

Selection Tools

Quick Select - Start with this one. It's great at guessing what you want.

- Don't forget to adjust the brush size with [and].
- Hold down option to deselect with it.
- Zoom in if you need to fine tune your selection.

Marquee - Fine for rectangles, circles, ovals, etc.

Lasso - Freehand drawing. A pain in the neck.

Magnetic lasso - Slightly less of a pain. It will cling on to edges.

Magic Wand - Works well if you have a solid color. I usually just stick with Quick Select.

Color Range - Found under the **Select** menu. Fuzziness controls the sensitivity (1 = very sensitive). Eyedropper with the + symbol lets you add more colors to the selection.

Pen Tool - Not a bad tool for tracing objects, especially if they have a hard edge.

Refine Edge - You'll see this box with most selection tools once you have made a selection. This is a very handy option for tricky things like hair. We'll get more into this later.

Quick Mask Mode - Enabling this mode (**Q**) will allow you to refine selections as well. When you are in quick mask mode, anything red is NOT selected. Use the eraser and brush tool to paint or erase red. Hit Q to toggle between Quick Mask Mode and regular mode.

Shortcuts

Command-A — Select All

Command-D — Select nothing

Command-C — Copy

Command-X — Cut

Command-V — Paste

W — Quick select tool (or magic wand)

Be aware that selections are independent of layers. You could make a selection on one layer, then pick a different layer. The selection will stay the same.

Select inverse is very handy. Find it under the **Select** top menu.

Another great trick: if you have a layer mask, hold down command and click on the layer mask to make a selection of just the outline of the mask.

Side topic: Clone Stamp

Hit "S" to use the clone stamp. Hold down **option** to tell Photoshop where to sample from.

This allows you to "paint" over your photo using another part of your photo. Helpful for hiding unwanted

things.