



Photo Editing Basics

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Presentation – FlagpolePhotographers.com/photo-editing-basics

October 10, 2019

Photo Editing Basics – 1001 tools



Your photo editing “tool” choice is complex and biased

- From easy to use to a lifetime learning opportunities
- From Free to \$120 or more per year
- First, look at your needs – editing, organizing, sharing, time, costs ...
- Today, I’ll be using only two editing tools
 1. Microsoft Windows 10 built-in “Photos” application - free
 2. Adobe Photoshop **Elements** - \$100 one-time cost



Agenda

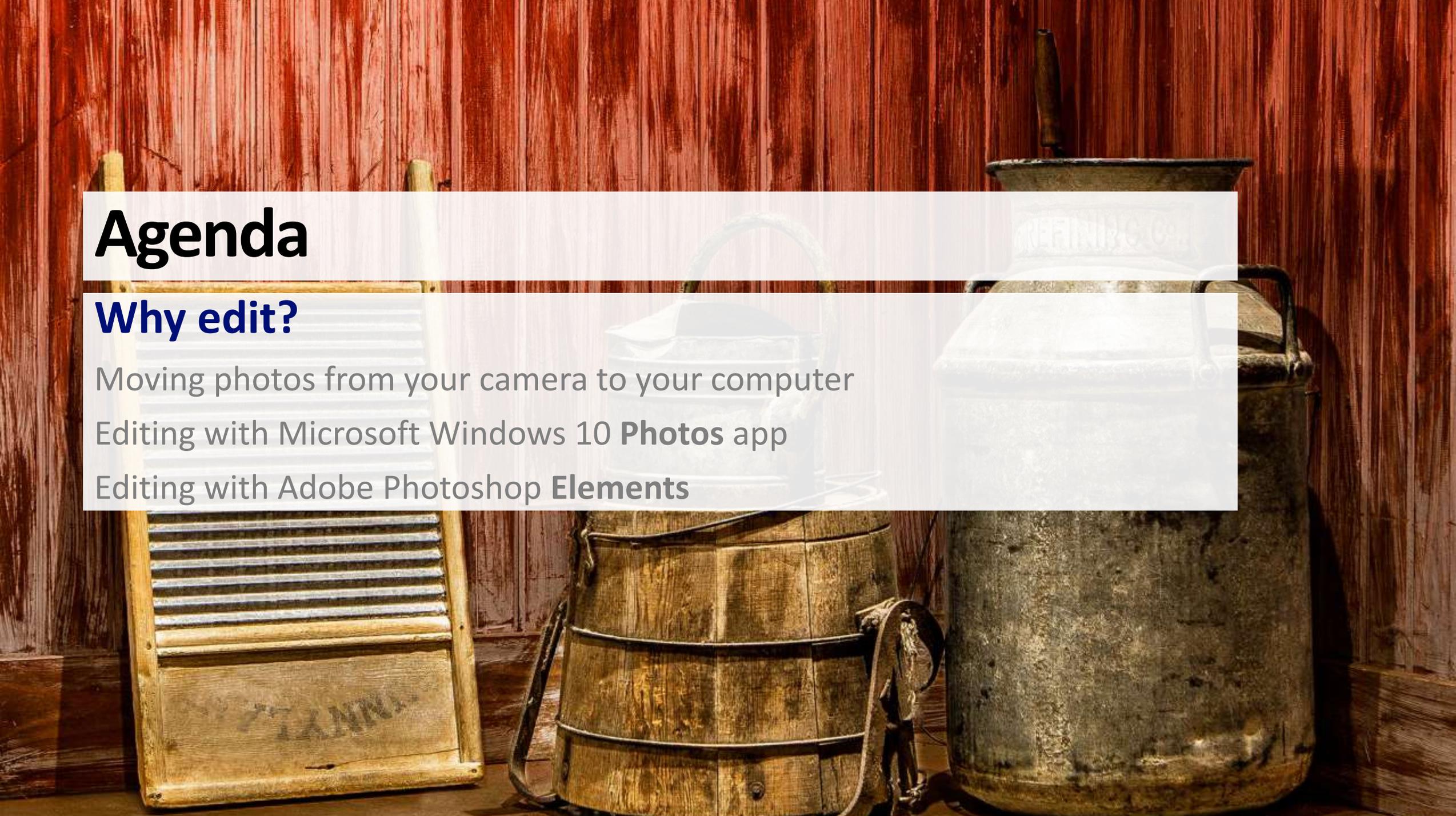
Why edit?

