



# conquer the elements: an elements 5 overview

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IT'S PRETTY CLEAR WHAT ADOBE HAD IN MIND WHEN CREATING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 5—BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN YOUR PHOTOS. IT'S ALSO CLEAR THAT THEY DID THIS IN A WAY THAT GIVES US PLENTY OF POWER AND FLEXIBILITY AT THE SAME TIME.

The new enhancement features along with cool ways to show off your photos have really made this version worth the upgrade.

**F**rom downloading photos directly from your camera or card reader, to enhancing them in easy yet dramatic ways, all the way to sharing them in creative and simple ways, Photoshop Elements 5 has it all covered. Here's a quick overview of the cool new features.

## GETTING YOUR PHOTOS ONTO YOUR COMPUTER

When you first pop your camera or card reader into your computer, the Adobe Photo Downloader will appear. Even if you've used the Downloader before, it's got some significant enhancements that make it even simpler and more powerful to use.

A new feature is that photos can be organized in groups based on the time they were taken. You can easily group the newest or related photos together in the Downloader according to how close in time they were taken to each other. The Photo Downloader can also automatically suggest photo stacks when you're importing photos so you don't have to manually go through them and do it yourself. Stacks are an easy way to group similar photos to save room in the Organizer (you can do this in the Organizer, as well, after you've imported your images). You can even set the Downloader to delete (or not delete) the photos from the card when it's done downloading.

Once you get the settings in the Downloader just the way you like them, you can check the Automatic Download option and Elements will always automatically download your photos using the settings you entered. I recommend fitting this into your photo shooting workflow. In a single click you can transfer photos from your memory card to your computer according to preset preferences so you can get back to shooting sooner.

## ENHANCING YOUR PHOTOS

There have been some pretty significant new additions for enhancing your photos as well, including Color Curves, which Dave Huss covers on page 8. This tool uses a proven curve technique for fixing brightness, contrast, and exposure in photos—much like the one in the full version of Adobe Photoshop. However, the dialog takes much of the

*Color Curves help fix brightness, contrast, and exposure in photos.*

complexity of traditional curves away but still leaves you with plenty of power.

Another welcome new feature is the Convert to Black and White dialog, an advanced feature that Larry Becker covers on page 10. With this method, you get plenty of options for creating dramatic black-and-white photos. A new tool called Adjust Sharpness is now available for sharpening your photos, and there's also a new filter for fixing any camera lens distortion that may occur. To see these tools in action, make sure to visit the Photoshop Elements 5 Learning Center at [www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter](http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter).

### PHOTO CREATIONS

One of the most exciting announcements in Photoshop Elements 5 is the much-improved Photo Creations feature. These creations coupled with the new Artwork and Effects palette give you an incredible amount of flexibility and creative ways to show off your photos. Lynette Kent covers Photo Creations on page 6 while Dave Cross covers the Artwork and Effects palette on page 12.

Another cool new feature that may slip by you is the ability to create multi-page documents. When making a Photo Creation you can just as easily choose to use several photos spread among several pages instead of putting them all on one page. The Photo Bin at the bottom of the Editor will group pages that belong together by highlighting them in a different color.

### SHARING YOUR PHOTOS

Also included are many additions for sharing photos. For example, with the Yahoo! Maps plug-in, you can drag photos onto locations on a map and Photoshop Elements will place small indicators wherever you drop the photos. Then you can share these maps with your family and friends to show them exactly where you've traveled.

New Flash-related features let you show off your photos. You can animate your photos using a number of pre-created templates. These animations really bring your photos to life and make for a visually appealing and interesting way to view photos.

If you want the look of a classic gallery you still have the Web galleries available, which have been updated with some nice smooth Flash galleries as well. Jan Kabili shows how the new Flash galleries work on page 14.

Finally, there are even some enhancements and improvements to the sharing services. Just click on the little globe icon in the menu bar and you'll see plenty of popular ways to share your photos by taking advantage of services from Kodak, SmugMug, Flickr, and even email and mobile phone options.

Photoshop Elements 5 is one slick upgrade. The new enhancement features along with cool ways to show off your photos have really made this version worth the upgrade. As always, make sure you visit the Online Learning Center at [www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter](http://www.photoshopelementsuser.com/learningcenter) for even more detailed tutorials, videos, and articles on Photoshop Elements 5. ■

a closer look... A QUICK GLANCE AT SOME OF THE NEW FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS IN ADOBE PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 5.


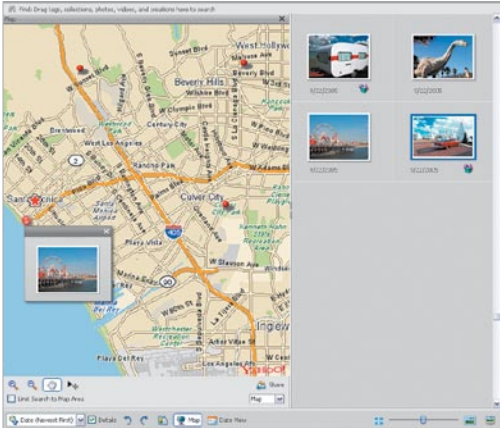
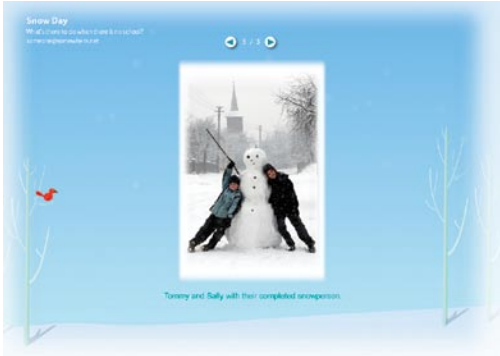


Photo Creations allows you to create documents with multiple pages.



Yahoo! Maps plug-in allows you to drop photos onto a map for a pictorial travelogue.



Share your photos in animated fashion with Flash Web Galleries.

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