Learning Curve

ADOBE photoshop

The Interface

Photoshop Interface

Adobe sets up their programs similarly.
Tools and menus are usually located in the same place, or close proximity.
Once you learn Photoshop, the rest of Adobe will be more familiar.

The examples in this document may be slightly different thanks to various Adobe updates. However, the main information is accurate. This covers many of the tools, but not all, just the ones you will likely use or encounter.

Workspace:

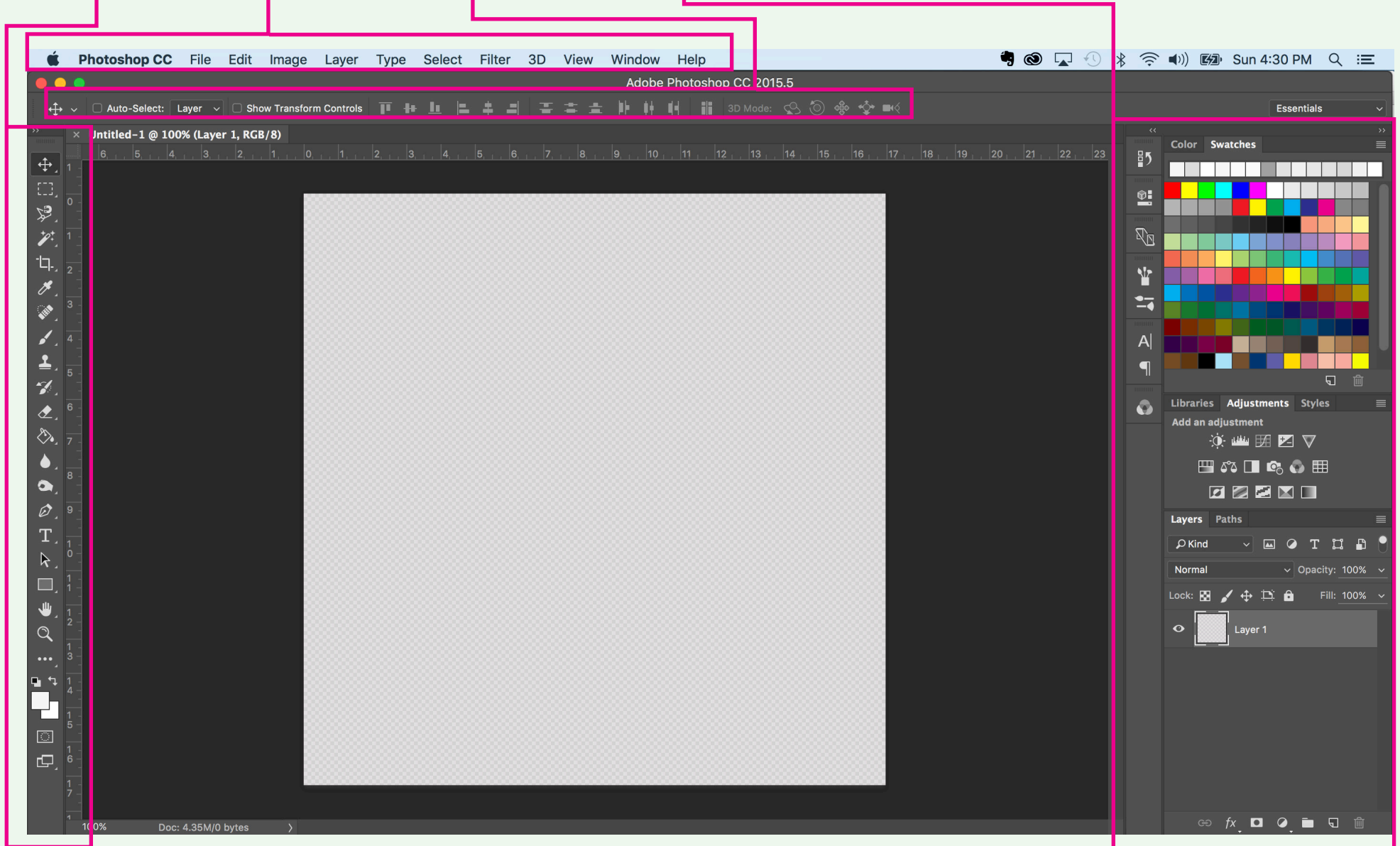**Menu**: Top bar menu for various applications.

Tool Bar: Left, containing assorted tools.

Options Bar: Top just below menu, holds tools settings.

