

Adobe® Certified Expert Program

Product Proficiency Exam Bulletin

Adobe® Photoshop® CS3 Exam # 9A0-054

ACE Certification Checklist

The checklist below will help guide you through the process of obtaining ACE certification.

- Review this bulletin to become familiar with the topic areas and objectives of the exam.
- Identify the topic areas and objectives you need to study.
- Determine which study materials you need to improve your skills.
- For a list of recommended study materials, visit:
<http://www.adobe.com/misc/training.html>
- Study for the exam.
- Contact Pearson VUE or Thomson Prometric to register for an exam:
Pearson VUE: *<http://www.pearsonvue.com/adobe>*
Thomson Prometric: *<http://www.prometric.com/Adobe/default.htm>*
- When registering for the exam, refer to the exam number located at the top of this bulletin.
- Take the exam.

Your score is electronically reported to Adobe. Please allow 2-4 weeks from the date you pass the exam to receive your ACE Welcome Kit.

Exam Structure

The following lists the topic areas and percentage of questions delivered in each topic area:

| Topic Area | % of Exam | # of Questions |
|--|-----------|----------------|
| General knowledge | 13 | 9 |
| Painting and retouching | 14 | 10 |
| Creating and using layers | 13 | 9 |
| Working with selections | 5 | 4 |
| Supporting video | 5 | 4 |
| Working with vector tools | 5 | 4 |
| Using Smart Objects | 8 | 6 |
| Managing assets with Bridge | 5 | 4 |
| Using Camera Raw and HDR | 5 | 4 |
| Working with automation | 4 | 3 |
| Managing color | 7 | 5 |
| Outputting to print | 8 | 6 |
| Preparing and Outputting images for the Web and Mobile devices | 8 | 6 |

Number of Questions and Passing Score

- 74 questions
- 60% minimum required to pass

Test Content: Topic Areas and Objectives

Following is a detailed outline of the information covered on the exam.

1. General knowledge

- List and describe options available for customizing the user interface.
- Given a scenario, create a tool preset.
- Given a scenario, select the appropriate color mode for an image.
- Add metadata for an image in Adobe Photoshop.
- Explain the advantages of and when you would use 32-bit, 16-bit, and 8-bit images.
- Explain how to use filters and the Filter Gallery.

2. Painting and retouching

- Given a tool, paint on a layer by using that tool.
- Given a tool, retouch an image by using that tool.
- Adjust the tonal range of an image by using an adjustment layer.

- Explain how blending modes are used to control how pixels are effected when using a painting or editing tool.
 - Create and use gradients and patterns.
 - Create and edit a custom brush.
- 3. Creating and using layers**
- Create and arrange layers and groups.
 - Explain the purpose of layer comps and when you would use a layer comp.
 - Explain how or why you would use a clipping group.
 - Explain how or why you would use a layer mask.
 - Create and save a layer style.
 - Given a scenario, select, align, and distribute multiple layers in an image.
- 4. Working with selections**
- Create and modify selections by using the appropriate selection tool.
 - Save and load selections.
 - Modify and preview a selection by using Refine Edge.
 - Create and modify selections by using the Channels palette.
- 5. Supporting video**
- Given a scenario create a new document by selecting the appropriate document preset.
 - Explain the purpose of Video Preview.
 - Describe the purpose of pixel aspect ratio correction.
 - Explain how to retouch video by using tools and features in Adobe Photoshop.
- 6. Working with vector tools**
- Create shape layers and paths by using the Pen and Shape tools.
 - Explain the advantages of using vector drawing tools versus using raster drawing tools.
 - Given a scenario, alter the properties of type.
 - Create and edit paths by using the Paths palette.
- 7. Using Smart Objects**
- Create and use Smart Objects.
 - Convert content to be used with Smart Filters.
 - Create and use video layers.
 - Import, transform, and edit textures on 3D layers.
- 8. Managing assets with Bridge**
- List and describe the functionality Adobe Bridge provides for viewing assets.
 - Explain how to apply metadata and keywords to assets in Adobe Bridge.
 - Given a scenario, select and use the appropriate automation function from the Tools menu in Adobe Bridge.

- List and describe the functionality and set the appropriate options in the Camera Raw Preferences dialog box and the Develop Settings menu.

9. Using Camera Raw and HDR

- List and describe the advantages of the Camera Raw format and the Digital Negative Converter.
- Given a Camera Raw adjustment setting, explain the purpose of that setting.
- Explain the purpose of and functionality provided by the Open, Save, and Done buttons in the Camera Raw dialog box.
- Explain the functionality provided by High Dynamic Range (HDR) images and describe the workflow for HDR files.

10. Working with automation

- Create and use actions.
- Create and use batches.
- List and describe the automation features available in Adobe Photoshop.
- Describe the difference between scripting and actions and when you would use one over the other.

11. Managing color

- Discuss the color management workflow process that is used in Adobe Photoshop.
- Describe the difference between assigning and converting to ICC profiles.
- Configure color settings by using the Color Settings dialog box.
- Explain the purpose of and how to use the Proof Setup command.
- Discuss the relationship between color gamut and rendering intents.

