

FM Intellisharpen™ Plugin User Manual

Photoshop Elements 1.0 and 2.0
Photoshop 6.0, 7.0 or higher



Intro: From one photographer to another: I have been shooting for the past ten years, and have logged countless hours in front of my computer trying to perfect files that bordered on unusable. Sometimes, I just wouldn't have the right conditions in the field, and rather than re-shoot, I had no choice but to edit the photos --without them looking like they were edited. I decided to develop easy to use Photoshop plugins to

make my own workflow run more efficiently. And, since I use all of these tools on a daily basis with my own work, I thought that other professional and amateur photographer's could benefit from using them as well. These digital darkroom essential tools are based on many years of my personal photography, graphic design and software experience. I see photography as the highest art form, and in my opinion, editing can only enhance your masterpiece, not create it. My goal therefore, is to bring out the best your artwork has to offer. So that you can spend more time out in the field or shooting in the studio, and less time on the computer.

Please feel free to visit fredmiranda.com, an online community for photographers to meet and learn from each other. I look forward to seeing your work!

Installing the Intellisharpen™ Plugin:

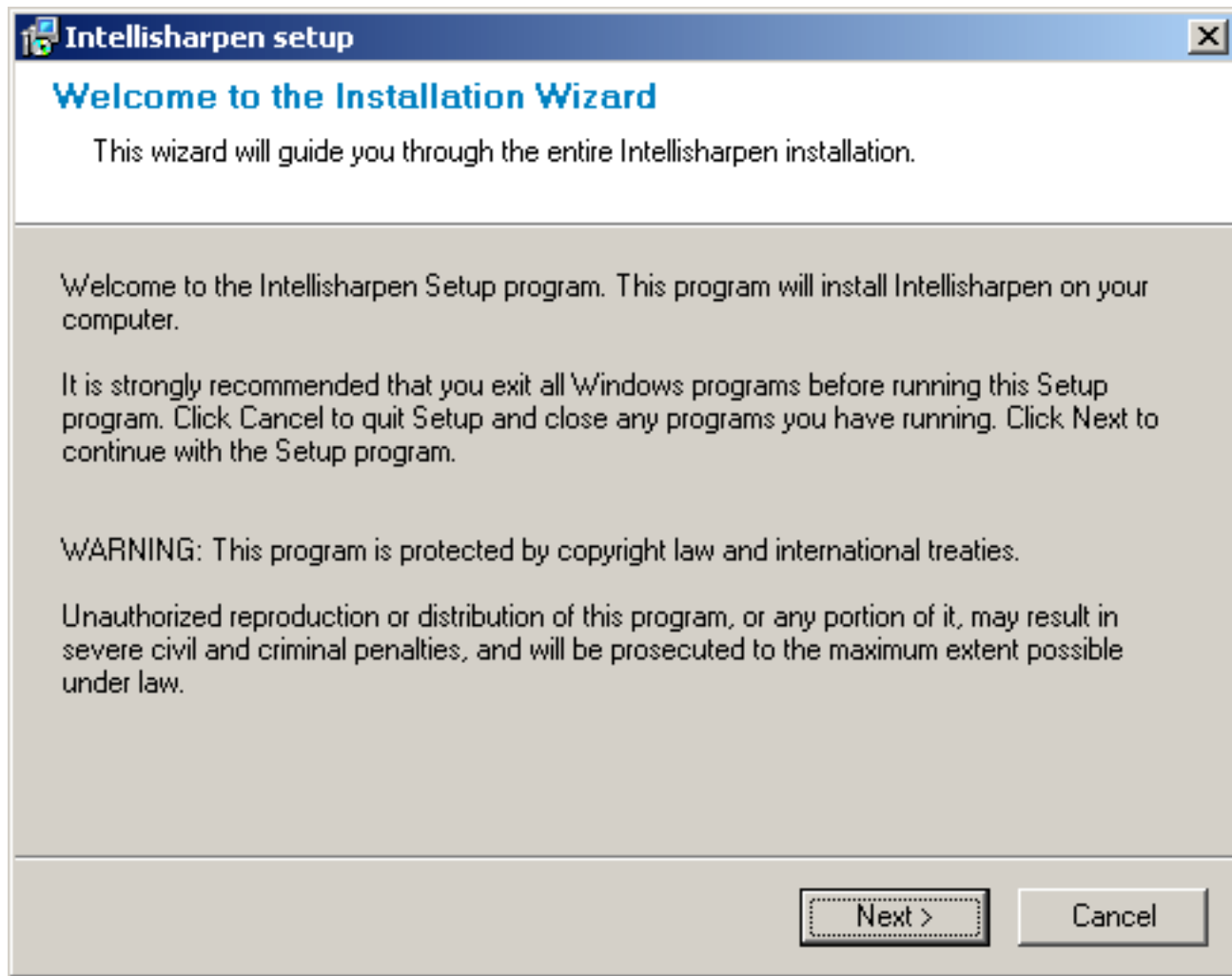
The new FM Intellisharpen™ Plugin is the result of several months of development. It is part of the Digital Darkroom Essentials tools and is compatible with all digital cameras and scanned film.