Panels: Right, for modifying, and monitoring your work.
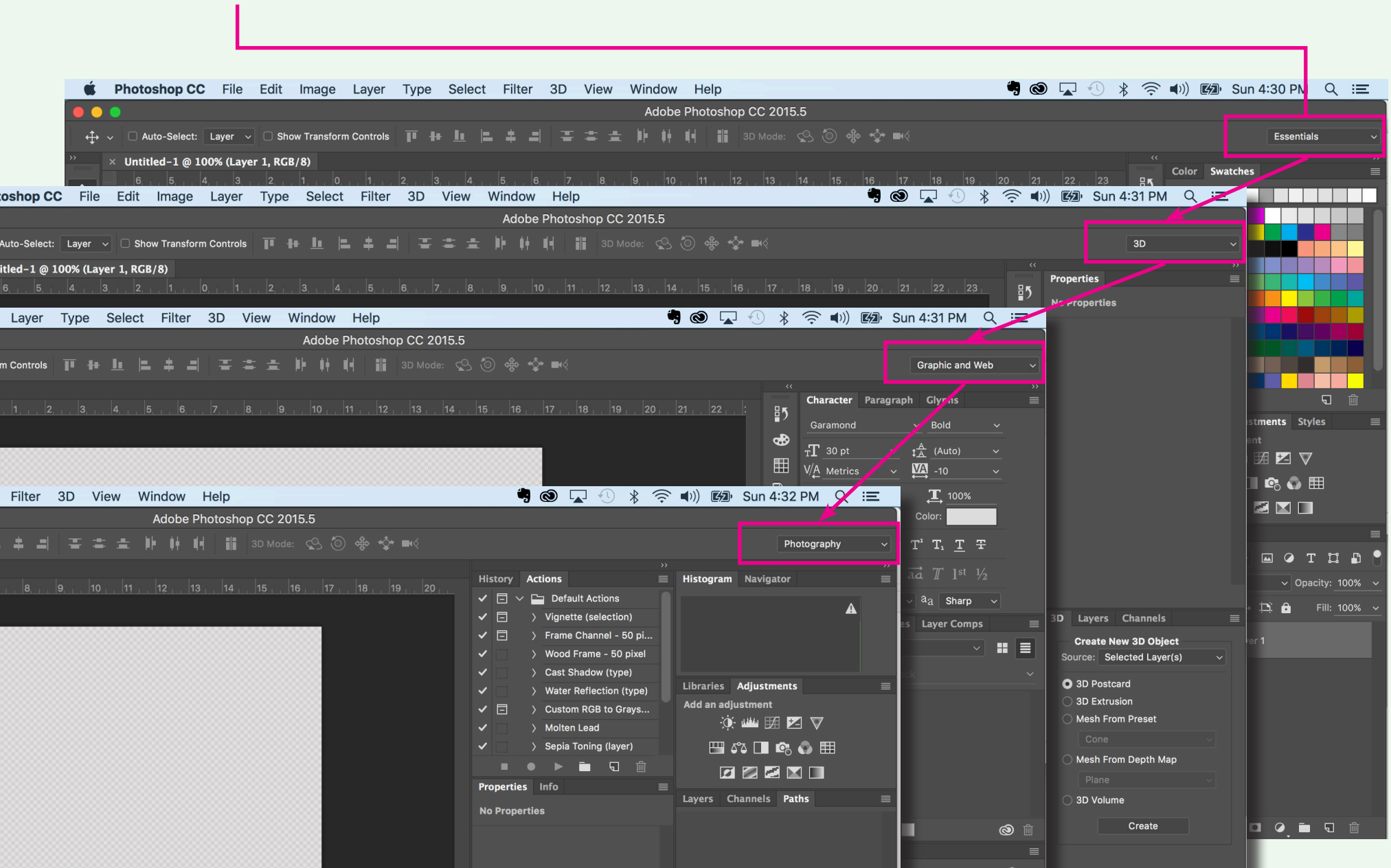
The Workspace
Tools, Menu, Options, Panels
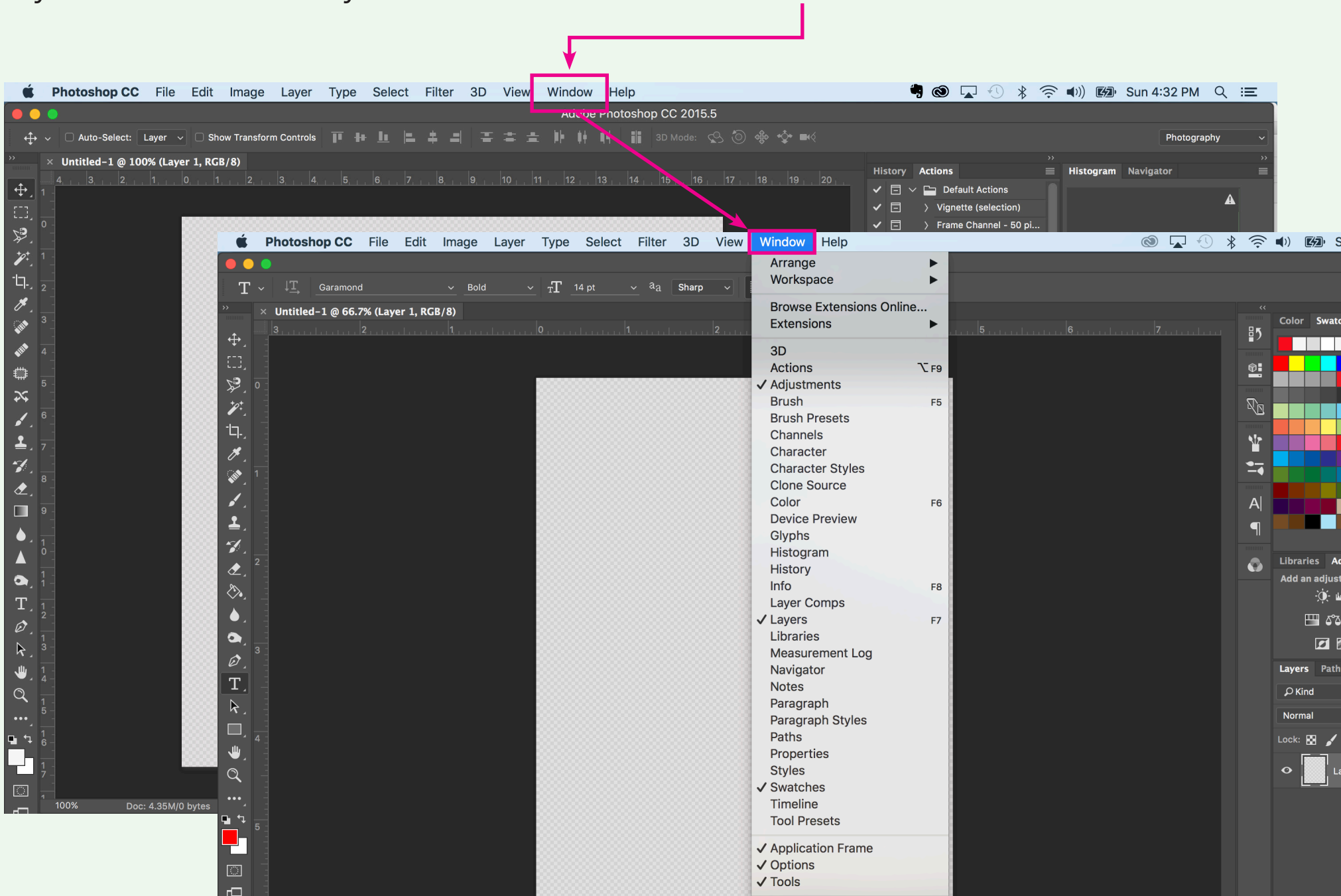
The Workspace is your dashboard