Moving photos from your camera to your computer

Editing with Microsoft Windows 10 **Photos** app

Editing with Adobe Photoshop **Elements**

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Why edit?

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Why edit?

1

*Editing your photos
is an essential step
in digital
photography*

2

*Our first goal
should always be
getting it right in
the camera*

3

*Editing provides us
a second chance to
get it right or add a
special touch*

Basic edits have a significant impact on
the story you want your photo to tell

Editing is not new, what is new is the range of possibilities

- Editing was used by artists long before cameras were invented
 - Vincent Van Gogh, Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt
 - Their medium allowed removal, touchups, darkening, lightening, color shifts ...
- Great early photographers were masters of the darkroom
 - Ansel Adams – *“You don’t take a photograph, you make it.”, “I could get superior prints from my negatives using electronics.”*



Go beyond camera sensor limits to what you imagined

What the camera saw



F7.1, 0.8 seconds, ISO 400

What I created





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Moving photos from your camera to your computer

- Sounds simple, complexity exists from the countless options
 - Which tool – best choice, use the same tool you use for editing, one less tool to learn
 - Where to store – best choice, where your Windows/macOS prefers to store “Pictures”, compatibility with tool and backup
 - How to name – best choice, there isn’t one, I use “date time” in a logically named folder
e.g. 2018 02 04 Fort Worth Zoo\20180204 141159.cr2

Camera supplied software

- Canon EOS Utility
- Nikon ViewNX-I
- Fuji Capture One
- ...

Free Software

- Windows Photos
- macOS Photos
- [Adobe Bridge](#)
- Operating system – copy files from camera to hard drive

Editors & Specialized Tools

- [Adobe Photoshop Elements](#)
- [Breeze Downloader Pro](#)
I have used for 16 years
- Probably any editing tool you purchase

Step 1 – PC access to photos

- Option 1 – attach camera to PC with USB
- Option 2 – move memory card (SD, CF, SDHC, ...) from camera to PC

USB attached

Canon EOS 5D Mark IV
Select to choose what happens with this device.

“Photos” app

Canon EOS 5D Mark IV

Choose what to do with this device.

Organize and Edit
Adobe Elements 2020 Organizer

Import photos and videos
Photos

Download images
Adobe Bridge CC 2019

Download images
Breeze Systems Downloader Pro

Step 2 – Import photos to PC

- Select your options and don't change them for a year
- Consistency makes your life easier since you know where your photos are
- Delete from your device to have room for the next photos you take

Where

Import settings

Imported items will be saved to this folder:

C:\Users\Chane\Pictures

[Change the import destination](#)

Grouping

Choose how to group the items you import

By date

By month

By year

Delete?

Delete items from my device after I import them

Done

Step 3 – Photos are on your PC

The screenshot shows the Windows Photos application window. At the top, there are navigation tabs: **Collection** (underlined), **Albums**, **People**, **Folders**, and **Video Projects**. To the right of these tabs is a search bar containing the text "Search people, places, or things...". Further right are buttons for "New video", "Select", and "Import".

The main content area displays a grid of photos. The first section is titled "October 2019" and shows "10/5 11 photos". The second section is titled "May 2019" and shows "5/30 117 photos".

Three orange arrows with white text are overlaid on the image:

- An arrow labeled "Imported Photos" points to the "October 2019" section.
- An arrow labeled "Click Photo to Edit" points to a photo of a pink rose in the "October 2019" section.
- An arrow labeled "Rotated Photos Issue" points to a photo of a tree in the "May 2019" section.

On the right side of the window, there is a "Show" dropdown menu with icons for grid, web, and desktop views. Below it is a vertical timeline slider for the year 2019.

Agenda

Why edit?

