

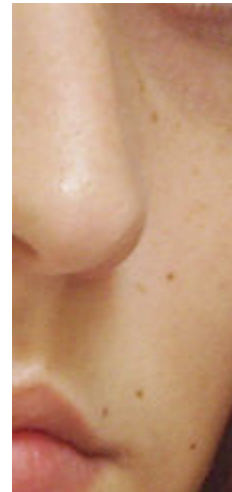
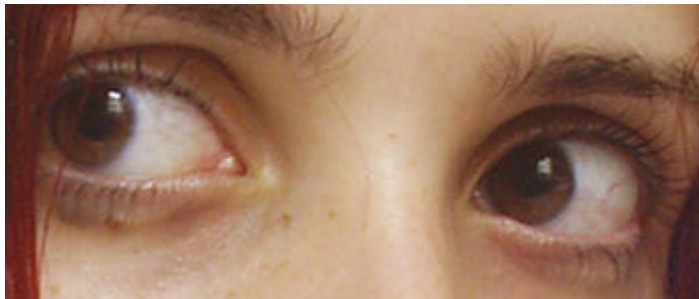
Portrait retouching with 1-click actions

There are several possible methods to retouch portraits using 1click actions, here is a quick (less than 10 minutes) retouching routine that takes us from a pleasant if unspectacular colour image to a stylish HighKey BW portrait.



Although this routine has several steps it is quite easy to follow and the techniques used might prove useful for different effects and subjects.

Firstly we notice that there are two main problem areas: the skin has several blemishes that might not fit in with our desired smooth high-key effect and secondly the eyes are somewhat dark .



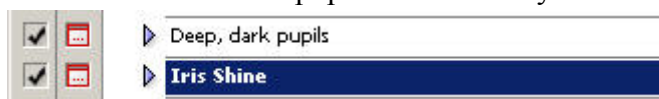
We could use Photoshop's healing brush to remove the blemishes on the skin individually but for this example we will select the Textured Airbrush action and paint over the skin areas



with a white brush at 100% - you will see that most of the skin blemishes will be quickly removed.

There is no need to be too perfect at this stage as the remaining steps will create the smooth white skin we are looking for.

We'll now move on to the eyes. The irises are too dark so we will run Iris Shine and paint over the coloured part of the eye. Because the girl has dark eyes to start with we can increase the opacity of the Iris Shine layer to 100%. After flattening we run DeepDark Pupils, set a brush size to roughly the pupil size and dab it over the pupils. If we increase the opacity of the layer we can magically increase the size of the pupils with is always effective. In this example we used 50%



Seeing as we set out to make a High-Key BW image we ought to make it BW so we'll run the MonoHighKey action. You might want to reduce the opacity slightly if you lose too much detail in the highlights.



At this point we should have a decent BW image but lets work on it a little more. A smooth milky glowing skin might be effective so lets try the PopGlow action. We'll set the opacity at 50% for the time being.



This is OK but I think wth Glow Effect has reduced some sharpness in the eye so we'll add a Layer Mask (Layer-LayerMask-Reveal All).



Now with a Black Brush we'll quickly paint over the eyes to bring back a little detail.

Lets work on the eyes a little more by using the EyeSparkle action and painting over the eyes and eyelashes—we'll set the opacity at 75%.



I think we are about finished but lets use the Clone Tool to get rid of the distracting background at the top left corner. This is simply a matter of cloning from the white area below it.



Lets try a warm tone, Van Dyck works well for portraits so we'll run the VanDyck action and set opacity to 75%.



Finished!

..unless we really want a glamorous look, if so run PopGlow again.