Change the Workspace in accordance to what you want to do.
In the upper right, you may choose or save a Workspace with the tools you like.
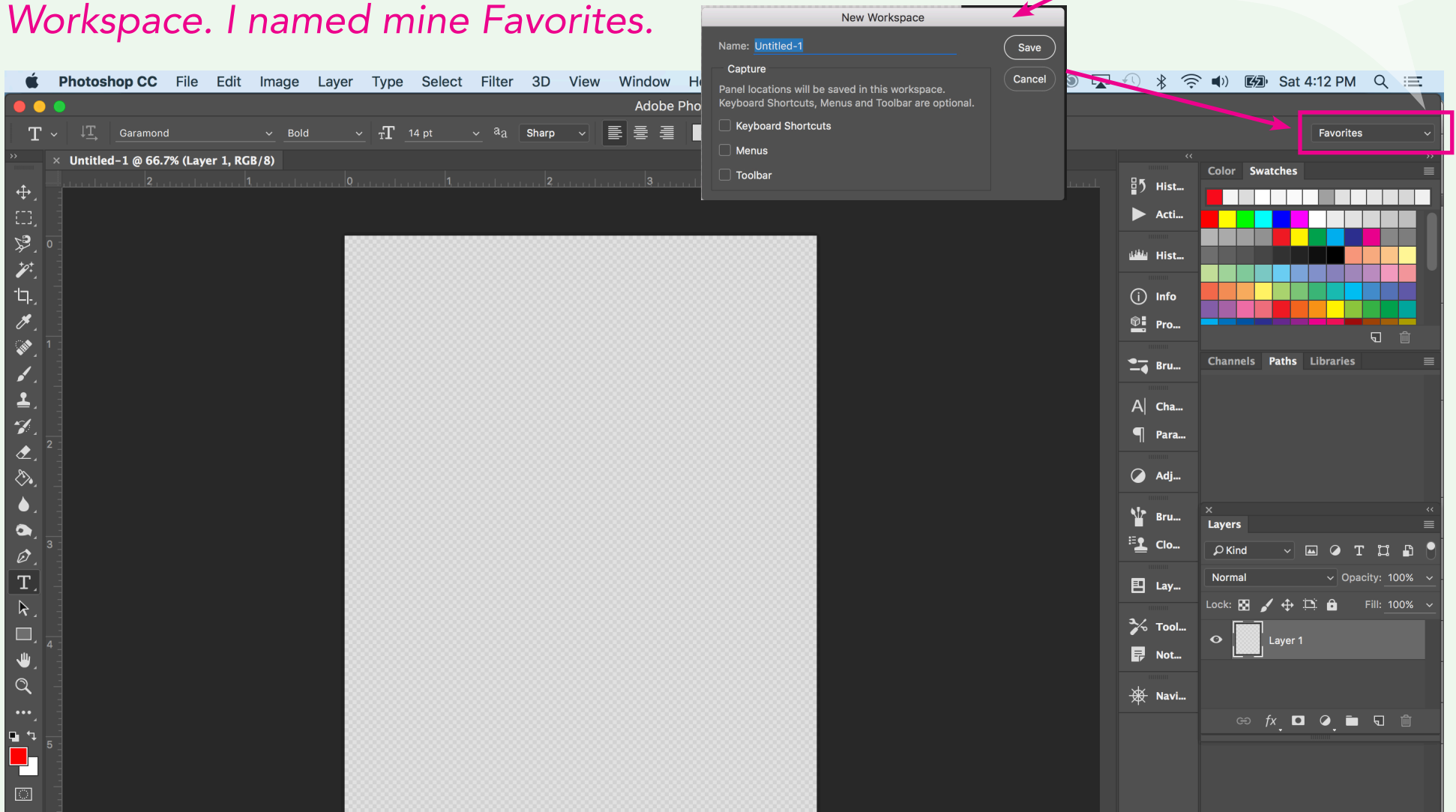
Finding Tools

If you don't see what you need, check under "Window" in the Menu Bar.

Creating Your Own Workspace

Once you get your workspace set up with the tools you want, you may save it. This is useful if you tend to do the same kind of work each time. You can set up multiple workspaces, for different tasks.

Just click for the dropdown, and name your Workspace. I named mine Favorites.

Defining Tools

These are the basics tools and what they do.
Some Tools are hidden within tools.
Look for a tiny arrow in the corner. This indicates
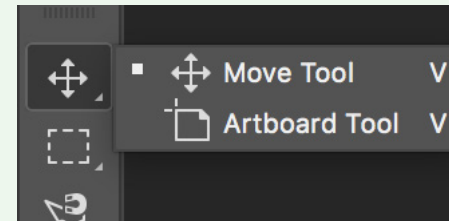more tools are availabile if you click and hold on it.
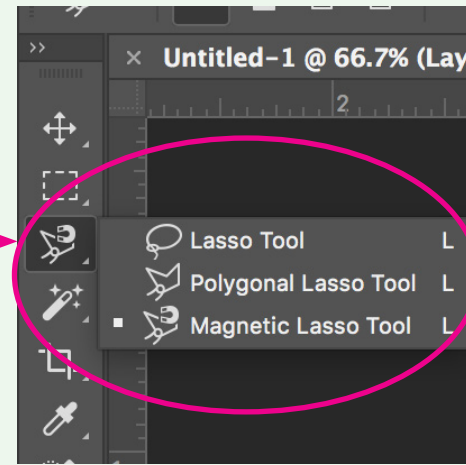
Move Tool: Lets you move stuff!
Use the mouse, or arrow keys (up/down/left/right).
Constrain movement vertically or horizontally holding the shift key.
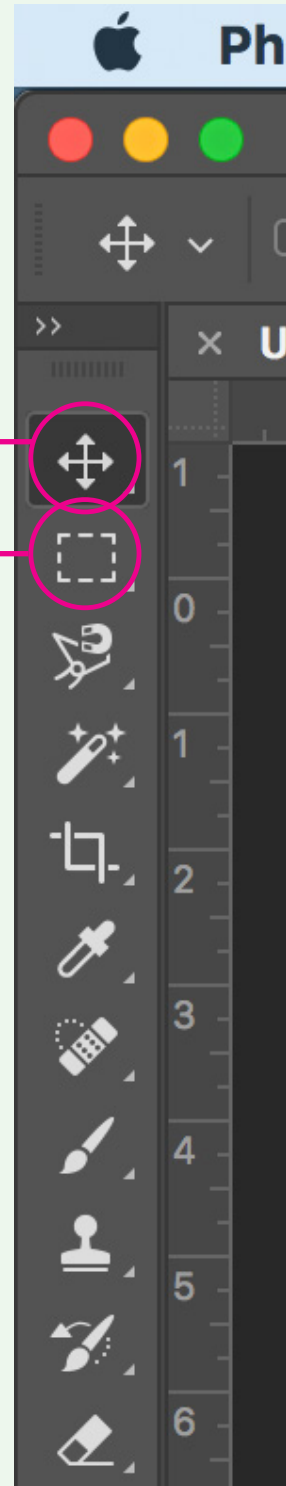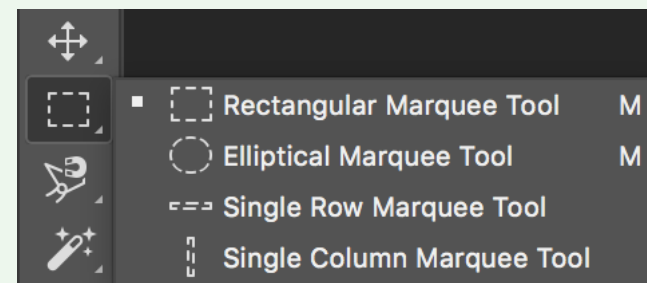**Artboard Tool** is hidden here.
Artboards allow you to work on
different canvases when designing
for different applications in the same
document. (Advanced)

Marquee Tools: Make selections using this tool.
Rectangle, **Elliptical**, **Single Row**, **Single Column**.
Constrain the shape to a perfect square or circle holding down the
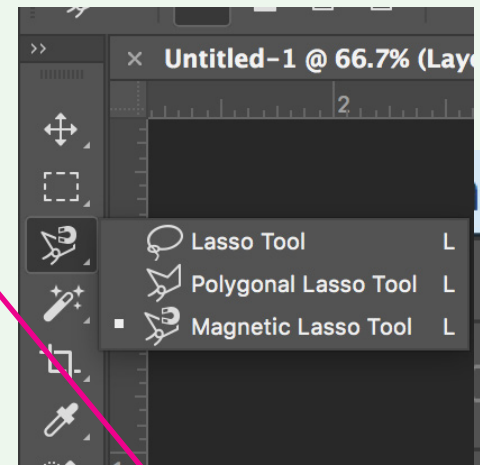Option (mac) or Alt (windows).