This smart and complex Plugin comes with fourteen (14) built-in intensity options from lowest to highest and is compatible with low and high ISO files. When using it with high ISO images, existent noise and artifacts won't be sharpened and therefore providing excellent print results. These new and original steps provide everything from haloless sharpening, edge-sharpening, mode sharpening, lab sharpening and more with the press of a button.

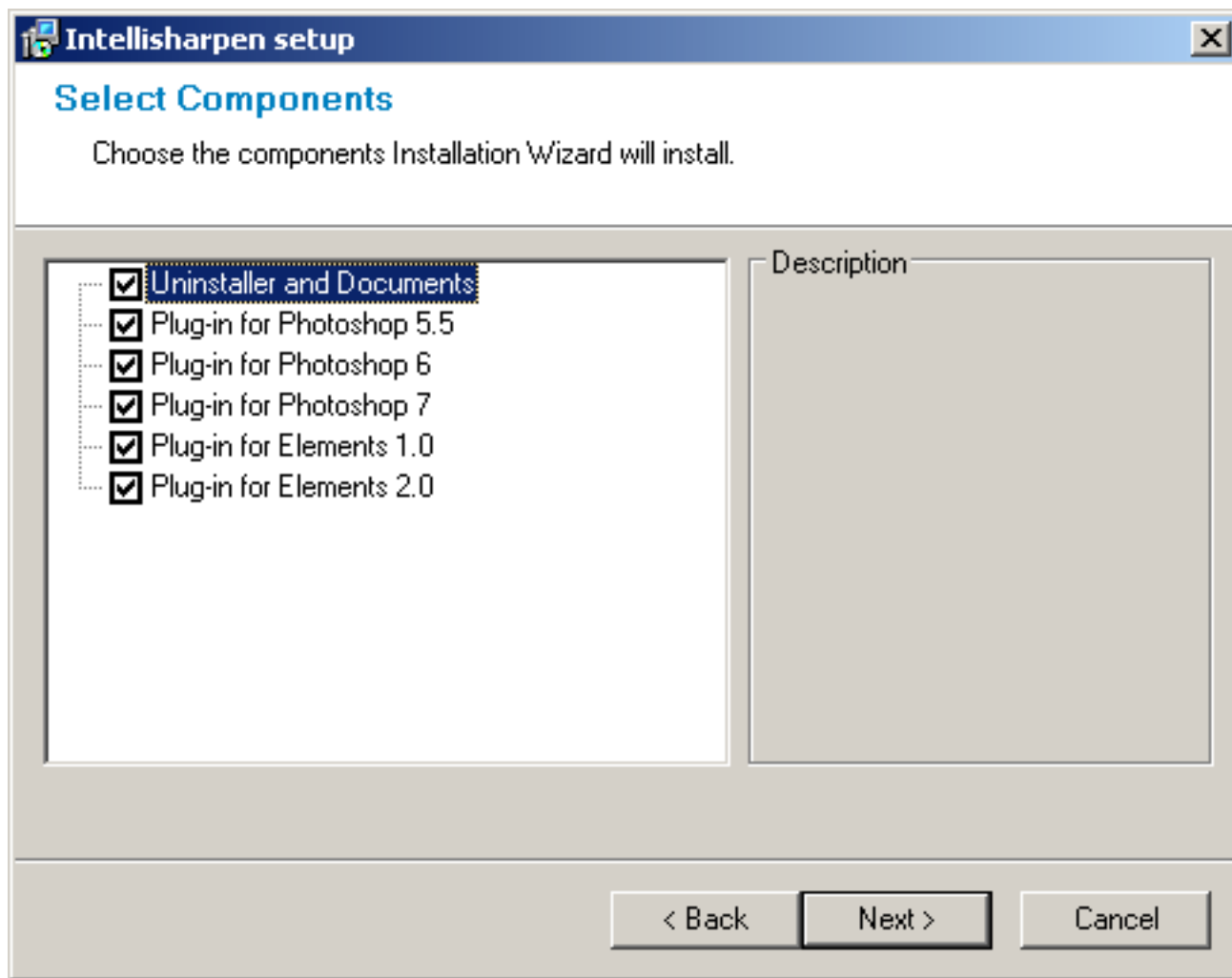
Intellisharpen™ Plugin is compatible with Photoshop Elements 1 and 2, Photoshop 6.0, 7.0 or higher.