12. Outputting to print

- Given a method in the Print dialog box, explain when you would use that method.
- Given a scenario, select and explain when to use a specific Print command.
- Explain the differences between monitor, and device resolution.

13. Preparing and Outputting images for the Web and Mobile devices

- Given a scenario, choose the appropriate file format to optimize images for the Web.
- Create transparent and matted images by using the Save for Web command.
- Explain the purpose of and how to use Variables.
- Explain how slices can be used to optimize images for the Web.
- Explain the use of layers when creating an animation in Photoshop.
- Explain how to preview content for a mobile device by using Device Central.

Practice Exam

Try out these practice questions to get a feel for the types of questions on the ACE exam. Please note that your performance here does not indicate how you will do on the actual exam. To fully prepare for the exam, closely review the topic areas and objectives in this Exam Bulletin.

1.2 Given a scenario, create a tool preset.

You want to save your signature as a preset. Which two steps should you complete? (Choose two.)

- A. Select a brush in the Preset Manager dialog box and click Append.
- B. Change the value for the master diameter as desired and assign the brush a new name.
- C. Select a brush in the Preset Manager dialog box and click Replace Brushes.
- D. Set the Brush Tool to the desired diameter and click Create New Tool Preset in the Tool Presets palette.
- E. Select the Save Brushes option.

Correct answer: B, D

2.5 Create and use gradients and patterns.

What should you do to provide easy access to the set of custom patterns that you create?

- A. Choose Reset Patterns from the Pattern palette menu and use the Load dialog to select the pattern files.
- B. Choose Replace Patterns from the Pattern palette menu and use the Load dialog to select the pattern files.
- C. Choose Save Patterns from the Pattern palette menu, then name it, and save the library file in the Presets/Styles folder.
- D. Choose Save Patterns from the Pattern palette menu, then name it, and save the library file in the Presets/Patterns folder.

Correct answer: D

3.2 Explain the purpose of layer comps and when you would use a layer comp.

You are working on a document. You save a number of layout variations as layer comps. You want to create a gallery of the variations that can be viewed in a Web browser. What should you do?

- A. Choose File > Automate > Layer Comps to WPG
- B. Choose File > Automate > Web Photo Gallery.
- C. Choose File > Export > Layer Comps to WPG.
- D. Choose File > Scripts > Layer Comps to WPG.

Correct answer: D

6.4 Explain Create and edit paths by using the Paths palette.

You are working with a high resolution image. You make a selection around a complex shape in the image. You want to save the selection without significantly increasing the file size. Which command should you use?

- A. The Save Selection command.
- B. The Make Work Path command.
- C. The New Spot Channel command.
- D. The New Channel command.

Correct answer: B

7.1 Create and use Smart Objects.

You place an EPS file as a Smart Object. You want to avoid an obvious hard-edge transition between the Smart Object and the layers below. What should you do?

- A. Use the Smart Blur filter.
- B. Use the Anti-alias option.
- C. Use the Defringe command.
- D. Use the Merge Layers command.

Correct answer: B

8.1 List and describe functionality Adobe Bridge provides for viewing assets.

You are using Bridge to assign ratings to a collection of images in a folder. What happens when you press SHIFT and click the two-star rating icon in the Filter panel?

- A. All items with only a two-star rating are displayed.
- B. All items with a two-star or higher rating are displayed.

- C. All items with a two-star or lower rating are displayed.
- D. All items, except those with a two-star rating, are displayed.

Correct answer: B

9.3 Explain the purpose of and functionality provided by the Open, Save, and Done buttons in the Camera Raw dialog box.

You want to open read-only, raw images imported from your camera as a Smart Object in Photoshop through the Camera Raw dialog box. What should you do?

- A. Press ALT and click Open Image.
- B. Press SHIFT and click Open Object.
- C. Apply the camera raw conversion settings.
- D. Unlock the image and click Open Image.

Correct answer: B

9.4 Explain the functionality provided by High Dynamic Range (HDR) images and describe the workflow for HDR files.

The color mode of your camera is set to Adobe RGB (1998). When you open your images in Camera Raw, the shadow and highlights are clipped. You suspect this is because the color space that you work with has a small gamut. What should you do?

- A. Unlock the image.
- B. Assign a profile to the image.
- C. Change the color space to ProPhoto RGB.
- D. Change the depth of the image.

Correct answer: C

11.4 Explain the purpose of and how to use the Proof Setup command.

You apply a black shadow to an image over a white background. You want the shadow detail to be preserved when you simulate the appearance of the image for an output device. What should you do?

- A. Use Black Point Compensation
- B. Lock the shadow layer.

- C. Simulate paper color.
- D. Simulate black ink.

Correct answer: A

13.4 Explain how slices can be used to optimize images for the Web.

While applying WBMP compression to a sliced image, you enable Diffusion dithering. Now, the image has seams along the boundaries of the slices. What should you do?

- A. Provide a background color to the sliced image.
- B. Link the slices of the image.
- C. Select the slice type as No Image.
- D. Set dithering to zero for the sliced images.

Correct answer: B