Lasso Tools: Draw selections in the shape you want. Close it by clicking where you began, or double clicking.
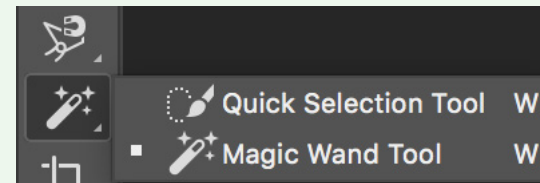
Regular Lasso is free form.
Polygon Lasso forms shapes by clicking from point to point.
Magnetic Lasso will outline a form as you draw near it.

Magic Wand Tool: Selects a color range.

Quick Selection Tool hides here. This is a handy quick and dirty way to select an object.
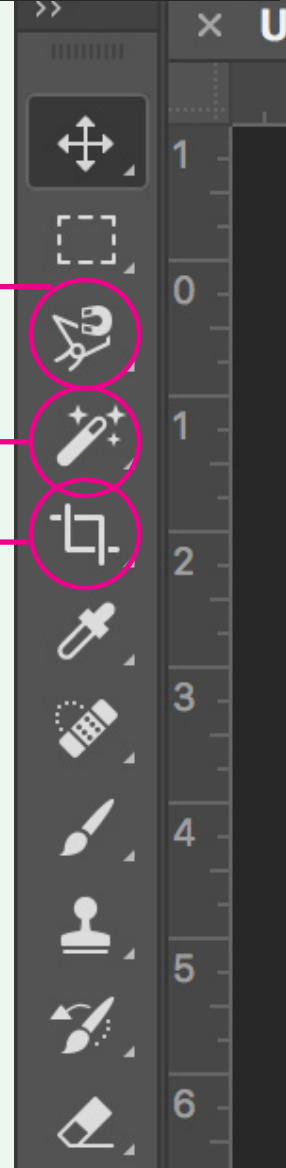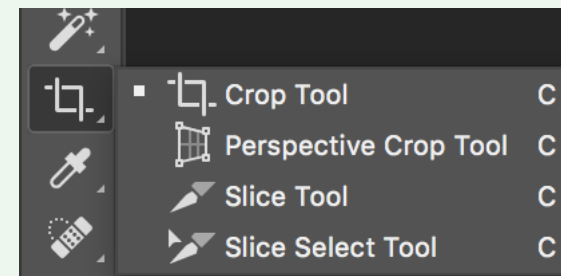
Crop Tool: Crop and Straighten using this tool.

Perspective Crop: Correct perspective with this.
Slice Tool: Used in web design to slice images into smaller ones that are reassembled with HTML.
Slice Select Tool: for selecting slices
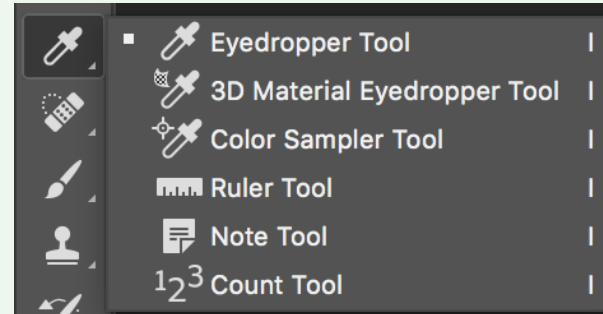
Eyedropper Tools: Allows you to sample a color.

3D Material Eyedropper: Sampling for 3D work.

Color Sampler: Gives color information.

Ruler Tool: Helps position elements accurately.

Note Tool: Add notes to document. These won't print.

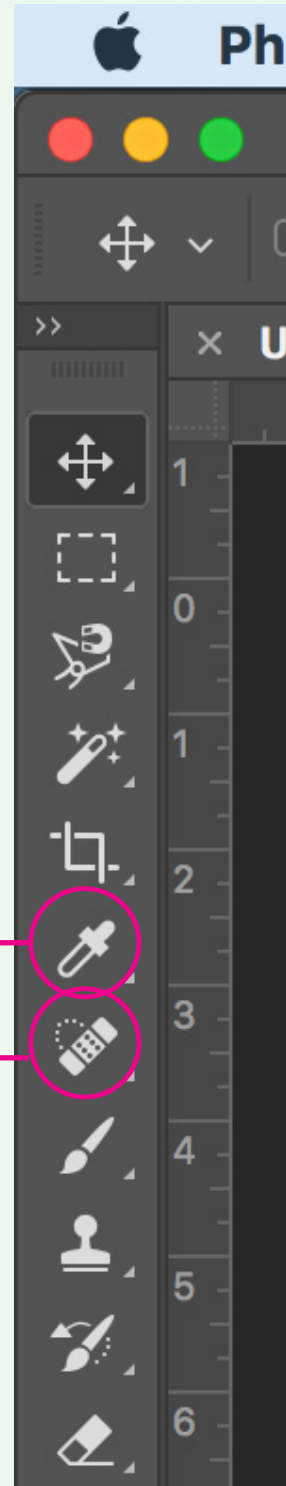**1,2,3 Count Tool:** For numbering objects in an image.

Spot Healing Brush Tool: Repair specks, spots, and scratches using surrounding values.

Healing Brush Tool: Repairs using a selected sample to work from.

Patch Tool: Removes unwanted elements seamlessly.

Content-Aware Move Tool: Allows you to move content, patch the hole.

Red Eye Tool: Fixes red eye in photos.

Brush Tool: Allows you to paint color on your image.

Pencil Tool: Works like brush tool with pencil look.

Color Replacement Tool: Replaces selected color with new color.

Mixer BrushTool: Creates realistic painting techniques.

Brush Tool	B
Pencil Tool	B
Color Replacement Tool	B
Mixer Brush Tool	B

Clone Stamp Tool: Makes exact copy of the chosen area. It doesn't blend like the Healing brush.

Pattern Stamp Tool: Paint with a pattern.

|	
Clone Stamp Tool	S
Pattern Stamp Tool	S

History Brush Tool: Paints with the original state of your image or whatever history you select.

Art History Brush Tool: Paints in stylized strokes using the image data.

