

Manipulating Images

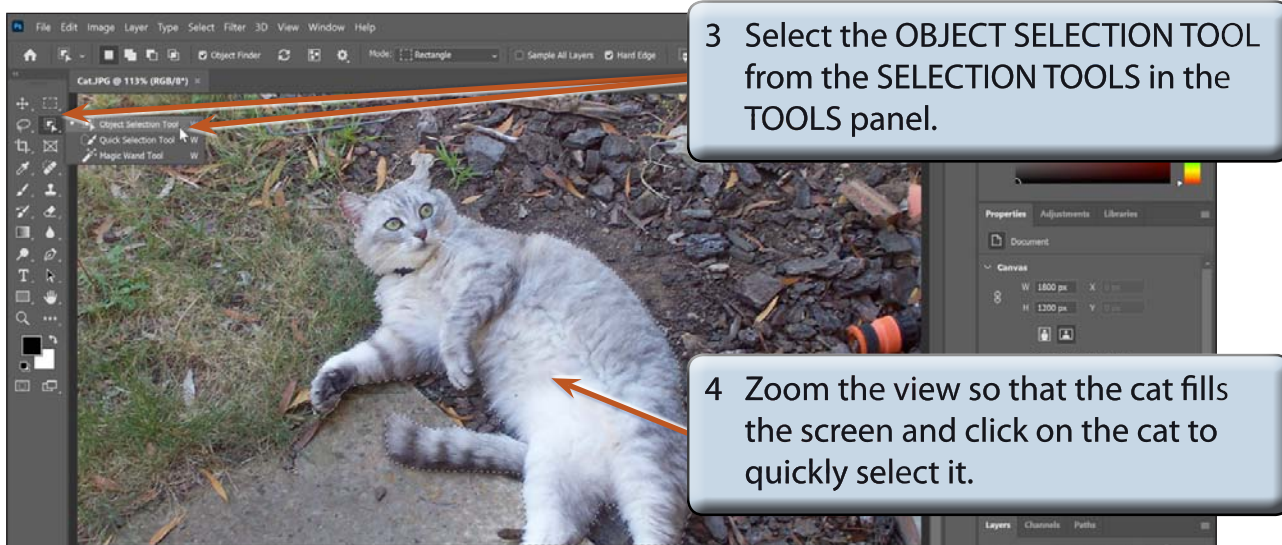
There are many tools to manipulate or alter images. In this chapter you will look at a few of them including the PUPPET WARP TOOL, the REPLACE COLOUR TOOLS, resizing images, resizing the canvas and the CONTENT AWARE SCALE TOOL.

Selecting an Object to Manipulate

In many instances you just want to manipulate a specific object in a photo so that object needs to be selected. In this case a cat will be altered.

A Selecting the Cat in a Photo

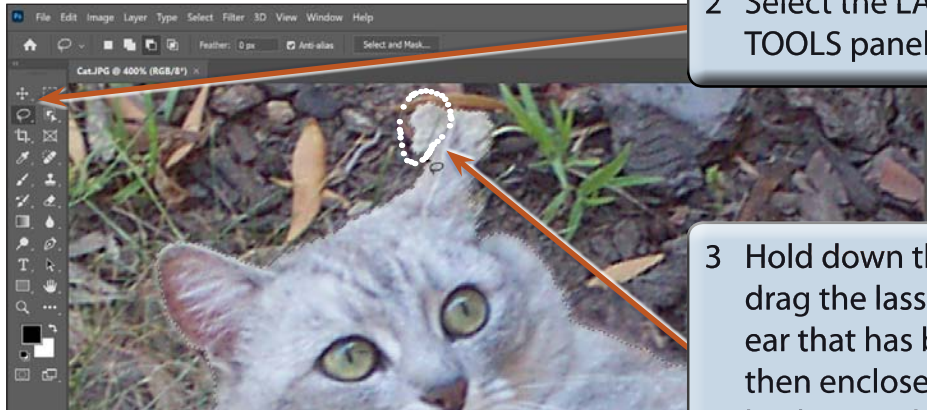
- 1 Load Photoshop or close the current files and select OPEN from the WELCOME screen or FILE menu.
- 2 Access the PS SUPPORT FILES, open the CHAPTER 13 folder and open the CAT file.



- 5 The difference between the cat and the background is clear for most of the image so the OBJECT SELECTION TOOL does a good job of selecting the cat. The tool will probably needs a bit of help around the head.