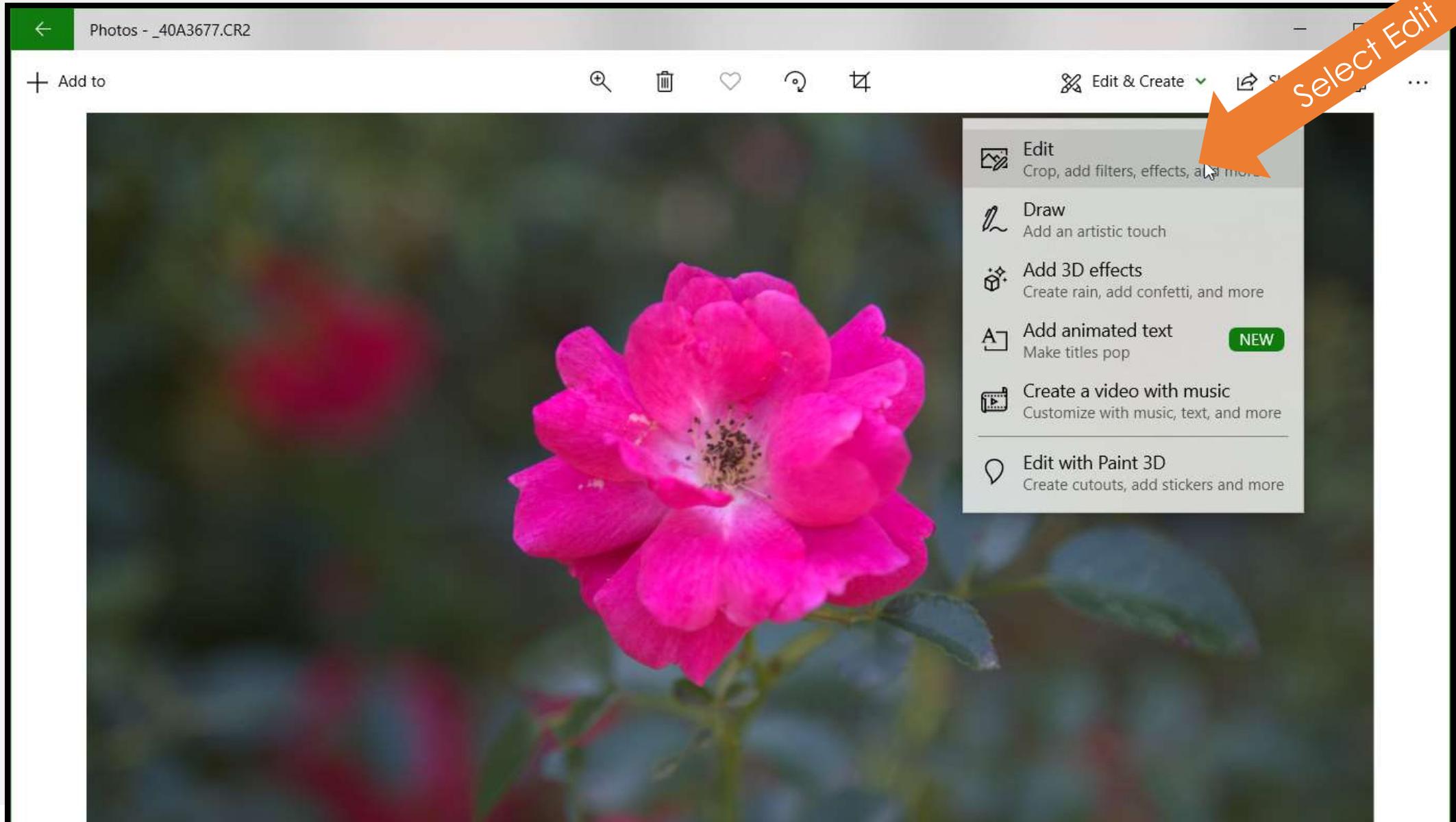
Moving photos from your camera to your computer