Unzip the downloaded file "Intellisharpen_Plugin.zip". There you will find the "FM

Intellisharpen Installer.exe" - double click on it. This window (below) will pop-up:



After agreeing to the license agreement "EULA", the installer will automatically detect compatible versions of Photoshop installed on your system:



If the installer does not detect your Photoshop version:

The installer will not detect *non-English* Photoshop versions automatically. Therefore, only the “Uninstaller and Documents” option will appear on the “Select Components” window.

Proceed with the installation and make sure that the “Uninstaller and Documents” option is checked. The plugin should be copied to the “Destination Folder” (Which was chosen at the third installer window).

You will need to manually copy the plugin from the “Destination Folder” and paste it in the Photoshop “Automate” folder.

The default location of the “Destination Folder” is: C:\Program Files\FredMiranda

The default Photoshop “Automate” folder path is:

C:\Program Files\Adobe\PhotoshopXX\Plug-Ins\Adobe Photoshop Only\Automate

The default Photoshop Elements “Automate” folder path is:

C:\Program Files\Adobe\Photoshop ElementsXX\Plug-Ins\Automate

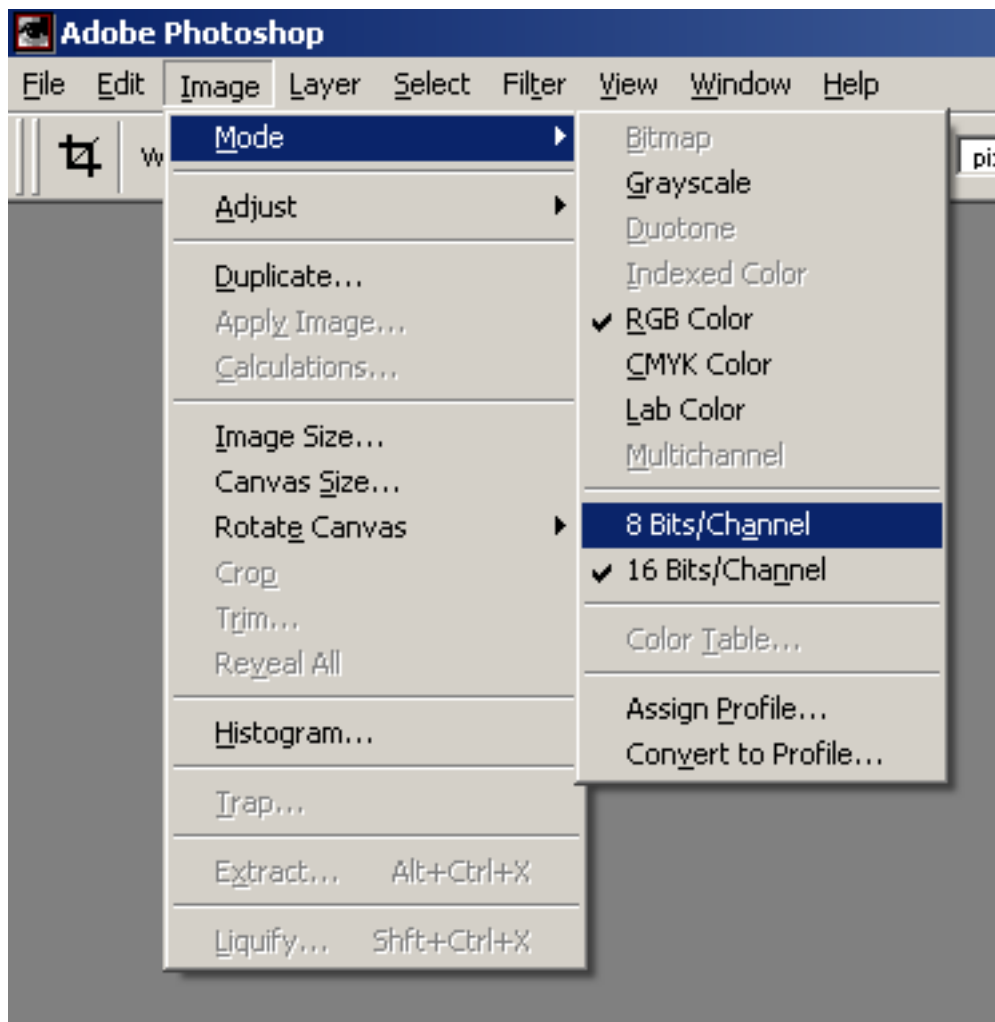
* XX = Replace with your Photoshop version

