

Applying Filters

Filters can be applied to selections or entire photos to enhance the visual effect or perform common editing effects. In this chapter you will apply filters to a selected area and to a whole image.

Loading the Sample Photo

Another photo of a car will be used for filters on a selected area.

- 1 Load Photoshop or close the current file.
- 2 Display the FILE menu and select OPEN.
- 3 Access the PScs6 SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 18 folder and load the CAR file.

Selecting the Background

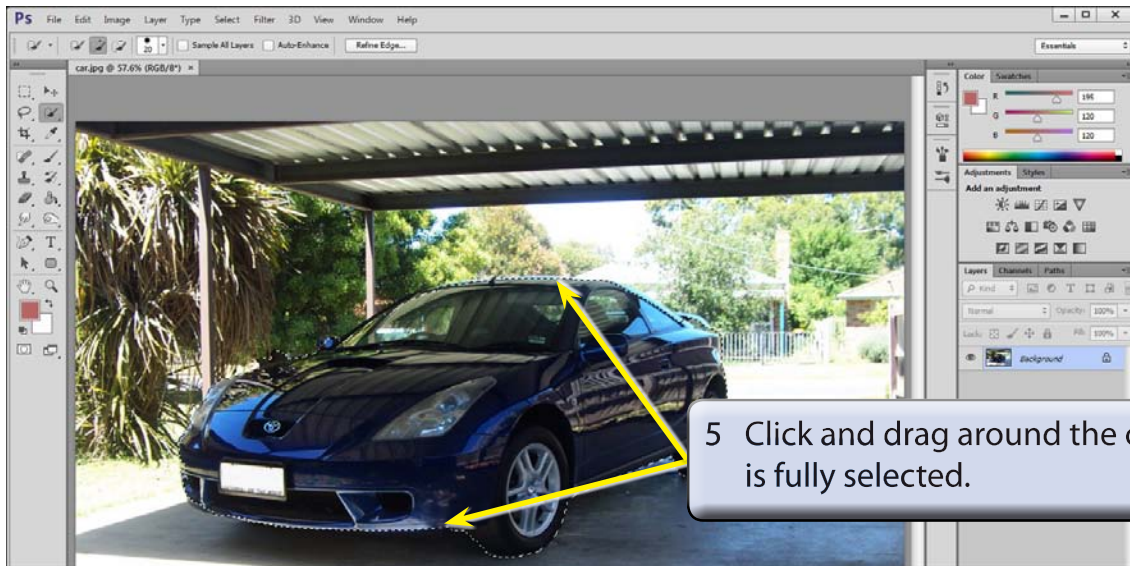
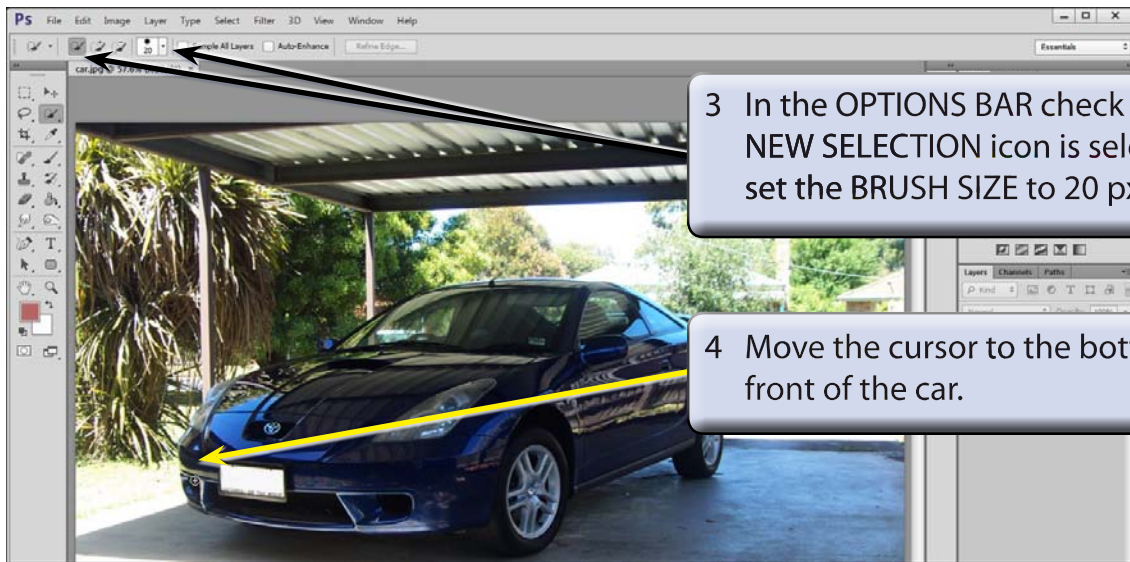
Blurring Filters will be applied to the background, so it will need to be selected. To do this the car is first selected then removed from the selection.