Editing with Microsoft Windows 10 Photos app

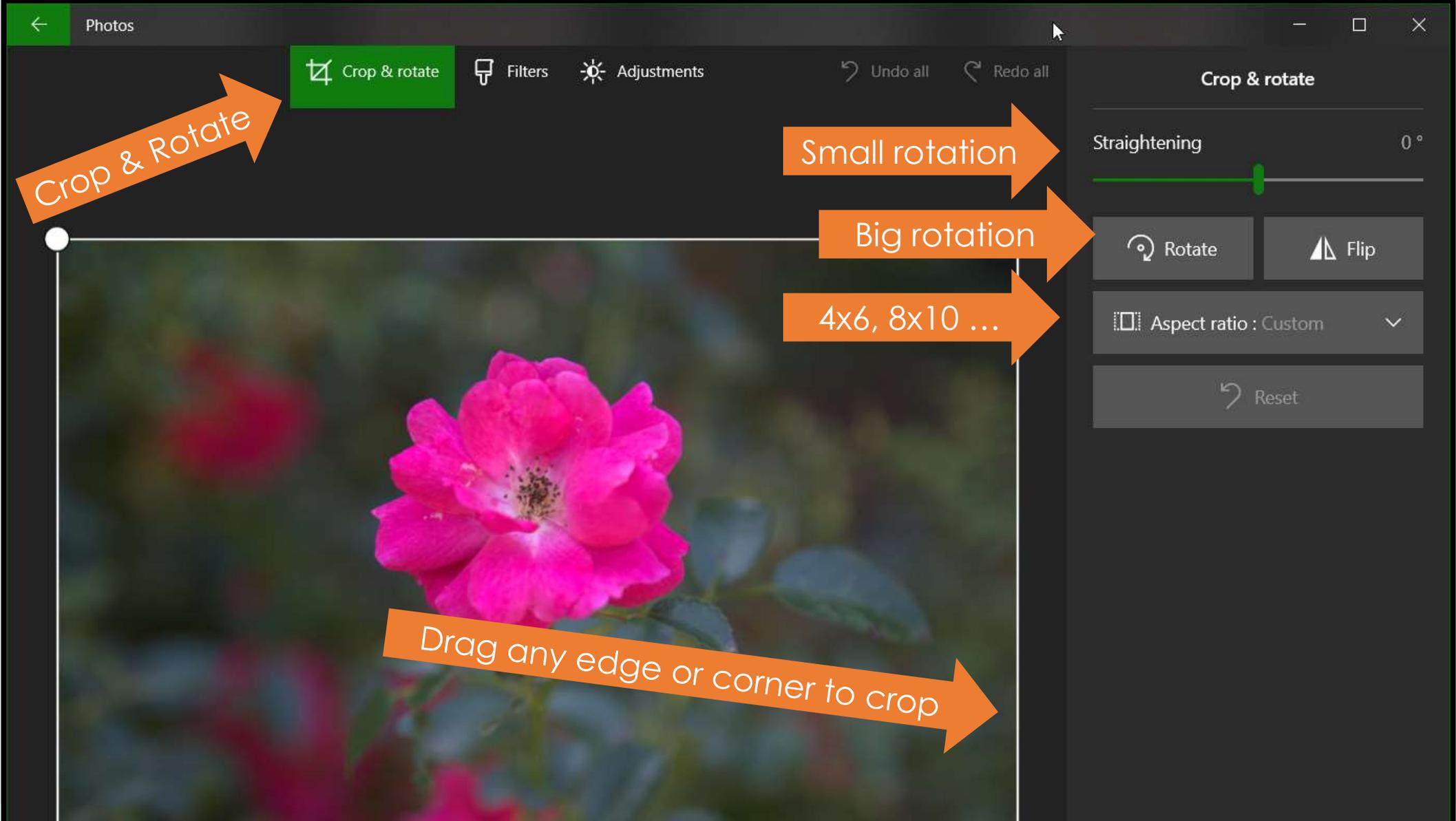
Editing with Adobe Photoshop Elements



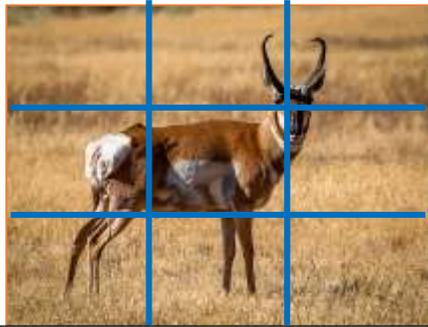
Editing tools – Click on “Edit & Create” menu, then Edit



