

# Photoshop - Sharpen images with High Pass Filter

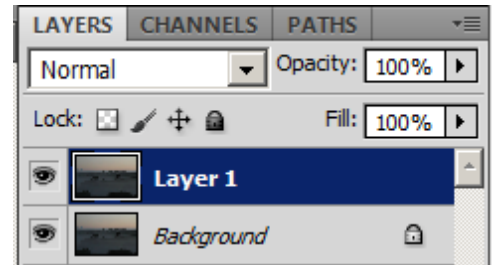
All photos need a touch of sharpening, especially after they have been worked on or resized. Resizing reduces the amount of pixels in the photo, so to make up for the lost pixels, we have to sharpen afterwards. Sharpening should be the very last thing you do to your photo.

High Pass filter will sharpen just the edges in your photo.

1. Open your photo in Photoshop.
2. Make sure the 'Layers' are visible.

There should be a column (they call it a "palette") on the right side. If not ... go to the top Menu bar and go to 'Window'. Click on Layers to select it. A tick will appear next to it, and it will open the palette.

3. One left click anywhere in the Layers palette, then hold down the Ctrl/Command button on your keyboard and press the letter J. This will make a copy layer. It will appear in the Layers palette above your 'Background' layer.



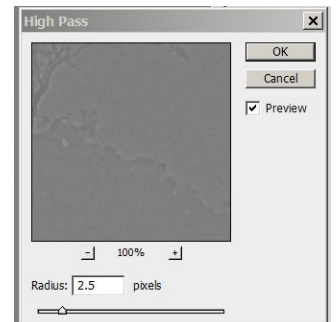
You will need to work on Layer 1 (not the Background) so make sure that Layer 1 is highlighted in **blue**.

4. On the top bar, go to Filter ↓

Other → High Pass

This will turn your photo grey, and open a box/window.

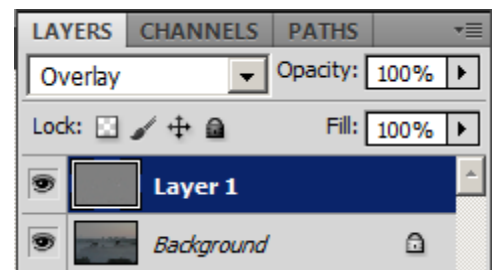
5. Use the slider so the edges show in your image. If you over-do it, you will put a large white edge around your subjects, so be careful. Somewhere between 1 and 3 is normally enough. You want to be able to see the shape outlines, but not too large a white line around them. Click on OK.



6. Go to the box above the layers with the word 'Normal' in. They call this box the "Blending Options" box.

In its drop-down go to Overlay. This will now overlay the High Pass filter onto your image, so you can see the effect.

- You can then choose: Soft Light, or Hard Light, or Vivid light, or Pin Light, or Linear Light, etc. Overlay is normally fairly good, but you can click on each in turn, until you find the one you like best.
- Fine tuning adjustments can be made using the 'Opacity' and 'Fill' sliders.



7. To check, you can click on the eye by Layer 1 to switch it on and off. You will be able to see the difference on the main photo.

8. If you don't like it... To delete Layer 1: Right click on Layer 1 and go to Delete.

9. When you are happy with the sharpening:

- Right click on Layer 1 and select 'Merge Down'. This will merge the 2 layers together into one.

10. Save it: Make sure you save it as a Jpeg, not a Photoshop Document (PSD).