A Selecting the Car

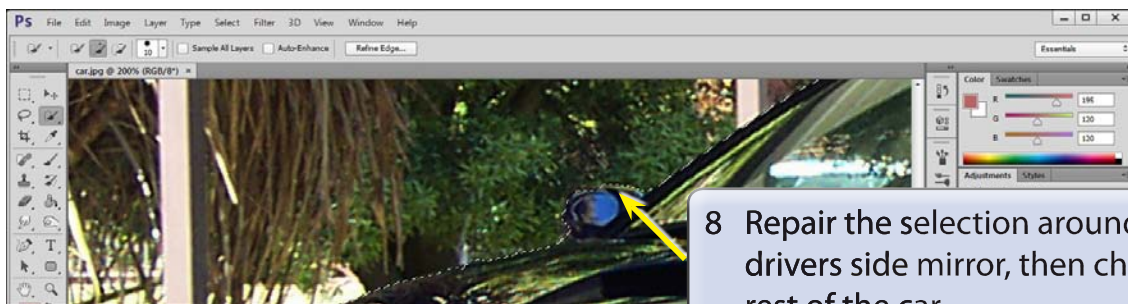
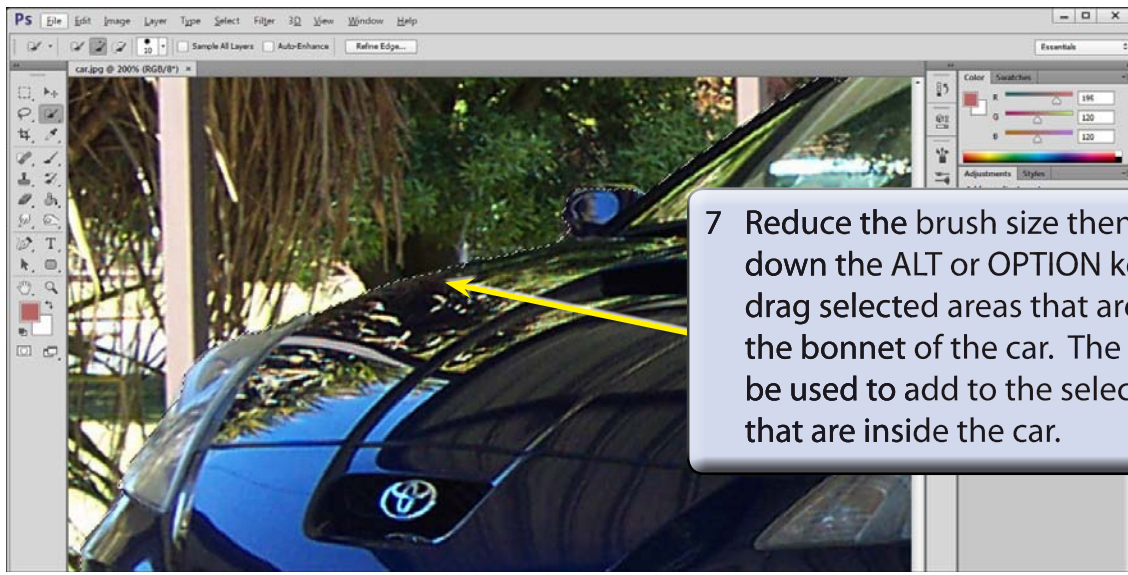


- 1 Set the screen to the ESSENTIALS workspace and select the QUICK SELECTION TOOL from the TOOLS panel.

