

Dodge & Burn technique in Photoshop

1. Open an image
2. Add a Curves adjustment layer (Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Curves). Name it Dodge.
3. Above the 1st curves layer: Add a Curves adjustment layer (Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Curves). Name it Burn.
4. Select the Dodge layer; add a point in the middle of the curve and drag it upward slightly to brighten the image. Click on its layer mask and invert the mask by Command-I to make it black.
5. Select the Burn layer; add a point in the middle of the curve and drag it downward slightly to darken the image. Click on its layer mask and invert the mask by Command-I to make it black.
6. Group the Dodge and Burn layers: click on Dodge layer, hold the Shift key and

click on Burn layer, then press Command-G to make it into a group, rename it to Dodge & Burn.

7. Select the Brush tool at 0% hardness and adjust the flow rate between 5 - 10% and opacity at around 40% or lower
8. Start with adding highlights by selecting the Dodge layer and brush with White in areas of the image.
9. Use the Burn layer to paint with White for darkening areas.
10. Build contrast up slowly.
11. Change the brush size smaller or larger as you paint with White.
12. You can erase an area that you may have gotten too bright or too dark by simply switching the brush to Black to paint.