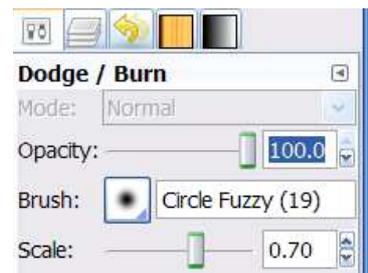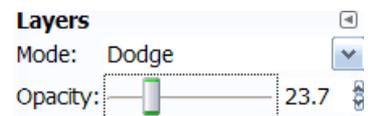# Dodge and Burn

The Dodge tool is used to lighten areas of your photo and the Burn tool will darken areas. The Dodge and Burn tool does destructive updating which means if you undo a dodge or burn modification, your original picture may not be the same. For this reason it is always a good idea to make a duplicate layer of your photo and only do your modifications on the layer copy.

GIMP instructions:

Open the photo in GIMP and create a duplicate layer of the background .
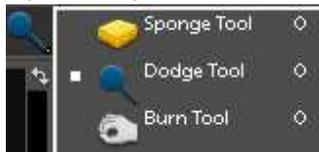
At this point you can use the Dodge and Burn tool and brush the area you want modified. I like to cut out the modified area and place it on a separate layer. This makes it easier to modify without damaging the surrounding area. To do this:

1. Using the Scissors select tool click on the starting point of your outline. Move the mouse a little ways and click again. A dot and a connecting line will appear. Continue around the area. When you have returned to the starting point, press the enter key on your keyboard. The area will be selected.
2. From the menu, select Edit and Copy
3. Select the new layer. From the menu, select Edit and Paste.
4. Create a new layer
5. At this point, if you want your entire selection lightened or darkened, you can simply set the layer mode to dodge or burn and adjust the opacity to get the desired results.
6. If you need to be more detailed, select the Dodge and Burn tool
7. Open the tools options dialog and select the Circle Fuzzy brush. Change the size of the brush using the Scale. You can switch between Dodge and Burn by selecting the Type.
8. Brush over the area.
9. You can change the intensity of the dodge or burn by changing the opacity of the layer.

Photoshop Elements instructions:

Open the photo in Elements and create a duplicate layer of the background by dragging the background layer and dropping it on the create a new layer icon . At this point you can use the Dodge and Burn tool and brush the area you want modified. I like to cut out the modified area and place it on a separate layer. This makes it easier to modify without damaging the surrounding area. To do this:

10. Using the Magnetic Lasso tool click on the starting point of your outline. Move the mouse a little ways and click again. A dot and a connecting line will appear. Continue around the area. When you have returned to the starting point, click. The area will be selected.
11. From the menu, select Edit and Copy
12. From the menu, select Edit and Paste. A new layer will be created
13. At this point, if you want your entire selection lightened or darkened, you can simply set the layer mode to color dodge or color burn and adjust the opacity to get the desired results.

14. If you need to be more detailed, select the Dodge and Burn tool
15. From the Brush toolbar at the top of the editor, select an airbrush round brush or soft round brush.

16. Brush over the area.
17. You can change the intensity of the dodge or burn by changing the opacity of the layer.

Using the Clone tool

To remove any unwanted areas of your photo, you can use the clone tool.

GIMP2 Instructions:
1. Open the photo in GIMP2
2. Select the clone tool
3. Open the tools options dialog and change the size of the brush using the Scale.
4. Hold down the CTRL key click on the area you want to copy. Select an area with similar color and shading as the area you want to correct.
5. Brush over the area you want corrected.

Photoshop Elements Instructions
6. Open the photo in Elements
7. Select the clone tool
8. From the Brush toolbar at the top of the editor, select brush and the size.
9. Hold down the ALT key click on the area you want to copy. Select an area with similar color and shading as the area you want to correct.
10. Brush over the area you want corrected.

Changing the background

You can cut out your subject and place another background behind them.

GIMP2 Instructions
1. Open the photo of your subject in GIMP2
2. Open the photo of the background you want in GIMP2
3. Crop your background photo to select the area you want to use.
4. From the menu, select Blur and Gaussian Blur. Set blur radius to 10.
5. Using the Scissors select tool click on the starting point of your subject's outline. Move the mouse a little ways and click again. A dot and a connecting line will appear. Continue around the area. When you have returned to the starting point, press the enter key on your keyboard. The area will be selected.
6. From the menu, select Edit and Copy
7. In the background photo, from the menu, select Edit and Paste.
8. Create a new layer
9. Select the Blur/Sharpen Tool
10. Open the tools options dialog and select a circle brush. Change the size of the brush using the Scale. Select the Convolve Type of Blur.
11. Brush around the outline of your subject to soften the edges.

Elements Instructions
12. Open the photo of your subject in elements
13. Open the photo of the background you want in Elements
14. Crop your background photo to select the area you want to use.
15. From the menu, select Filter, Blur and Gaussian Blur. Set blur radius to 10.

18. Using the Magnetic Lasso tool click on the starting point of your subject's outline. Move the mouse a little ways and click again. A dot and a connecting line will appear. Continue around the area. When you have returned to the starting point, click. The area will be selected.

16. From the menu, select Edit and Copy

17. In the background photo, from the menu, select Edit and Paste. A new layer will be created.

18. Select the Blur/Sharpen Tool

19. Brush around the outline of your subject to soften the edges.