Using the Intellisharpen™ Plugin:

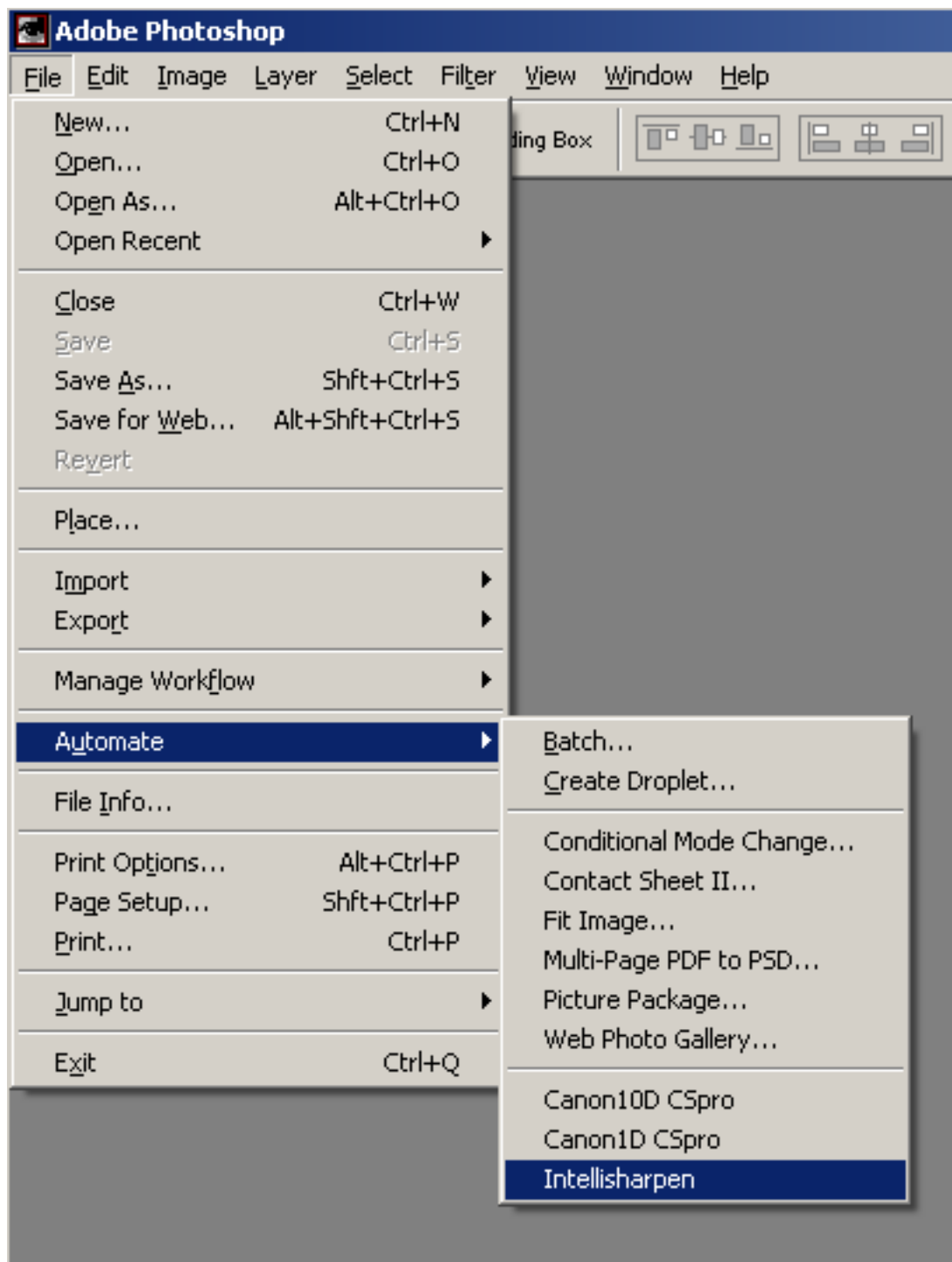
A) Automated Intensity Levels

After the installation of Intellisharpen is complete, launch Photoshop. Open the photo you would like to edit. If the image is in 16-bit mode, convert it to 8-bit. Here is how:

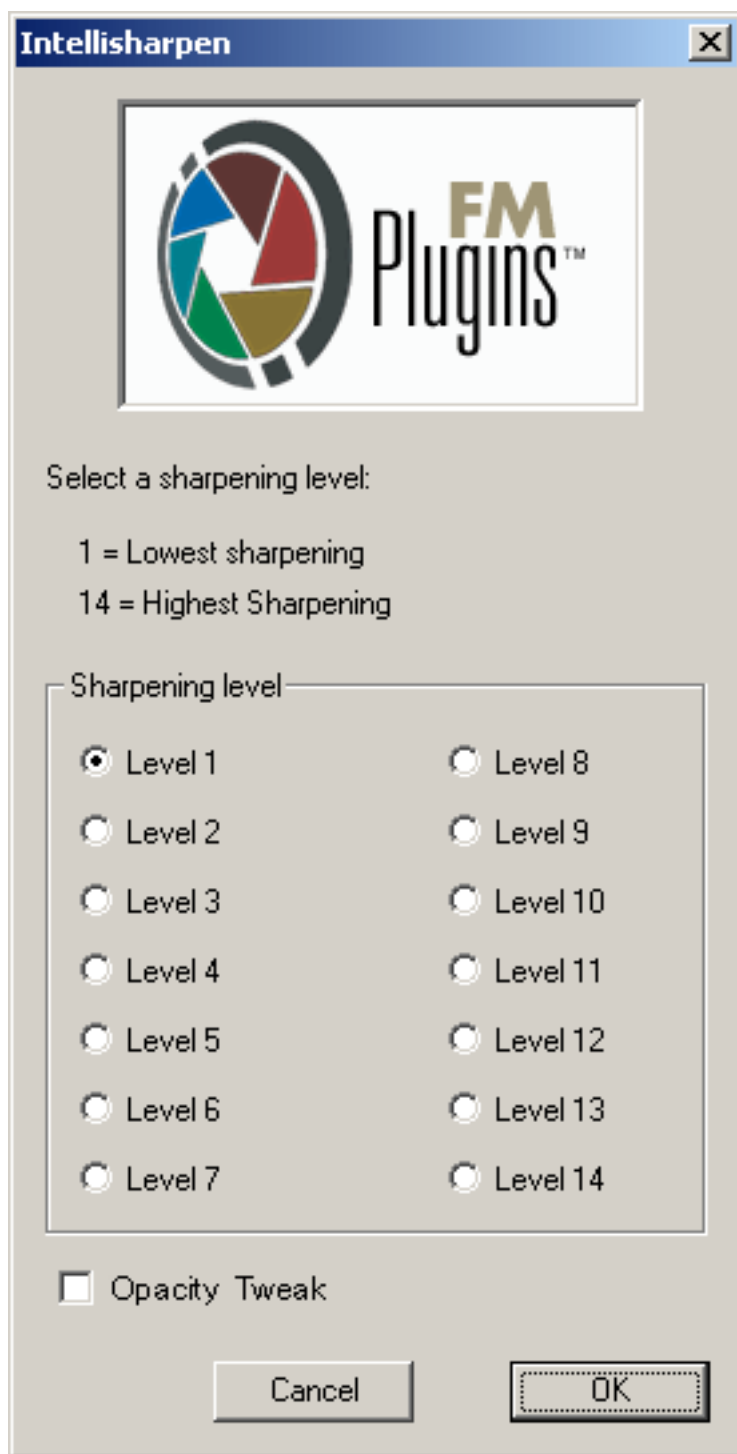
NOTE: A future version of Photoshop may eliminate the need to convert your 16-bit files to 8-bit before running the plugin.



Now, you are ready to load the Plugin. Go to Menu/Automate and click on Intellisharpen



The Intellisharpen Plugin window will pop-up.



You have the option of choosing from Level 1 to Level 14.

Level 1 will provide the lightest Intellisharpen effect and Level 14 the highest. **NOTE:** When working with huge files like high resolution scan film, you can also combine levels if needed. Therefore, if more strength is desired, you could always run the plugin again. For example: run Level 14 followed by another run of Level 4.

After you choose your desired intensity level, Intellisharpen will duplicate your file and do its work.