Editing tools – Crop & Rotate



When cropping think about composition guidelines



Rule of Thirds
Place the most interesting item
on the lines or intersection



Leading Lines
Use a line to lead the viewer to
the most interesting item

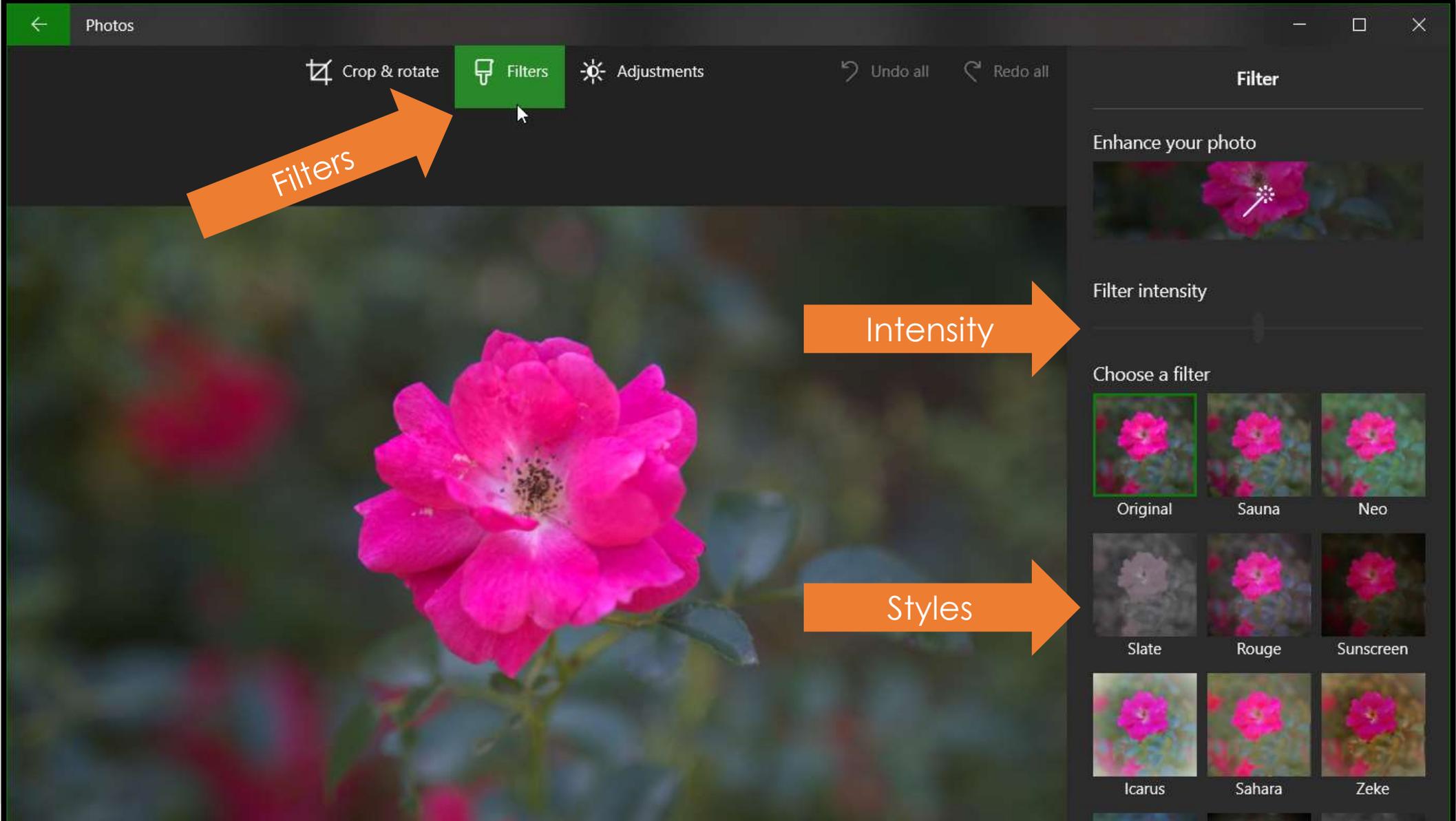


Rule of Odds
For visual balance and
harmony use 1, 3 or 5 items



Leaving Space
Breathing room and
implied motion

Editing tools – Filters to set a style or mood



Editing tools – Adjustments

The image shows a screenshot of the Windows Photos application's editing interface. The main window displays a vibrant pink rose. The top navigation bar includes 'Crop & rotate', 'Filters', and 'Adjustments' (which is highlighted in green). To the right of the main image are 'Undo all' and 'Redo all' buttons. On the right side, a vertical 'Adjustments' panel is open, showing a 'Before' and 'After' comparison for 'Light' and 'Color' adjustments. Below these are sliders for 'Clarity' and 'Vignette', and buttons for 'Red eye' and 'Spot fix'. Orange arrows point from text labels to the corresponding UI elements: 'Adjustments' points to the menu item, 'Brightness' points to the 'Light' section, 'Saturation' points to the 'Color' section, 'Sharpness' points to the 'Clarity' slider, and 'Healing' points to the 'Spot fix' button. A box in the bottom left corner contains the keyboard shortcuts: 'Ctrl+Z → Undo one step' and 'Ctrl+Y → Redo one step'.