History Brush Tool	Y
Art History Brush Tool	Y

Eraser Tool: Works like the Brush Tool, but erases.

Background Eraser Tool: Erases to transparent background.

Magic Eraser Tool: Erases solid colored areas to transparency with a single click.

Eraser Tool	E
Background Eraser Tool	E
Magic Eraser Tool	E
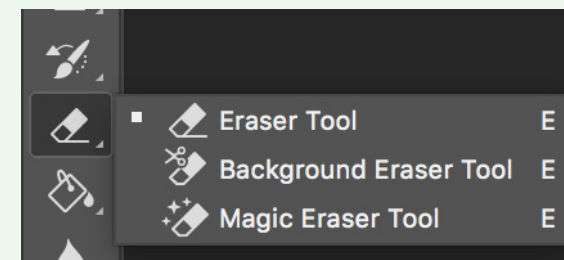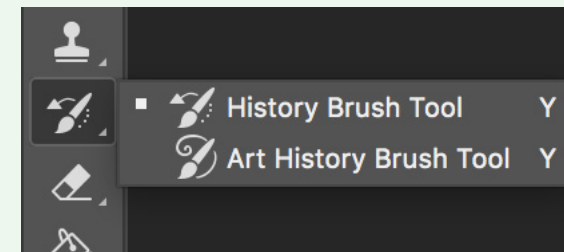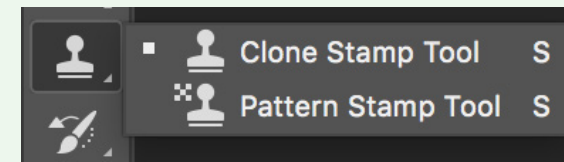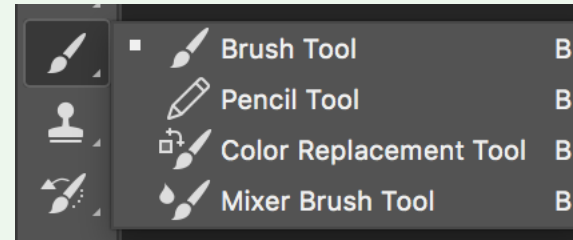
Paint Bucket Tool: Fills an area with color.

Gradient Tool: Use to blend colors into a gradient.

3D Material Drop Tool: Lets you apply texture to 3D.

Gradient Tool   G
Paint Bucket Tool   G
3D Material Drop Tool   G

Blur Tool: Softens detail as you move over the image.

Sharpen Tool: Sharpen selected areas.

Smudge Tool: Smudge areas as if you were dragging a finger through paint.

Blur Tool
Sharpen Tool
Smudge Tool

Dodge Tool: Lightens areas on an image. It works like the photographic technique.

Burn Tool: Darkens areas. Opposite of the Dodge Tool.

Sponge Tool: Changes the color saturation of an area.

Dodge Tool   O
Burn Tool   O
Sponge Tool   O
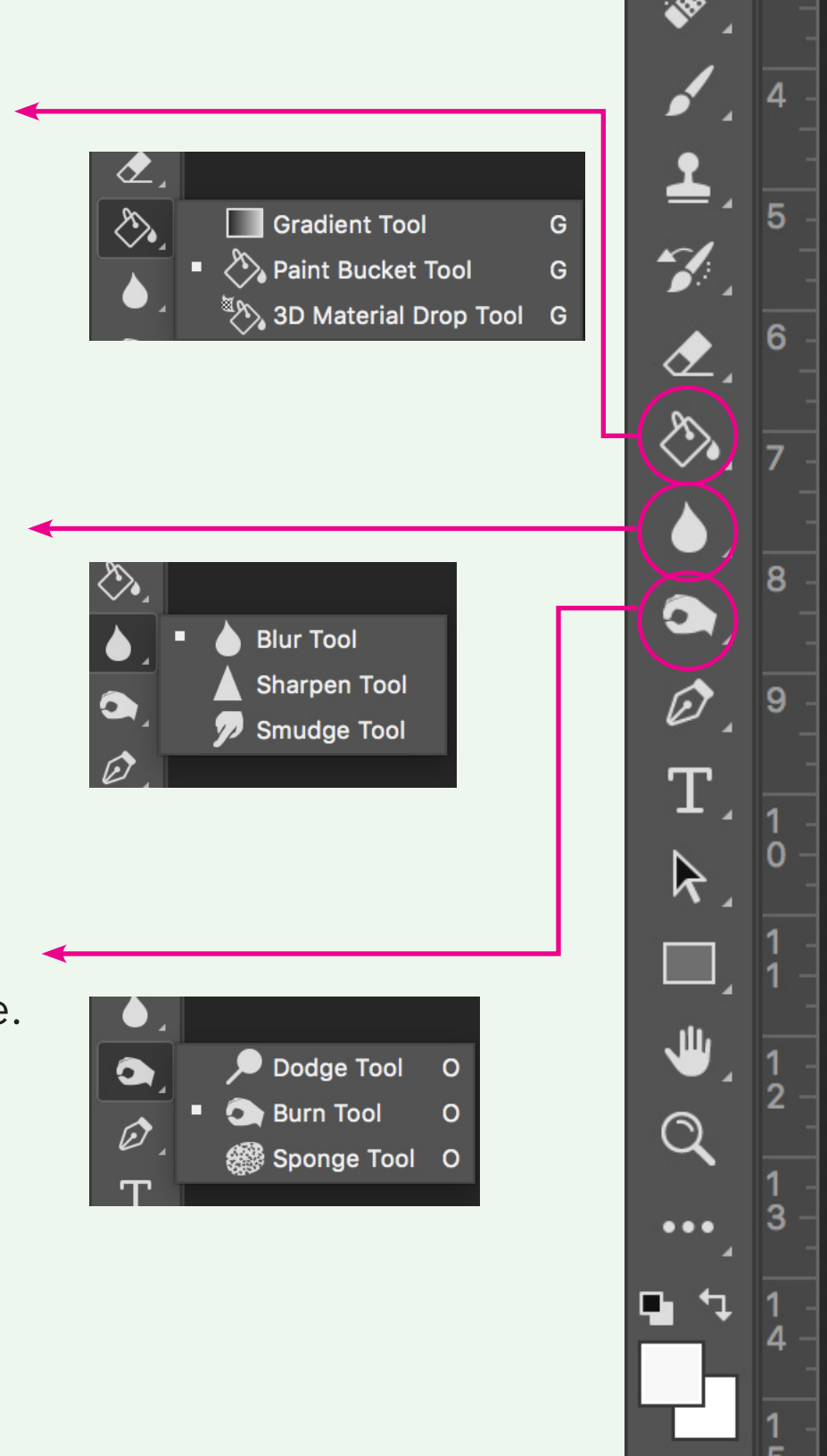
Pen Tool: Used for creating paths by making anchor points, and curves.

