

INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Tool Overview

Knowing the tools you have available to use is the most important part of any program. This chapter will review the tools contained in Photoshop Elements.

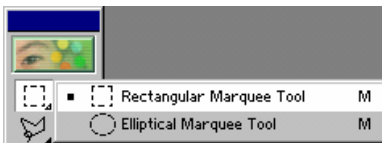
1

Let's Get Started: Tool Overview

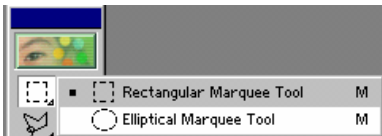
Before you begin working in PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS you should review the following information which indicates the tools you have available to edit your image. You should refer to this chapter often as you travel through your tutorials to familiarize yourself with the location and function of each tool.



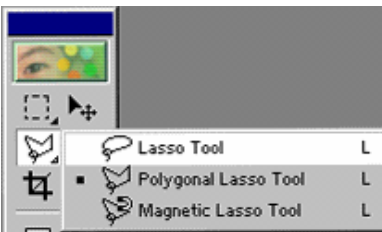
The **move tool** allows you to move an object on your page once it has been selected using one of the tools listed below.



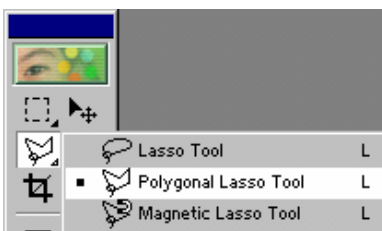
The **rectangular marquee tool** allows you to select a rectangular area in an image. You can move a selection border after you've created it by positioning the tool within the selection and dragging.



The **elliptical marquee tool** lets you select elliptical areas. If the selection border isn't exactly where you want it, you can adjust its position and size while



The **lasso tool** allows you to make a freehand selection around an area. It takes a bit of practice to make a selection with the lasso tool.



The **polygon lasso tool** allows you to make a straight line selection around an area.



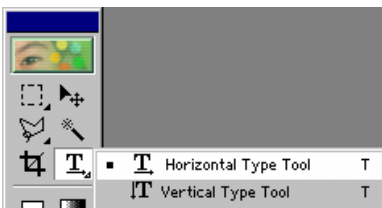
The **magnetic lasso tool** allows you to draw a freehand border that will magnetically snap to the edges of the area or item you are selecting.



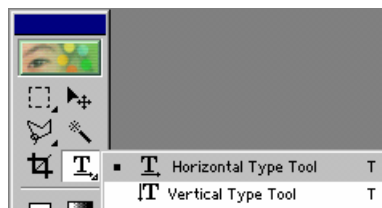
The **magic wand tool** allows you to select specific parts of an image you wish to edit or manipulate based on their similarity in colour. This tool is useful for selecting odd-shaped areas without having to trace a complex outline using one of the lasso tools.



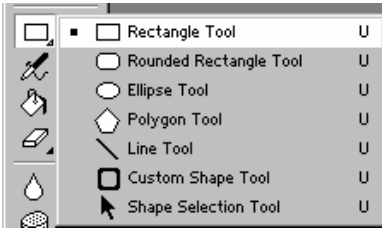
The **crop tool** is used to crop an image to a desired size. After a crop selection has been made, the size of the selection can be manipulated by moving the nodes on the four sides and four corners of the crop.



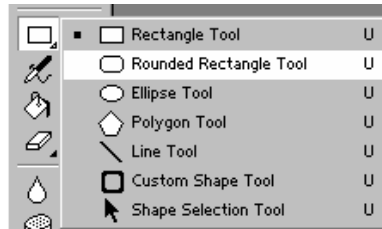
The **horizontal type tool** allows you to position your cursor on the image or anywhere on the page you wish to type text. Any text typed will appear horizontally on the page.



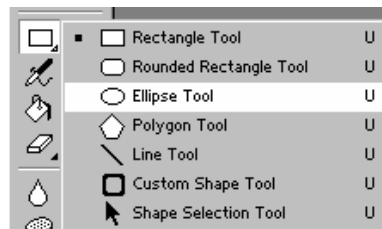
The **vertical type tool** allows you to position your cursor on the image or anywhere on the page you wish to type text. Any text typed will appear vertically on the page.



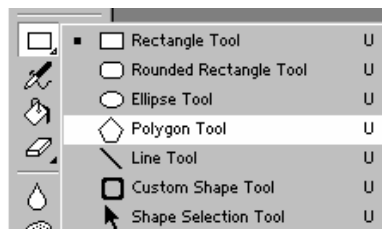
The **rectangle tool** allows you to create various rectangular shapes of various sizes on your page.



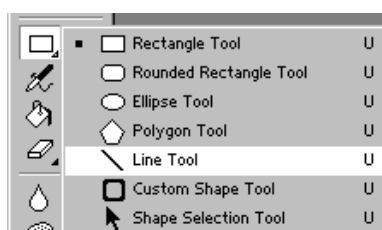
The **rounded rectangle tool** allows you to create various rectangular shapes with rounded edges of various sizes on your page.



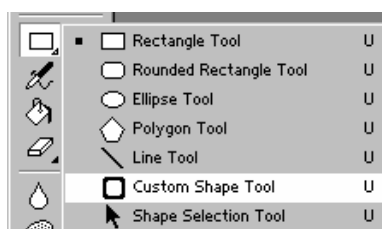
The **ellipse tool** allows you to create various elliptical shapes of various sizes on your page.



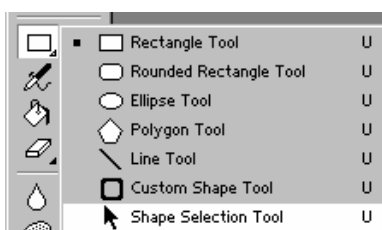
The **polygon tool** allows you to create different sizes of polygon figures on your page.



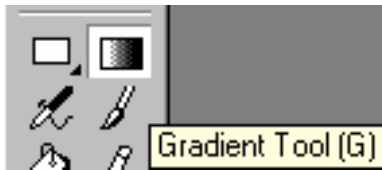
The **line tool** allows you to create various horizontal, vertical or diagonal lines of various sizes on your page.



The **custom shape tool** allows you to create a 5-leaved clover-like shape of various sizes on your page.



The **shape selection tool** allows you to re-select a shape you have previously created in your document in order to move, resize or manipulate it in various other ways (example colour it, stretch or compress it, etc.)



The **gradient tools** create a gradual blend between multiple colors. You can choose from existing gradient fills or create your own. Once you click on the gradient tool you may choose different versions of the gradient tool from the tool bar at the top of the page. In order they are:



Linear gradient shades from the starting point to the ending point in a straight line.



Radial gradient shades from the starting point to the ending point in a circular pattern.



Angle gradient shades in a counterclockwise sweep around the starting point.



Gradient style shades using symmetric linear gradients on either side of the starting point.



Diamond gradient shades from the starting point outward in a diamond pattern. The ending point defines one corner of the diamond.

Note: The **gradient tools** cannot be used with images in Bitmap, indexed-color, or 16-bits per channel mode.

