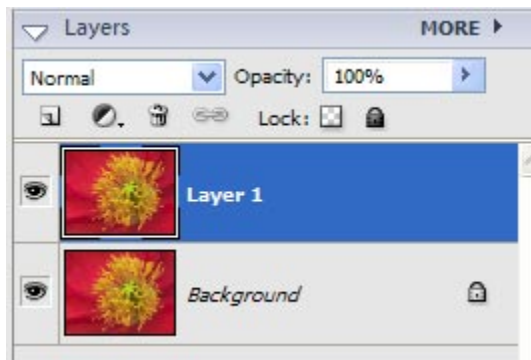


“DE FOGGING” your Digital Images – Most digital images have an inherent “fog” or “muddiness”.

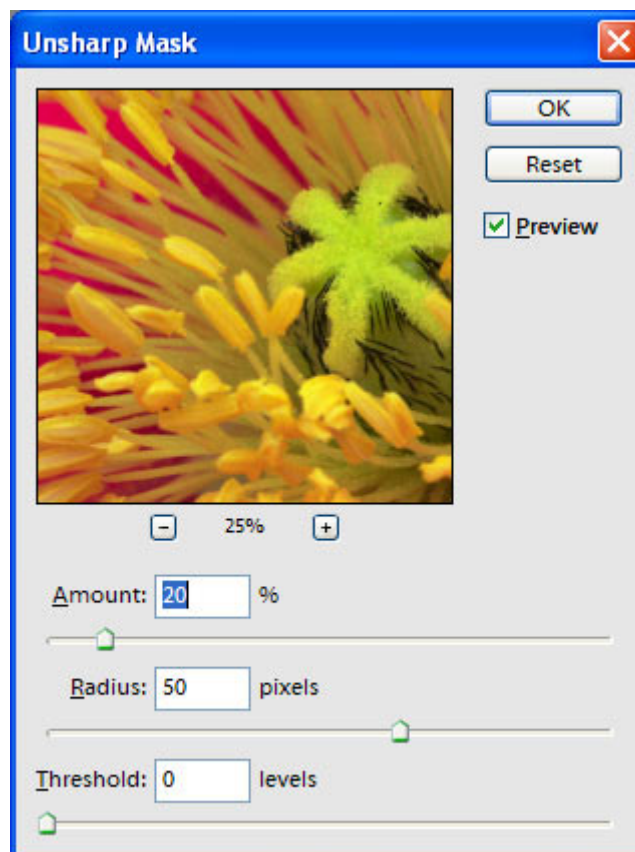
Thomas Knoll (inventor of Photoshop) shared this technique with us a few years ago. It is something I try as the first step in my workflow just to see if it can benefit. There usually is an improvement.

1. Open your image in either Photoshop or Photoshop Elements. Duplicate the background layer so you now have two layers of the same image.



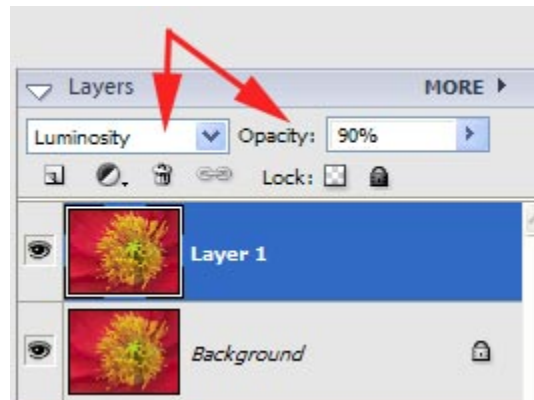
2. INCREASE the image VIEW TO 100%. This will show the effect more clearly. Next, go to the top toolbar and click on FILTER. Choose SHARPEN>UNSHARP MASK. Enter the following Values.

BEFORE you click OK, click the preview on and off while watching the image to see whether this method benefits your photo. (You *should* see some increased contrast). If you feel it does nothing for your image, click Cancel. Otherwise, click OK.



3. If you feel the effect is too strong, just lower the opacity of the layer by dragging the opacity slider down a little bit.
4. This next step is important. **Change the BLEND MODE of the layer to "Luminosity"!**
Doing so will assure that only the brightness values of your image are affected and not the color. Many adjustments will affect colors in your image so this is something to check out after you have made any tonal adjustment to your images.

(NOTE: In the full version of Photoshop, you can set these by going to EDIT>FADE UNSHARP MASK.)



5. That's it. As I said, some images will benefit more from this technique than others.
Now just continue with the rest of your Workflow using Levels, etc.