Freeform Pen Tool: Draws as if you were using pen on paper.

Add Anchor Point Tool: Allows you to add a new anchor point to a path.

Delete Anchor Point Tool: Removes anchors from paths.

Convert Anchor Point Tool: Changes anchor point from curved to angled, or vice versa.

|		
Pen Tool	P
Freeform Pen Tool	P
Add Anchor Point Tool	
Delete Anchor Point Tool	
Convert Point Tool	
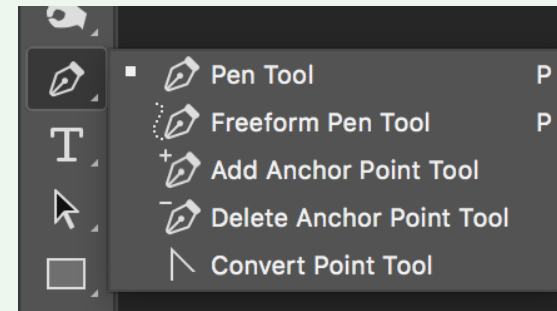
Horizontal Type Tool: Creates type horizontally. Click on a point and type, or drag a box to type in. It always goes on a new layer.

Vertical Type Tool: Creates type vertically.

Vertical Type Mask Tool: Creates a mask with the type for you to fill or use for various applications.

Horizontal Type Mask Tool: The same as above, but for horizontal.

Horizontal Type Tool	T
Vertical Type Tool	T
Vertical Type Mask Tool	T
Horizontal Type Mask Tool	T
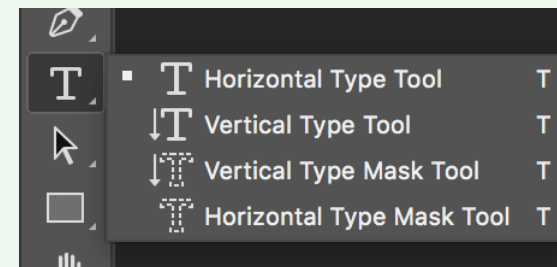
Path Selection Tool: Used for selecting paths to reposition or edit.

Direct Selection Tool: Allows editing of anchor points on a path, and curve or straighten line sements.
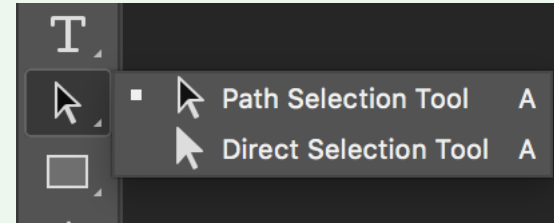
**Rectangle Tool:** Used to create rectangular shapes. Holding the shift key will constrain it to a square.

Rounded Rectangle Tool: Makes rectangles with rounded corners.

Ellipse Tool: Used to create an ellipse. Holding the shift key will constrain it to a circle.

**Polygon Tool:** Makes polygons. You can adjust how may sides, the size, and corner radius.

Line Tool: Create lines. There are options for dotted, dashed, end caps, arrows, etc.

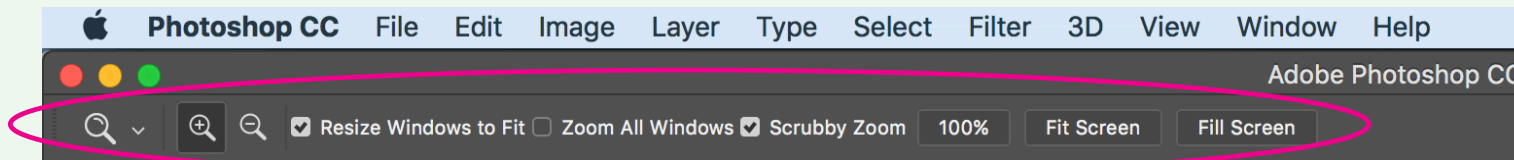**Custom Shape Tool:** Build your own shape.
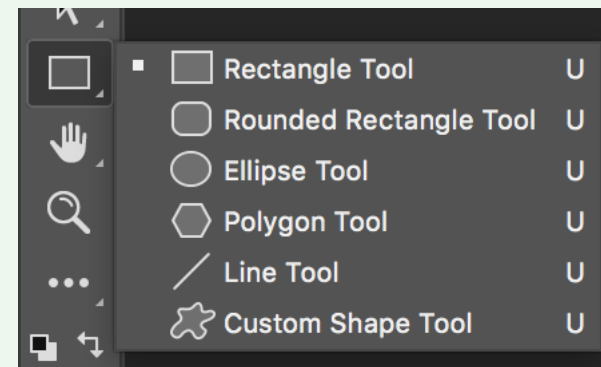
Hand Tool: Used to move your way around an image withing a window.
Rotate View Tool: Rotate how the image is viewed. It does not save the image that way.
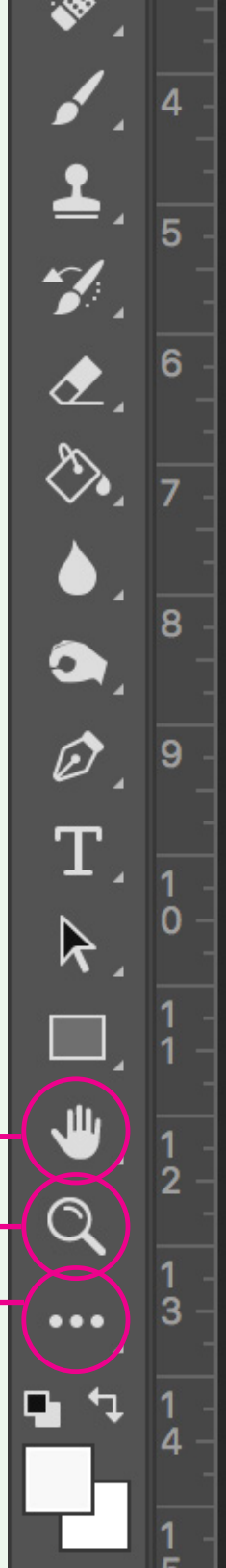
Hand Tool   H
Rotate View Tool   R
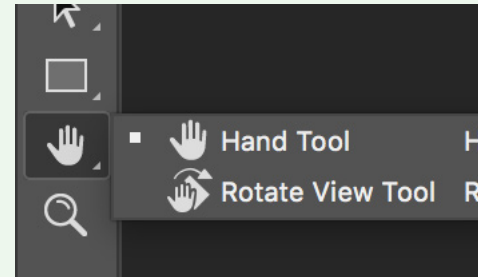
Zoom Tool: Zoom in to an image, or zoom out.
Change for Zoom in to Zoom Out with the upper bar tools that appear when the Zoom Tool is activated.

