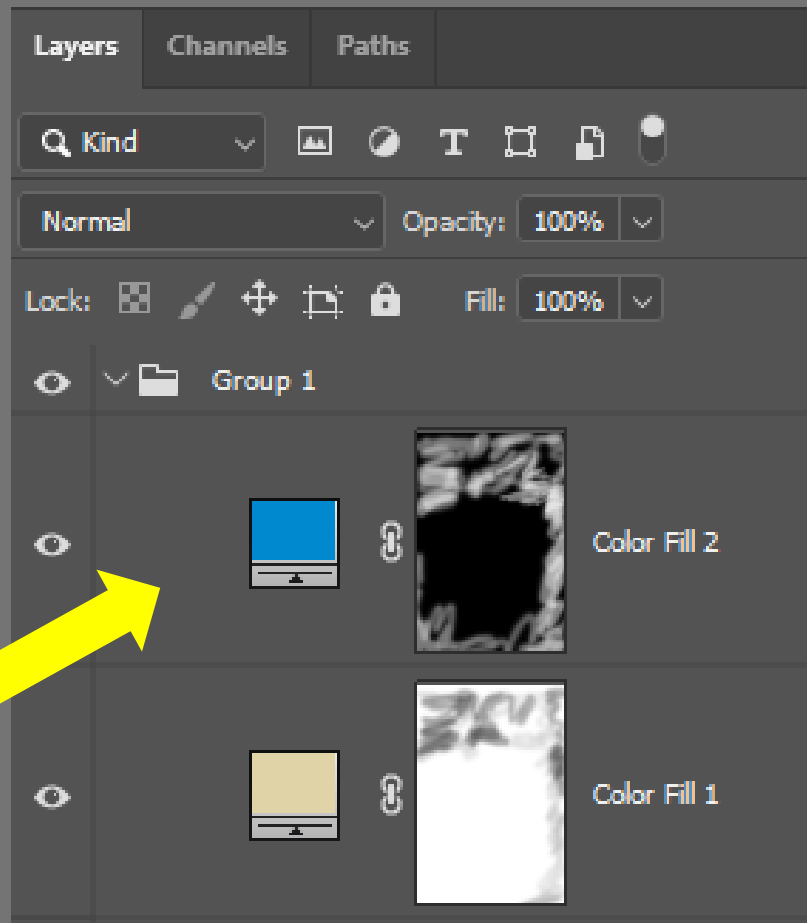
Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



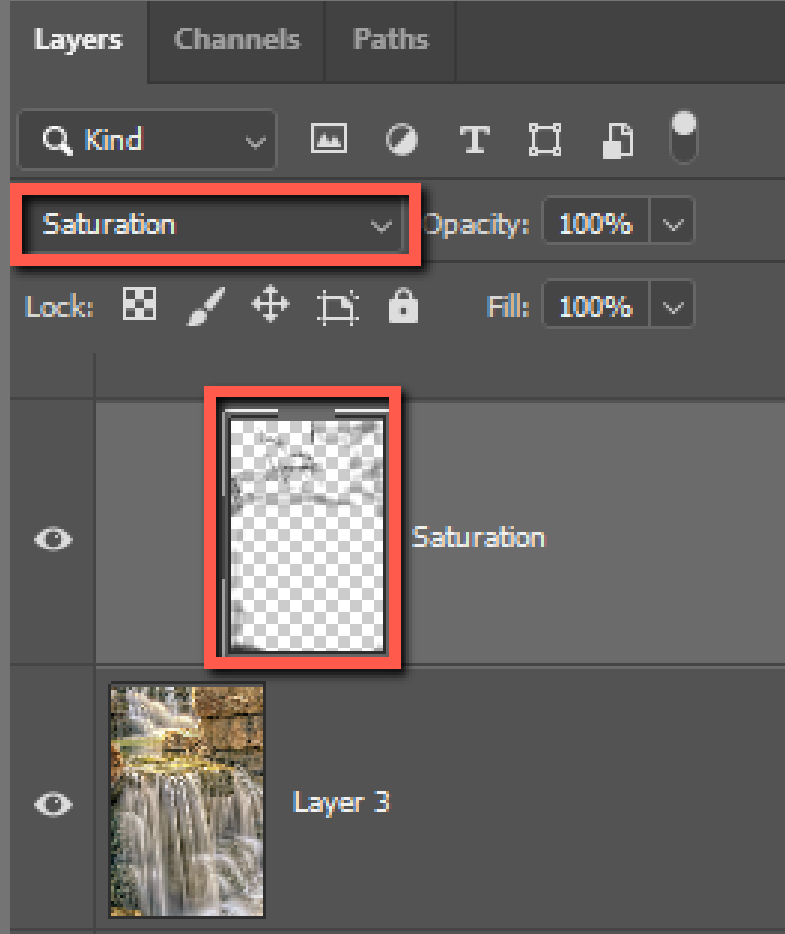
Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall

- Flip horizontally
- Crop top and side



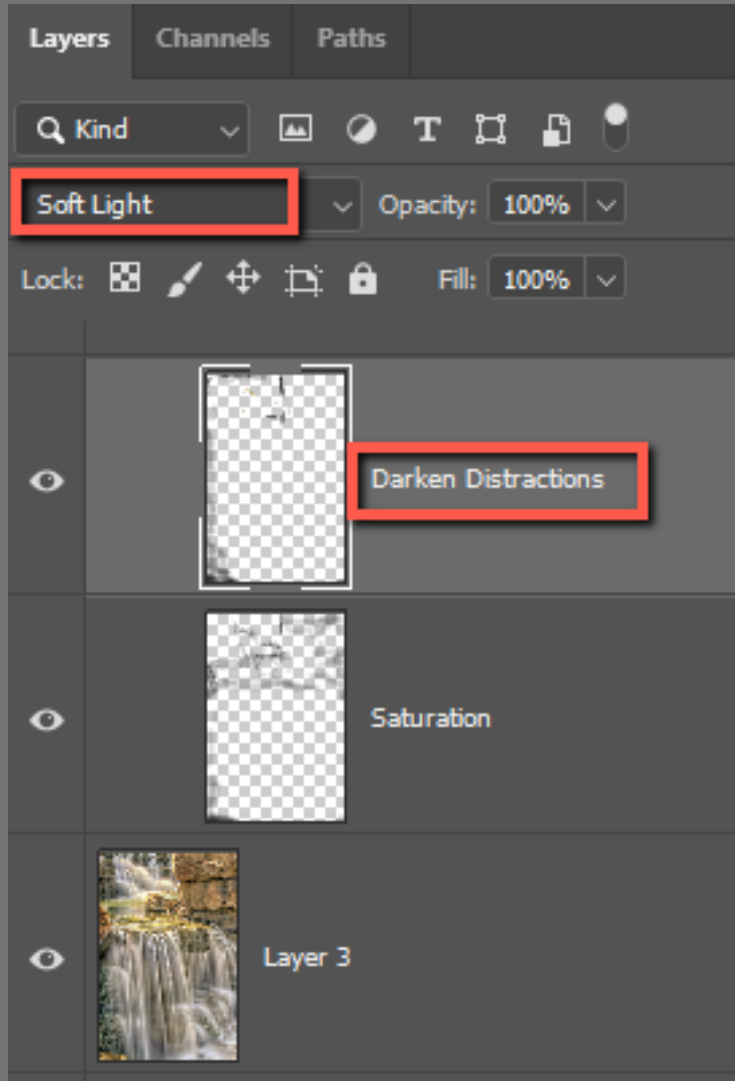
Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall

Painting
out
saturation

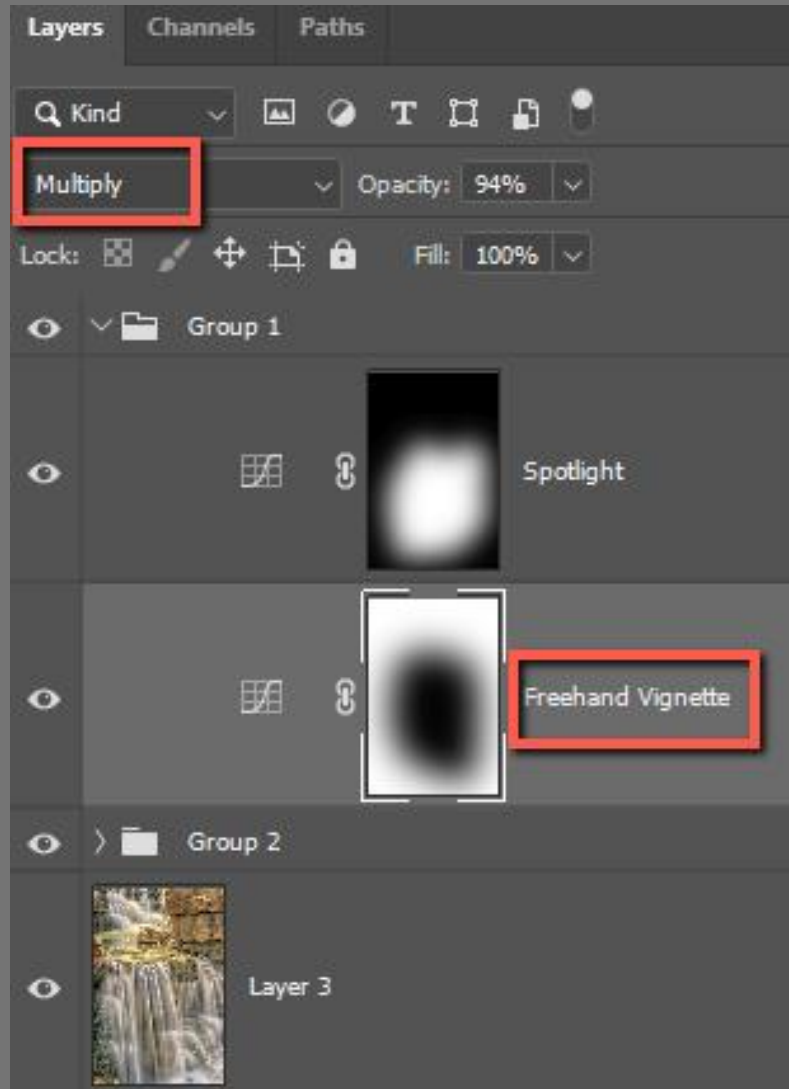


Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall

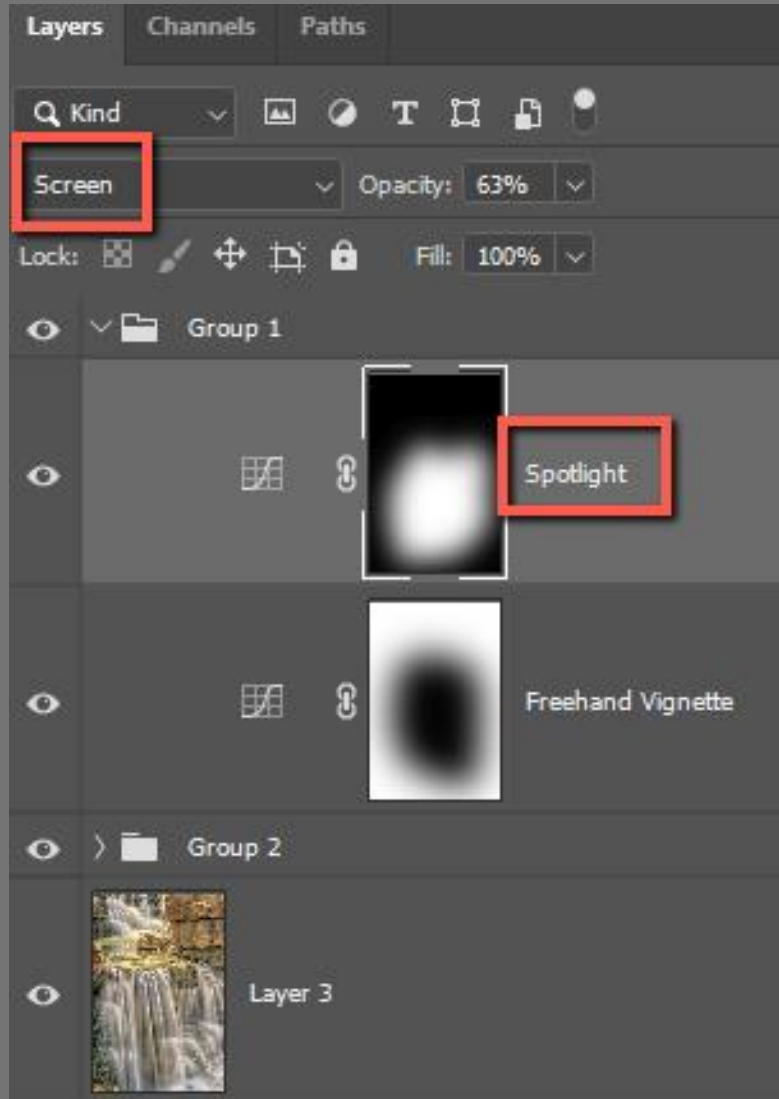
Darken
distractions



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



Example: Multiple Transition Types—Waterfall



RAW File



Final Image

Consider Using These Tools

- Cropping
- Dodge and Burn
- Saturation Adjustment
- Blurring
- Foreground / Background Relationship
- Transposition (flipping the image)
- • Vignette and Spotlight

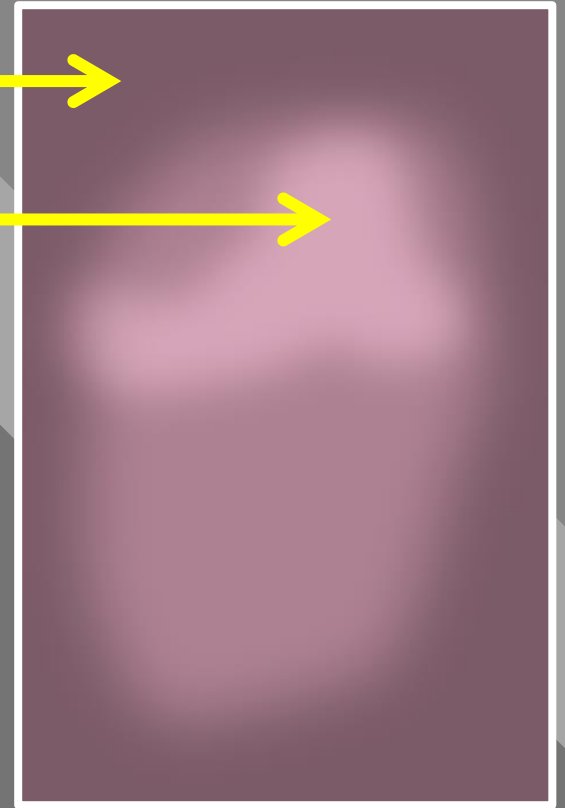
Vignetting Methods

- Freehand lasso selection (Curves layers, PS)
- Post-crop vignette tool (LR)
- Painting on blank layer (PS)
- Radial filter, customized with the Adjustment brush (LR)

Vignette



Spotlight



Vignette and Spotlight Example



Before Vignette
and Spotlight



After Vignette
and Spotlight

Course Summary

Refining your image:

- Removing or minimizing distractions
- Drawing the viewer's eye by enhancing the positive elements of the image as you bring your vision to life

Refining Image Example

RAW File



Final File



The background features a solid dark gray field. A diagonal line runs from the bottom-left towards the top-right. To the left of this line, there is a triangular area filled with a fine, light gray hatched pattern. To the right of the line, there is a solid dark gray triangular area.

Thank You!