B Adjusting the Selection

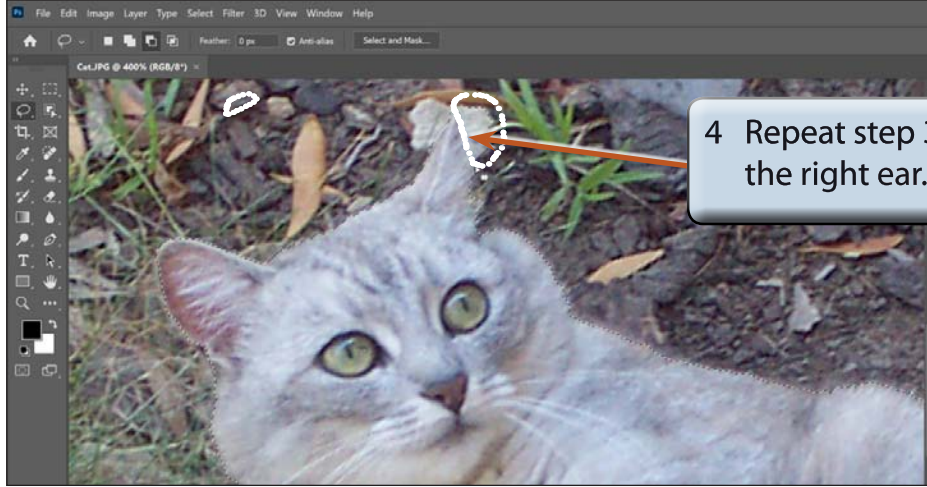
- 1 Zoom in on the cat's head and there should be sections where the selection has included part of the background, for example, around the right ear.



2 Select the LASSO TOOL from the TOOLS panel.

3 Hold down the **ALT** or **OPTION** key, drag the lasso along the top part of ear that has been not been selected then enclose the selected part of the background.

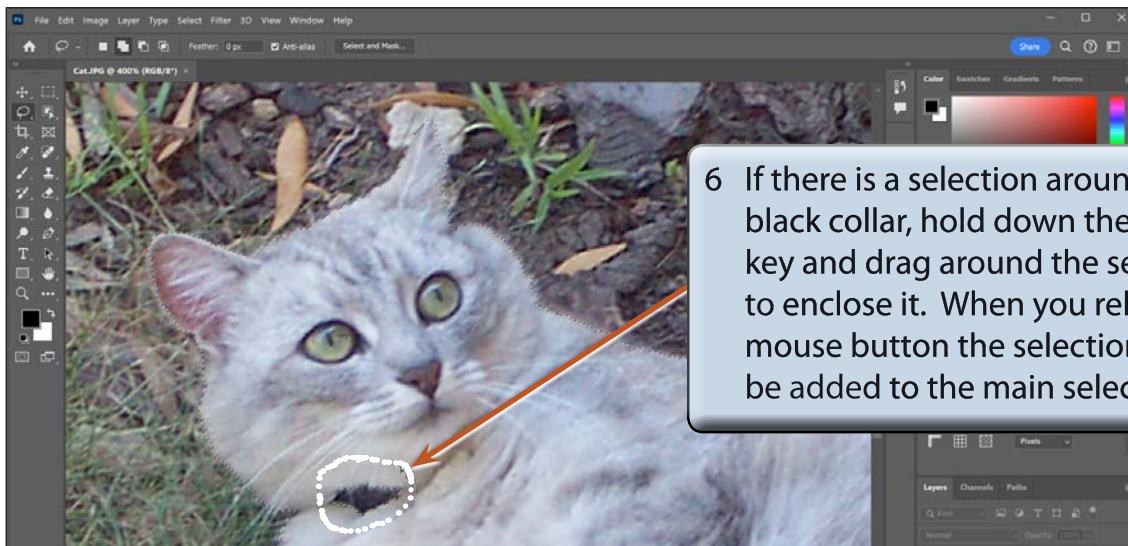
The screenshot shows the Photoshop interface with a white selection around the top of a cat's right ear. A dashed white lasso is being drawn around the top part of the ear. An orange arrow points from the Lasso Tool in the Tools panel to the dashed lasso. Another orange arrow points from the callout box to the dashed lasso. The Properties panel on the right shows a color gradient.



4 Repeat step 3 for the lower part of the right ear.

The screenshot shows the Photoshop interface with a white selection around the top of a cat's right ear. A dashed white lasso is being drawn around the lower part of the ear. An orange arrow points from the callout box to the dashed lasso. The Properties panel on the right shows canvas settings: W 1800 px, H 1200 px, Resolution: 72 pixels/inch, Mode: RGB Color, 8 Bits/Channel, Fill: Background Color, and Rulers & Grids: Rulers.

- 5 Part of the black collar under the head may not have been included in the selection.



- 7 Press **CTRL+Z** or **COMMAND+Z** if you make a mistake adjusting the selection and try again.

