

Infrared Workflow and Actions

The workflows described below are a 'longhand' description of what to do if you want to create your own actions (say for Windows or you loose the Mac versions already designed by me).

PSEUDO INFRARED

Turn colour Photo into B&W infrared.

Part 1

- Select a colour image to open in Photoshop
- New Adjustment Layer > Selective Colour
- Click the radio button for ☒ Absolute
- Make the following Adjustments:

Red Channel -	C: -100	M: -100	Y: 0
Yellow Channel	C: 0	M: -100	Y: 0
Green Channel -	C: 0	M: -100	Y: 0
Cyan Channel -	C: +100	M: +100	Y: -100
Blue Channel -	C: -100	M: +100	Y: -10

Part 2

- New Adjustment Layer > Channel Mixer
- Click the check box for ☒ Monochrome
- Make the following Adjustments:

Red Channel:	-50
Green Channel:	+200
Blue Channel:	-50
- Adjust the opacities of each layer to suit your preference.
- Try adding my Orton Effect Action to increase the Glow!

R72 FILTER TO INFRARED (B&W)

Making true IR B&W images when using a front of lens filter.

When capturing an image with the filter, if you have left your camera's white balance on 'Auto' the resulting RAW file will be pinkish or magenta in colour. If the white balance has been adjusted

to 2000K or less, the image will be purplish! Either will work with this method.

- Select an image to open in Photoshop
- Open Camera RAW (ACR) and go to the 'Colour' section
- Move all the sliders (Temperature, Tint, Vibrance, Saturation) to the far left!
- Then use the colour picker (icon) to click on the lightest part of the image.
- Now open the 'Light' section of ACR
- Reduce the 'Highlights' slider to the far left and the 'Shadows' slider to the far right.
- Hold the 'Option' key (Alt on Windows) and click the 'Blacks' slider - the screen should go white! Then slide the 'Blacks' slider to the left until black areas/specks appear in the image screen. Release the Option (Alt) key.
- Hold the 'Option' key (Alt on Windows) and click the 'Whites' slider - the screen should go black! Then slide the 'Whites' slider to the right until white areas/specks appear in the image screen. Release the Option (Alt) key.
- Make small adjustments to the 'Exposure' and 'Contrast' sliders to suit your preference and we're almost there.
- Now open the 'Effects' panel (still in ACR).
- Think of the 'Texture', 'Clarity' and 'Dehaze' sliders as sharpening and contrast controls:
 - Texture - controls fine details
 - Clarity - controls midtones and overall sharpening
 - Dehaze - controls the darkest tones
- Adjust all three controls to suit the areas of detail you need to sharpen/deepen the tone in your image.
- Leave ACR and return to Photoshop.

Try adding an 'Orton' effect for that ethereal 'glow' and perhaps a vignette to tighten your composition.

R72 FILTER TO INFRARED (CHANNEL SWAP COLOUR)

Making true colour shift images using the channel swap method and front of lens filter.

- Select an image to open in Photoshop
- Open Camera RAW (ACR) and go to the 'Colour' section
- Then use the colour picker (icon) to click on the lightest part of the image.
- Now open the 'Light' section of ACR
- Click the 'Auto' Button to get a basic adjustment.
- Make small adjustments to the 'Exposure' and 'Contrast' sliders to suit your preference and we're almost there.
- Now open the 'Effects' panel (still in ACR).
- Think of the 'Texture', 'Clarity' and 'Dehaze' sliders as sharpening and contrast controls:
 - Texture - controls fine details
 - Clarity - controls midtones and overall sharpening
 - Dehaze - controls the darkest tones
- Adjust all three controls to suit the areas of detail you need to sharpen/deepen the tone in your image.
- You may need to return to the 'Light' section to re-tweak your settings
- Leave ACR and return to Photoshop.
- Make a 'Channel Mixer' adjustment, then make the following changes:
 - In the RED output channel , change the values to Red=0, Green=0, Blue=+100
 - In the BLUE output channel , change the values to Red=+100, Green=0, Blue=0
- We have now successfully 'Channel Swapped'.
- Make a 'Hue/Saturation' adjustment, then adjust the 'Saturation' sliders in the Blue and Red channels. (Sometimes a tweak in the Yellow, Cyan and Magenta Channels also help)
- To fine tune your selections make subtle adjustments to the 'Hue' sliders in the same channels.

Try adding an 'Orton' effect for that ethereal 'glow' and perhaps a vignette to tighten your composition.

False Colour Infrared (no filter)

Making IR images from colour originals

This process mimics the results from 'True' IR converted cameras using 540nm - 650nm internal filters by using a 'Channel Swap' method.

- Open a colour Image
- Copy the layer and 'Invert' the image (Cmnd+I) or (Ctrl+I on Windows) then change the 'Blending Mode' to 'Colour'.
- New Adjustment Layer > Channel Mixer
- Make the following adjustments:
 - Red Output Channel: R=0. G=0. B=100
 - Blue Output Channel: R=100. G=0. B=0
- New Adjustment Layer > Hue/Saturation

Adjust the Hue/Saturation sliders to fine tune your colours - OR - Use the 'Scrubby' slider to target the image and adjust the saturation. Hold the 'Command' key (Ctrl on Windows) when using the "Scrubby" slider to adjust 'Hue'.

Orton Effect

Adds an ethereal glow to landscapes and IR images

If the image has multiple layers, then make a 'Stamp Visible' layer - Cmnd+Opt+Shift+E first, (Ctrl+Alt+Shift+E on Windows) or Merge all layers.

- Copy the layer
- Filter > Gaussian Blur
- Set 'Radius' to 25 pixels
- Change the blend mode to 'Screen'
- Double Click in the layer alongside the layer name to access the 'Blend If' panel
- Look for the 'Current Layer' sliders and the black triangles. Hold the 'Option' key (Alt on Windows) and click the black triangles to split them.
- Pull the inner most black triangle towards the right and this will gradually protect the darks/blacks from the Orton Effect. Pulling th

slider all the way to the right will remove the effect completely from all the blacks and only affect the whites.

- Reduce the opacity of the layer to diminish the effect on the highlights.