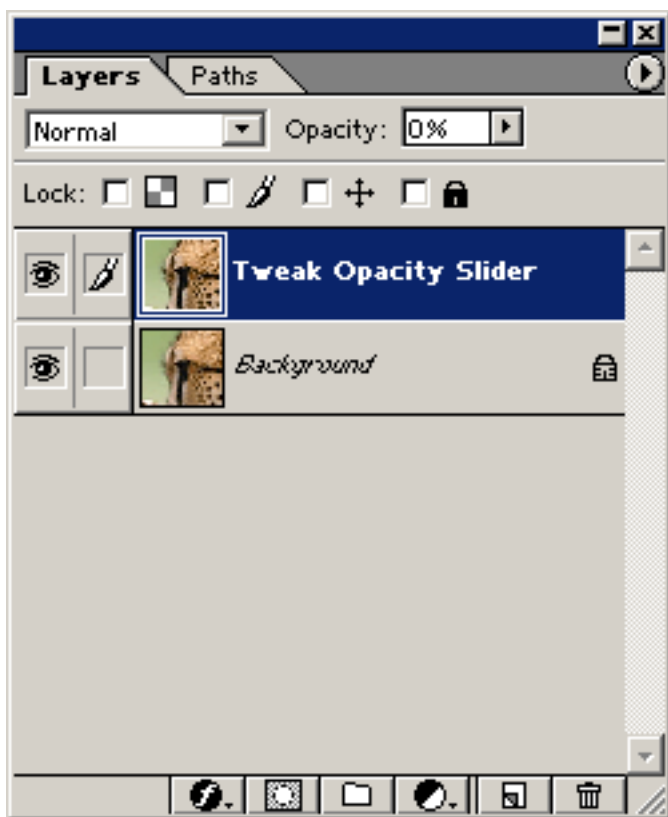
(It works on a duplicate file, because if your original image has several layers, they will be kept intact. All FM Plugins will duplicate your original work --so it is always safe to experiment and compare your results side by side.)

B) Opacity Tweak option:



The Opacity tweak option is a powerful and flexible option included with Intellisharpen. It lets you select any intensity level by checking the Opacity Tweak option. This will duplicate your original file, run the selected intensity level and bring the resulting image back to the original file layer. You will then have the option to work on the Layer palette and tweak the opacity slider. As you move the slider from 0% to your desired percentage level, you will see the results changing on your image.

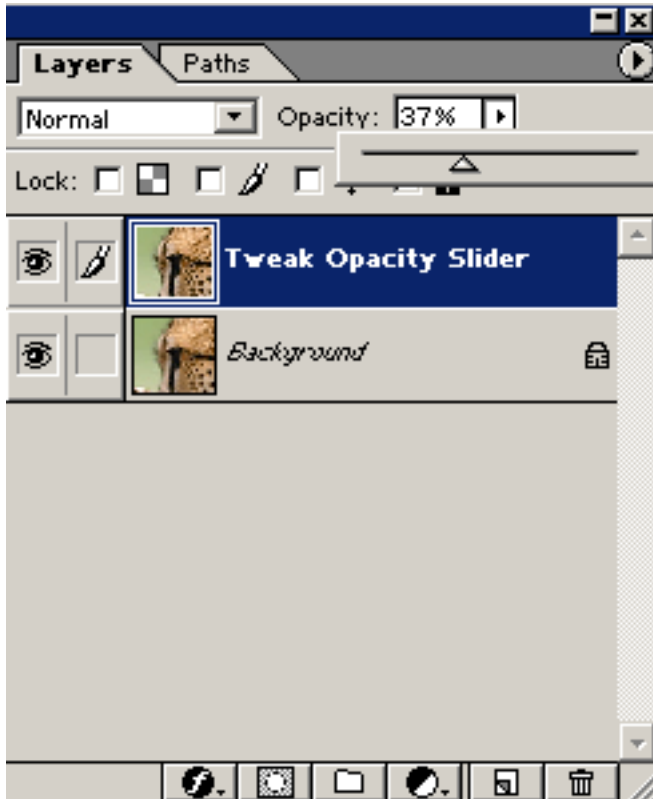
Note: If you choose any level and check the "Opacity Tweak" option, the plugin will run on a duplicate file and the resulting image will be brought back to the original layer. At this stage, you will not see any differences from the original and the resulting image. That is because the default opacity level is zero percent (0%). See below:



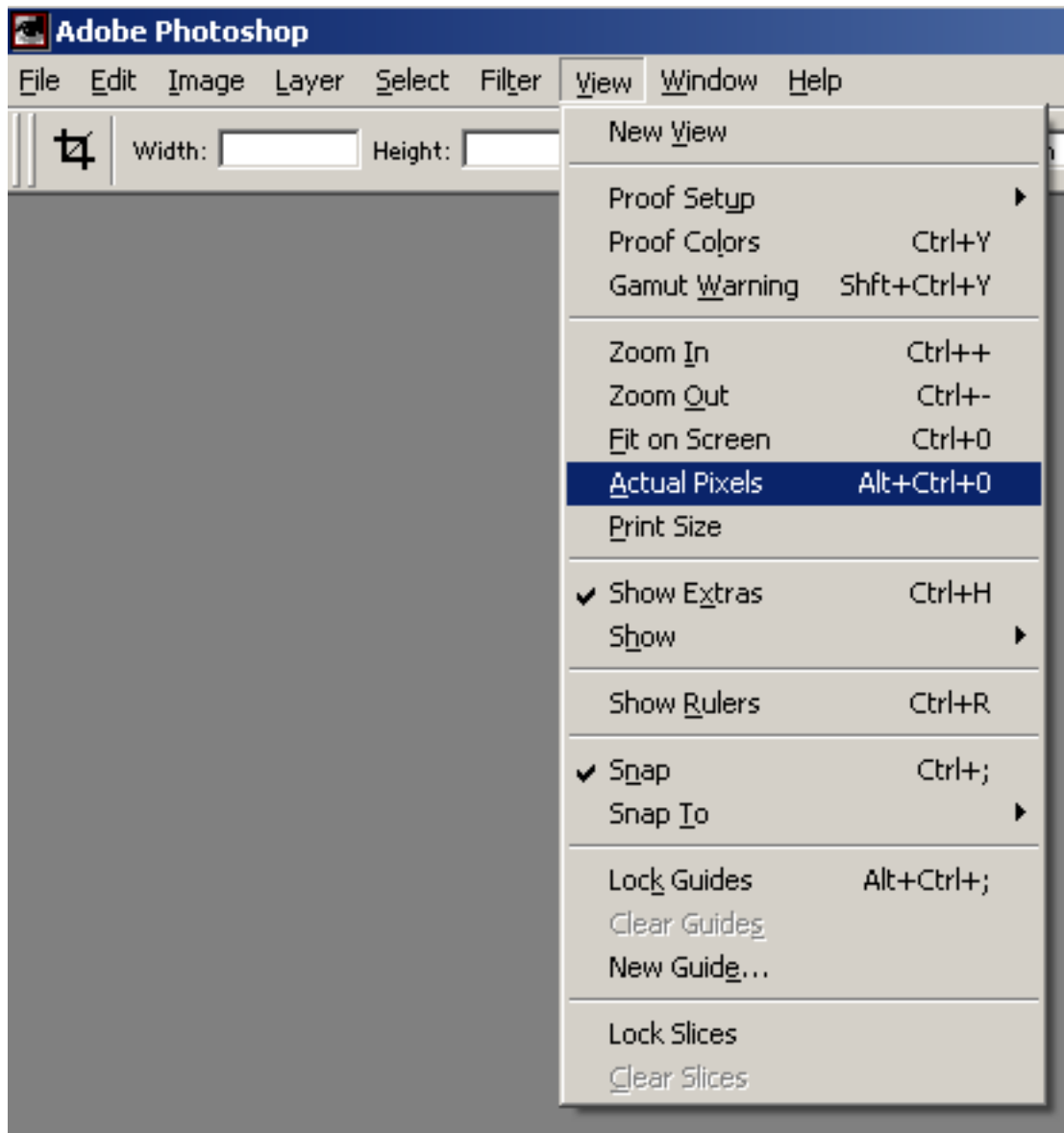
As you move the opacity slider, you will start to see visible changes. You may choose from 0% to 100% within the selected intensity level. The percentage you choose will bring you closer to the desired level. For example: If you run the plugin for level six with the "Opacity Tweak", you will need to slide to 100% to achieve the complete sharpening available at level six, 50% would be 1/2 of a level six sharpening achievement.