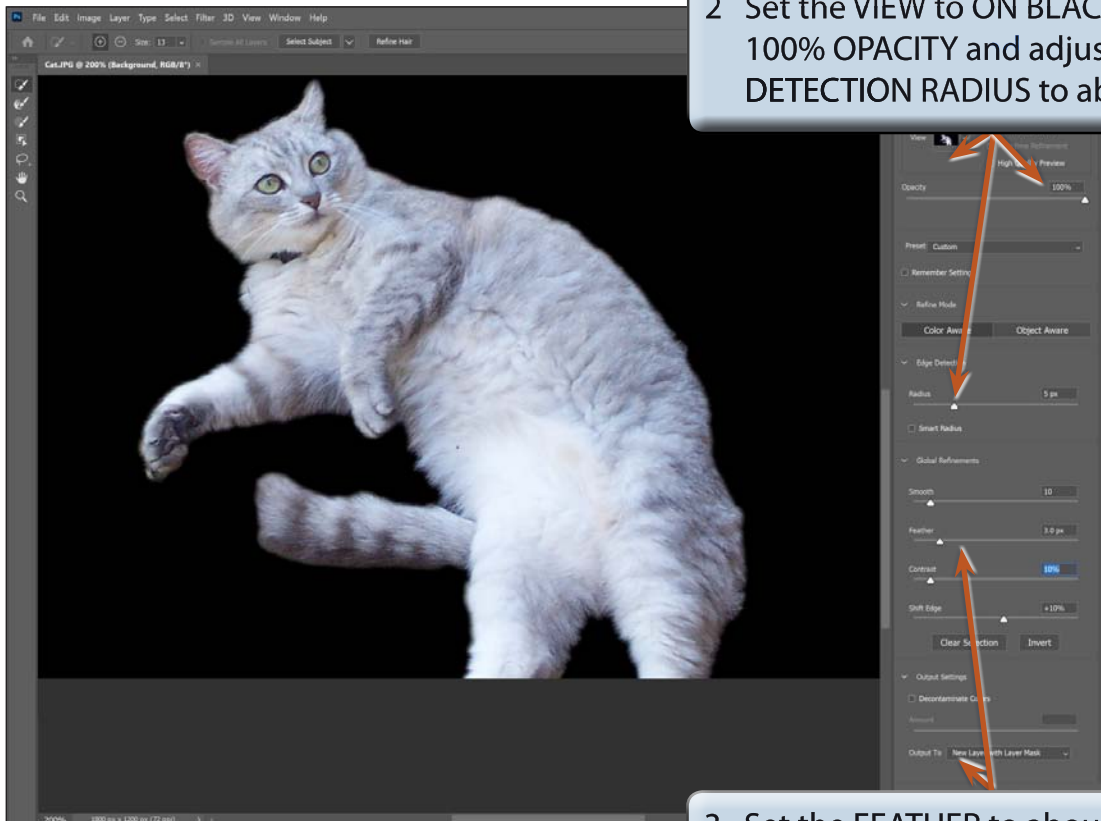
NOTE: The **ALT** or **OPTION** key is used to subtract from or reduce the selection. The **SHIFT** key is used to add to or increase the selection. The **LASSO TOOL** and these keys can be used on selections created by any tool.

- 8 Scroll around the cat and repair any other sections using the **ALT** or **OPTION** key to reduce the selection, or the **SHIFT** key to increase the selection.

C Refining the Edges

The edges of the selection can be refined to improve the selection.

- 1 Reduce the view so that the whole cat is visible then click on the **SELECT AND MASK** button in the **OPTIONS BAR**.



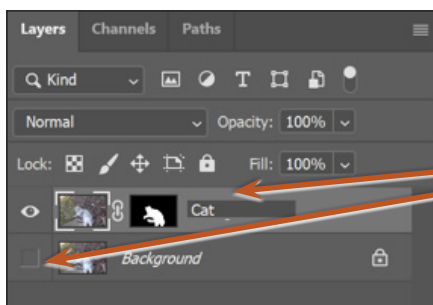
2 Set the VIEW to ON BLACK with 100% OPACITY and adjust the EDGE DETECTION RADIUS to about 5 px.

3 Set the FEATHER to about 3 pixels and adjust the other settings to about 10% obtain the best selection. Set the OUTPUT TO box to NEW LAYER WITH LAYER MASK.

4 Select OK to complete the refinement.

D Displaying Just the Cat

1 Set the view to FIT ON SCREEN (CTRL+0 or COMMAND+0).



2 In the LAYERS panel turn off BACKGROUND layer so that just the cat is visible. Rename the BACKGROUND COPY layer CAT.