- 2 Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to set the view to FIT ON SCREEN.



6 The program may have problems at the left of the car as the colour difference is not great and at the rear. Zoom in on the left of the car.



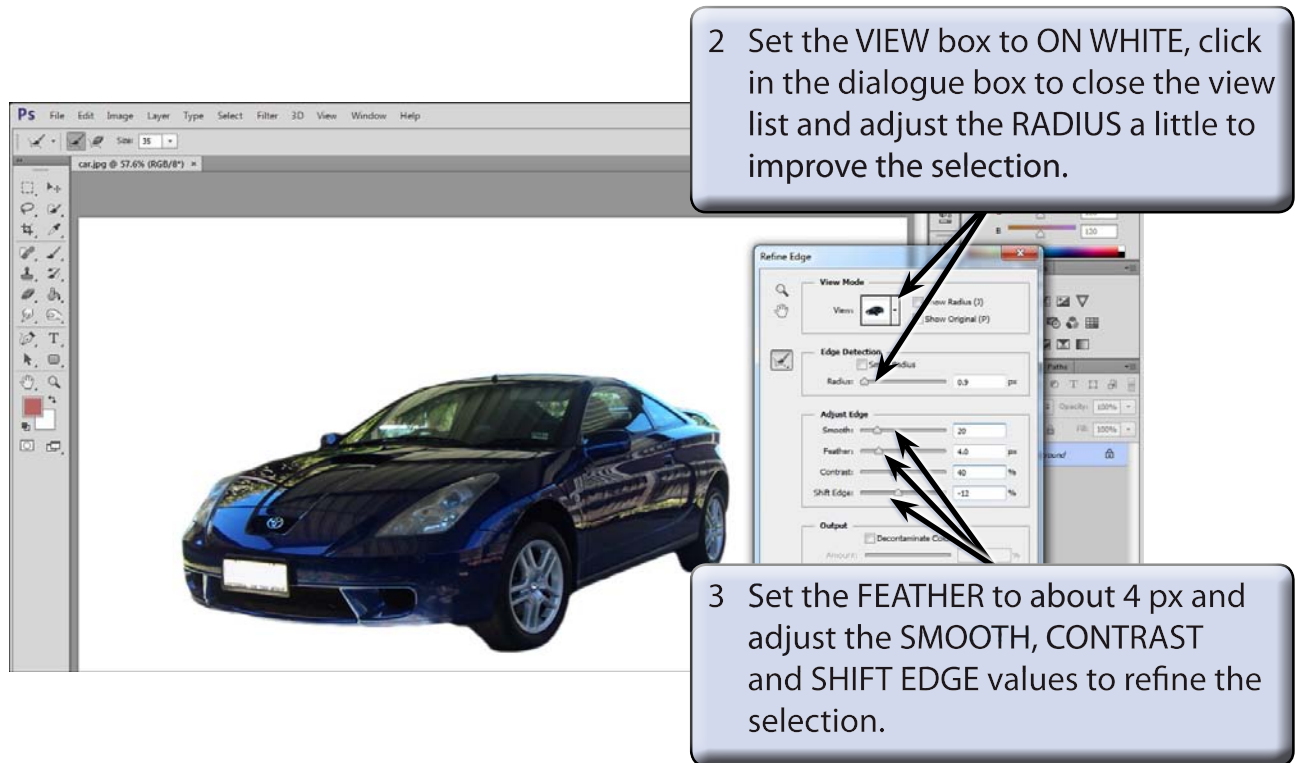
NOTE: The selection of the car will not need to be exact in this case as the blur filter will hide some of the selections.