Adjustments

Brightness

Saturation

Sharpness

Healing

Ctrl+Z → Undo one step
Ctrl+Y → Redo one step

Before

After

Photos

Crop & rotate

Filters

Adjustments

Undo all

Redo all

Adjustments

> Light

> Color

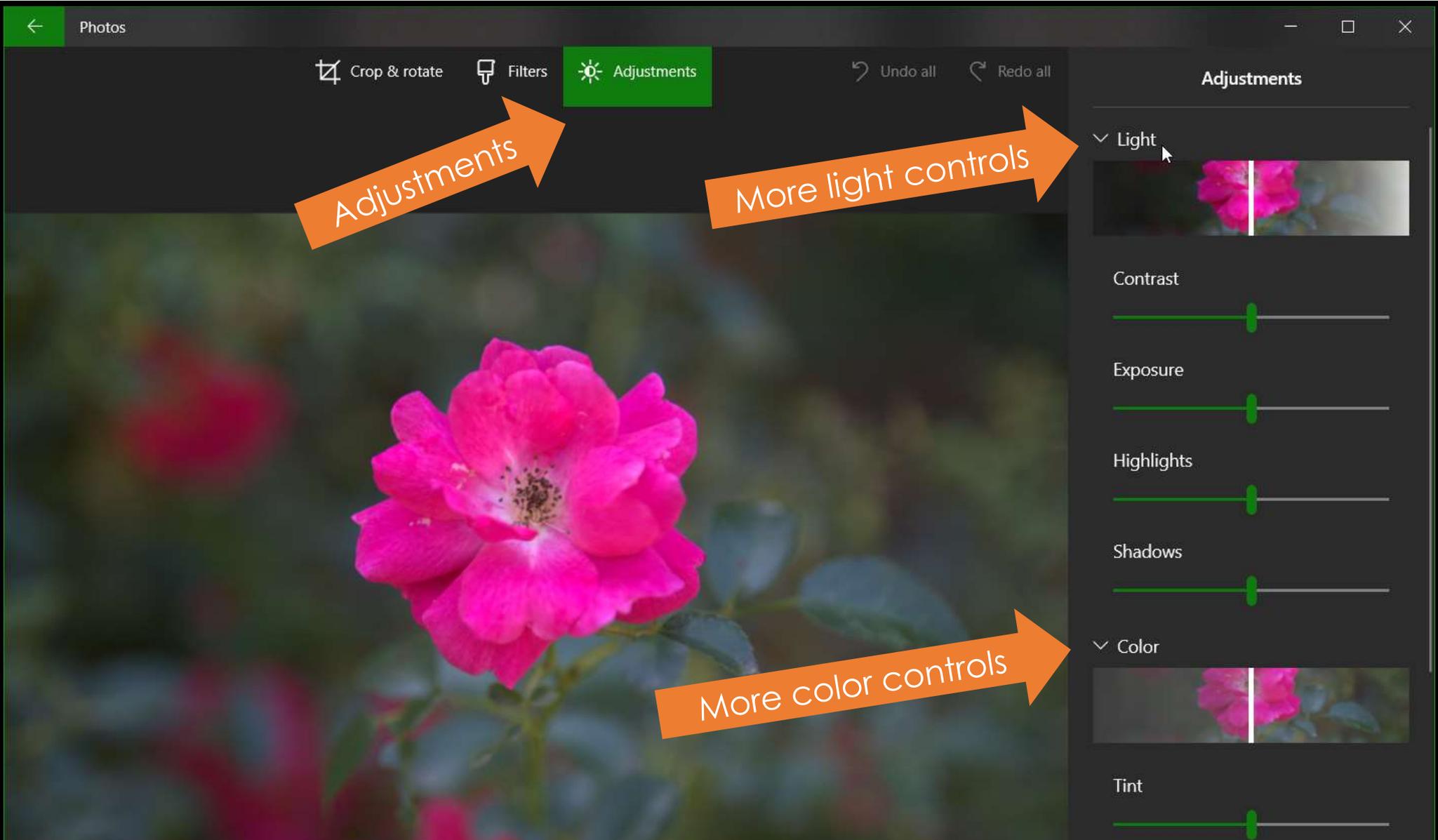
Clarity

Vignette

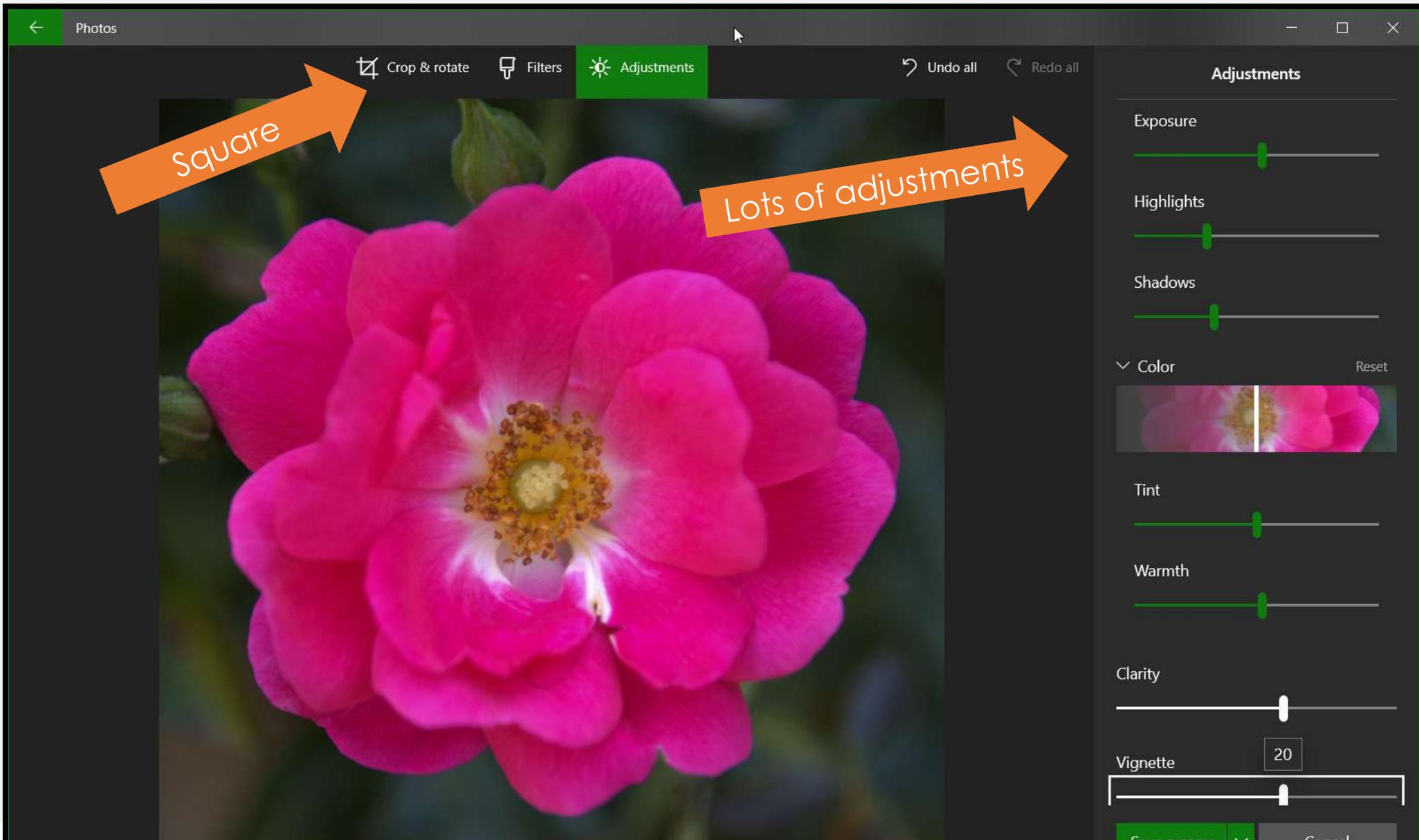
Red eye

Spot fix