Photoshop CC   File   Edit   Image   Layer   Type   Select   Filter   3D   View   Window   Help

Adobe Photoshop CC

Resize Windows to Fit   Zoom All Windows   Scrubby Zoom   100%   Fit Screen   Fill Screen

**Edit Tool Bar Tool:** Change your Toolbar by adding, removing, or reorganizing the tools.

Foreground & Background Color Boxes: Shows the color active for foreground and background. Used for painting and fills. Click on the one you want to activate to bring it forward into use.

Foreground Tool: Upper box that fills for Paint Tool, Pen Tool, or other Fill Tools.

Background Tool: Lower box that is used for Gradient fills and Erase tools.

Quick Mask Mode: Create a quick mask to create and edit a selection. Color indicates selection vs non selected areas. When leaving the Quick Mask Mode, it creates the selection.

Screen Mode: Change the screen from Standard to, Full Screen with Menu Bar, or Full Screen.

Standard Screen Mode   F
Full Screen Mode With Menu Bar   F
Full Screen Mode   F
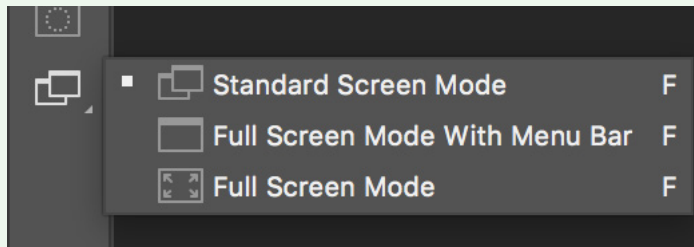
Defining Panels

On the right side of Photoshop are Panels. These are windows housing functions like color, layers, adjustments, etc. They can be moved off the dock, and reorganzied however you wish.

If you cannot find the panel you want, you can find it under Window in the main menu bar.
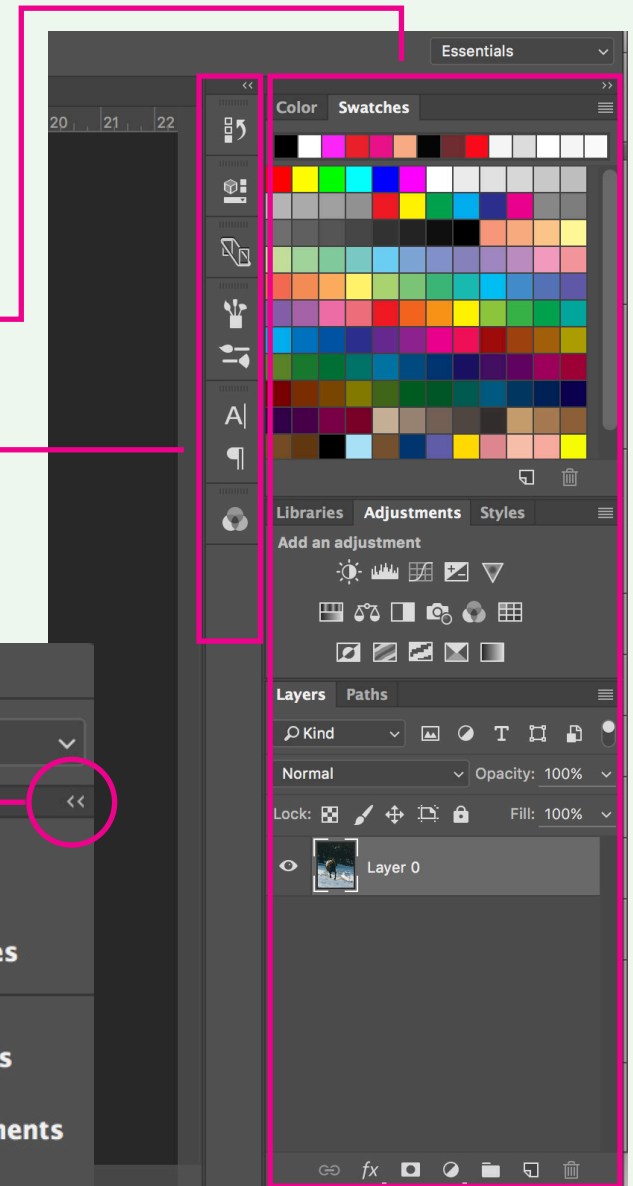
Right Dock: Holds frequently used panels. You can add to this. It is collapsible if need be.

