

## **Correcting a scanned image**

### **Creating better Contrast**

Load in a Photo image (preferably B/W) to work with.

Select Image/Adjust/Levels to open the Levels dialogue box

Calibrate the eyedropper tools:

Double click the white eye dropper to open the colour picker window  
set C=0, M=0, Y=0, K=5

click ok and double click the black eyedropper  
set C=0, M=0, Y=0, K=95

Click OK

Find the darkest area in your photograph:

To do this, first turn off the preview option in the Levels dialogue window.  
Hold down Option and drag the left (shadow) triangle slowly to the right. make a mental note where the darkest area of your photo is, then switch to the black eye dropper and click once on this area to set as your dark shadow point.

Repeat this process to set the white highlight. Option drag the right highlight triangle, make a note of the white area and then click it with the white eyedropper.

The contrast should now look improved

Usually its a good idea to 'bump' the midtones slightly by dragging the midtone slider (the middle one of course) very slightly to the left.

Applying the Unsharp mask

After reducing manipulation and otherwise messing with an image it may end up slightly blurry. The last thing to do before finally saving the image is to apply the unsharp mask.

Here's the best setting to use:

Amount= 85  
Radius = 1  
threshold = 4

Apply it once to sharpen the image slightly and again if you feel it needs it. If a halo starts to develop around the image you've done it too much