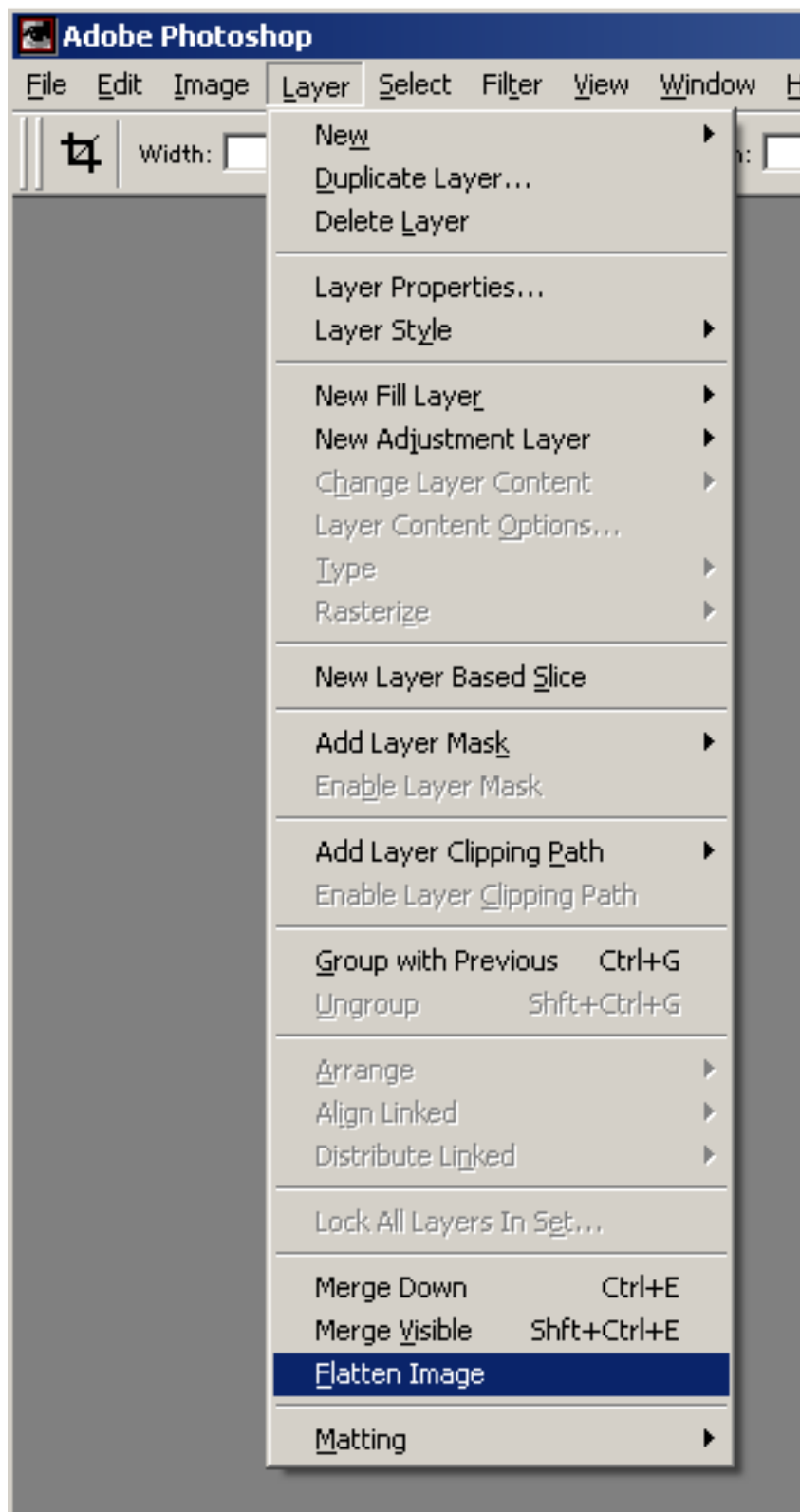
In the illustration below, I am using the opacity at 37%. This means that 37% of the level 6 intensity will be applied to your image. Again, as you move from 0% to 37%, the results will be seen on screen.



VERY IMPORTANT: When moving the Opacity slider to choose the perfect sharpening strength, make sure to view your photograph at 100% magnification. Inspecting your images at the actual pixel magnification is always the best way to edit your files. This can be accomplished by either using the Control+Alt+0 shortcut or by using the Photoshop's View menu. See below:



After you decide on the Opacity percentage, you can flatten your file and save if desired.



Call the Plugin from an action:

There is a great way to use your Intellisharpen Plugin faster and easier. All you need to do is create a simple action in Photoshop to open the Intellisharpen plugin automatically, instead of having to go through using the Automate menu every time.

Here's how to do it: Go to the Actions palette, click on the new action icon, or you can use the fly out menu (it looks like a little triangle at the top of the palette), then select new action. You will be prompted by the dialog box to name the action and assign this new action an 'F' key command. Be careful not to use an F key that is already assigned.

After you name the action and set the F key, your next step is to use the 'Insert Menu Item' command in the Actions palette fly-out menu.

After selecting the Insert Menu Item, you will be prompted to select a menu item. To do this, you will need to navigate to the Automate menu and select 'Intellisharpen'. Then click 'OK' and stop recording the action.

That's it, you've made your action to call the Intellisharpen plugin. I'm sure it will be a nice time saving and simple alternative.

Batching the Plugin:

Normally, plugins do not run in Photoshop's batch mode. I have, however found a way to make this possible. The batch feature is a separate optional add-on to the Intellisharpen Plugin. With it you can edit up to thousands of images at a time without intervention. To find out how to purchase this feature go to the [Essential Darkroom Plugins page](#).

We highly recommend backing up all FM Plugins to a floppy, CD or Zip since, we do not we do not email replacement copies. If your hard drive crashes and you loose your Plugins, you will have to purchase them again. Please backup your plugins on either a floppy or CD. There is no way for us to send lost plugins to everyone who requests them.

Your participation at fredmiranda.com is appreciated!

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[FM Plugins](#)

Your digital darkroom