Editing tools – Show additional Light and Color Controls



After Editing



Square

Lots of adjustments

Wildlife

Before



After



Still Life

Before



After



Portraits

Before

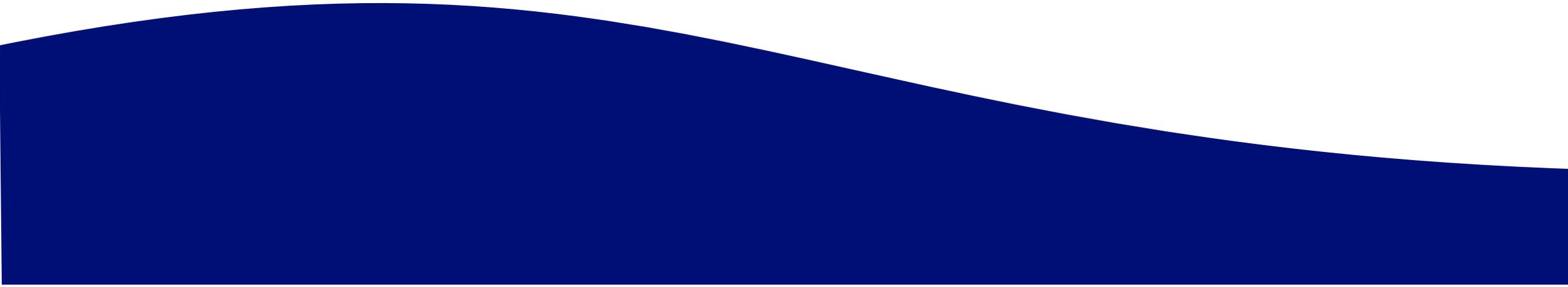


After





Demo of Windows Photos



Agenda

Why edit, aka post-process, digital darkroom?