9 Press CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0 to return the view to FIT ON SCREEN

B Refining the Edges

The selection of the car can be refined.

- 1 Click on the REFINE EDGE button in the OPTIONS BAR.

A screenshot of the Adobe Photoshop CS6 interface. The main canvas shows a blue sports car with a white selection mask. The 'Refine Edge' dialog box is open, showing settings for View Mode (On White), Edge Detection (Radius: 0.9 px), Adjust Edge (Smooth: 20, Feather: 4.0 px, Contrast: 40%, Shift Edge: -12%), and Output (Decompile Comps). Three callout boxes provide instructions: Box 2 points to the View Mode dropdown and the Radius slider; Box 3 points to the Smooth, Feather, Contrast, and Shift Edge sliders. The 'Refine Edge' dialog box is positioned over the right side of the car selection.

2 Set the VIEW box to ON WHITE, click in the dialogue box to close the view list and adjust the RADIUS a little to improve the selection.

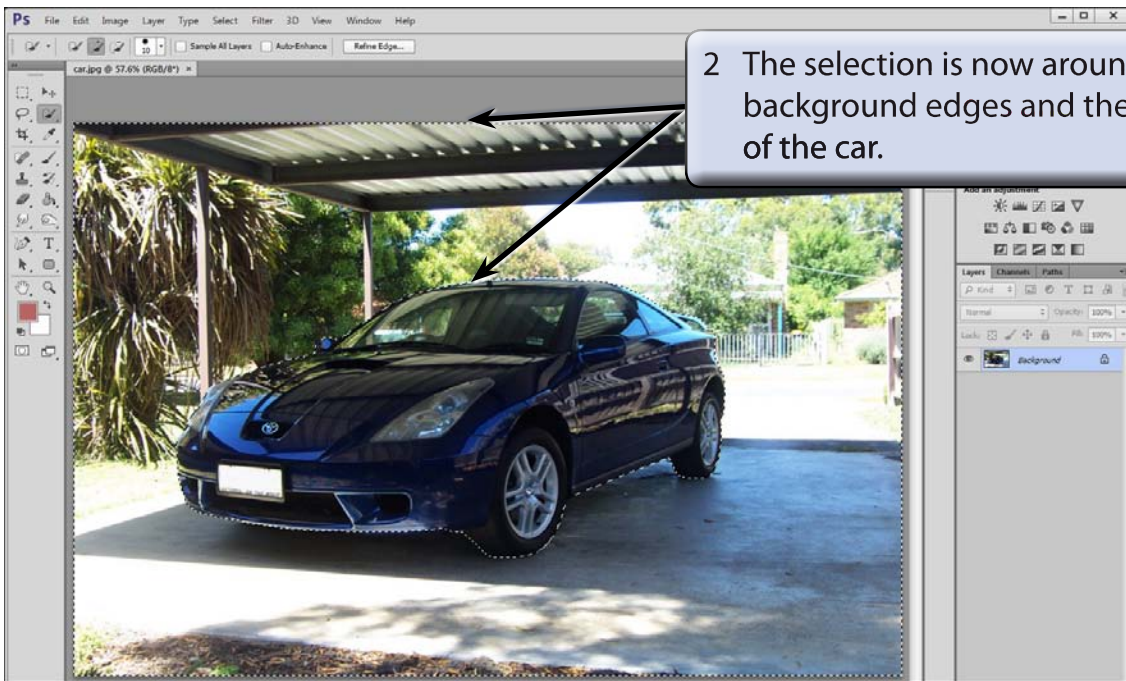
3 Set the FEATHER to about 4 px and adjust the SMOOTH, CONTRAST and SHIFT EDGE values to refine the selection.

- 4 Select OK to complete the selection.

C Inversing the Selection

To select the background rather than the car, the selection needs to be inverted.

- 1 Display the SELECT menu and select INVERSE.



Applying a Gaussian Blur

A commonly used blur effect is a Gaussian Blur.

- 1 Display the FILTER menu, highlight BLUR and select GAUSSIAN BLUR.