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Before



After



Before



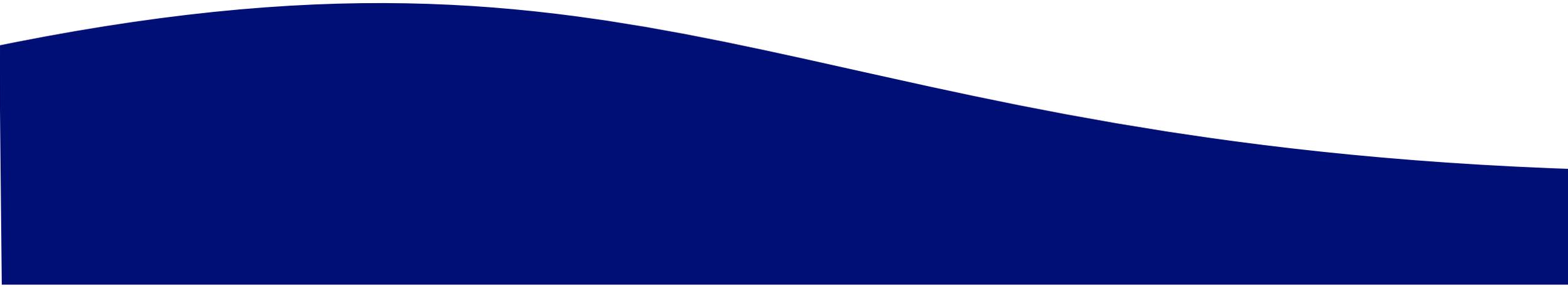
After



Get creative



Demo of Adobe Photoshop **Elements**



Editing opens up new opportunities!

Always be learning

- Ask members
- Watch free internet videos
- Read articles

Questions?

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