Left Dock: A handy place to dock and collapse panels you use sporadically.
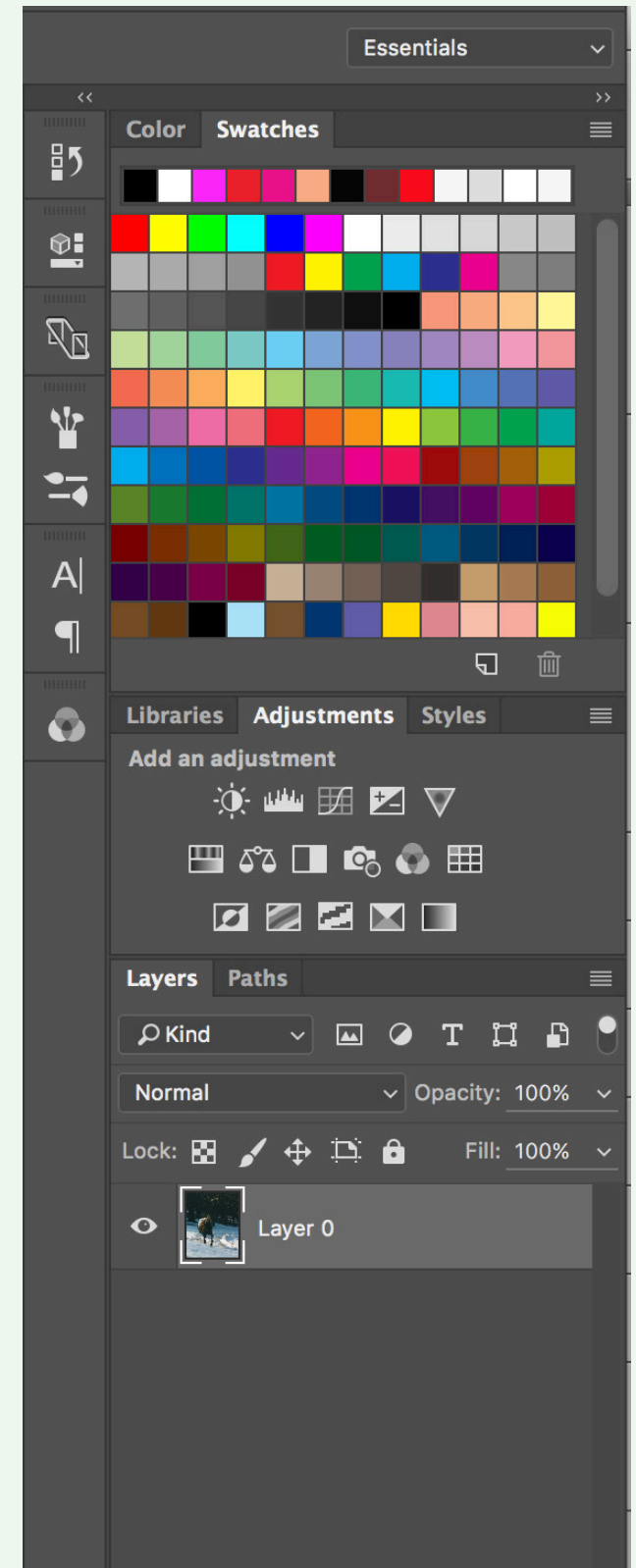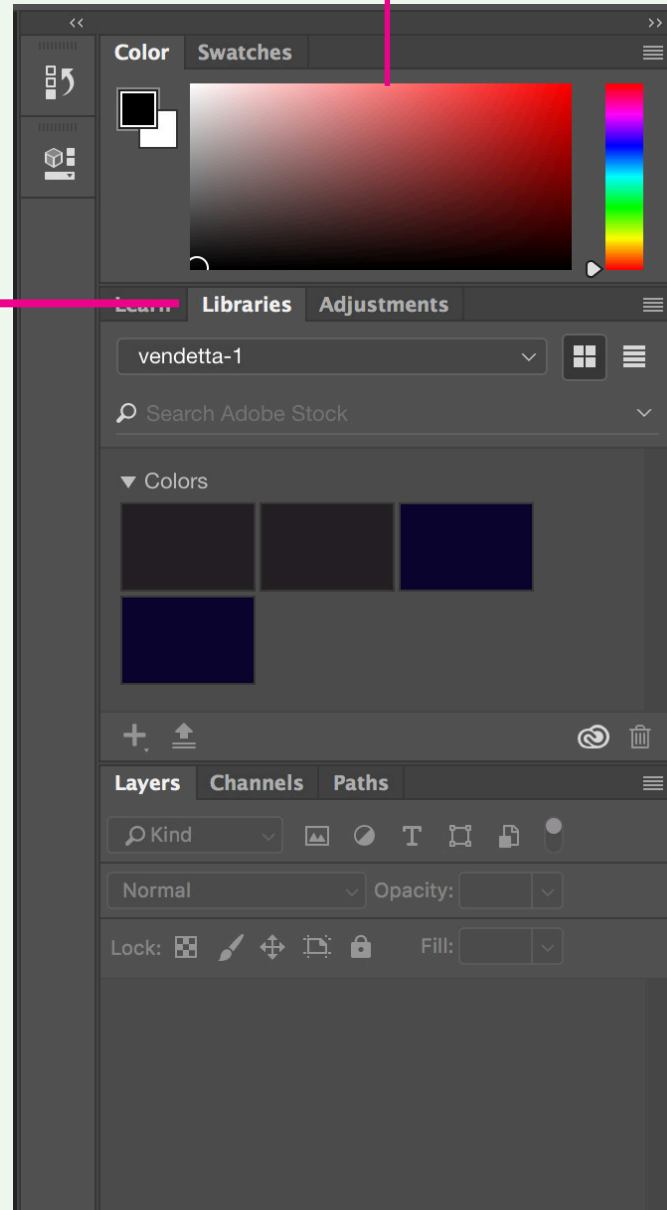
Docks collapsed.

Re-open by clicking arrows.

Open panels by clicking on them.

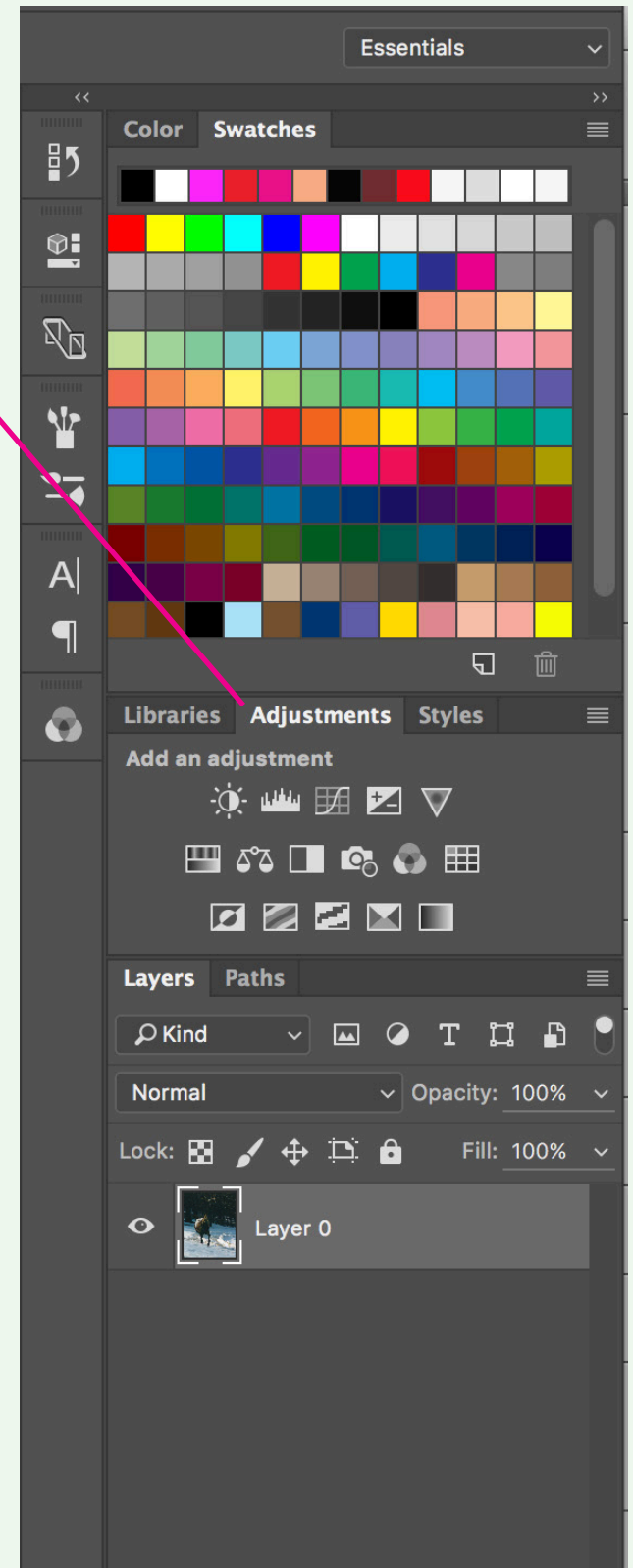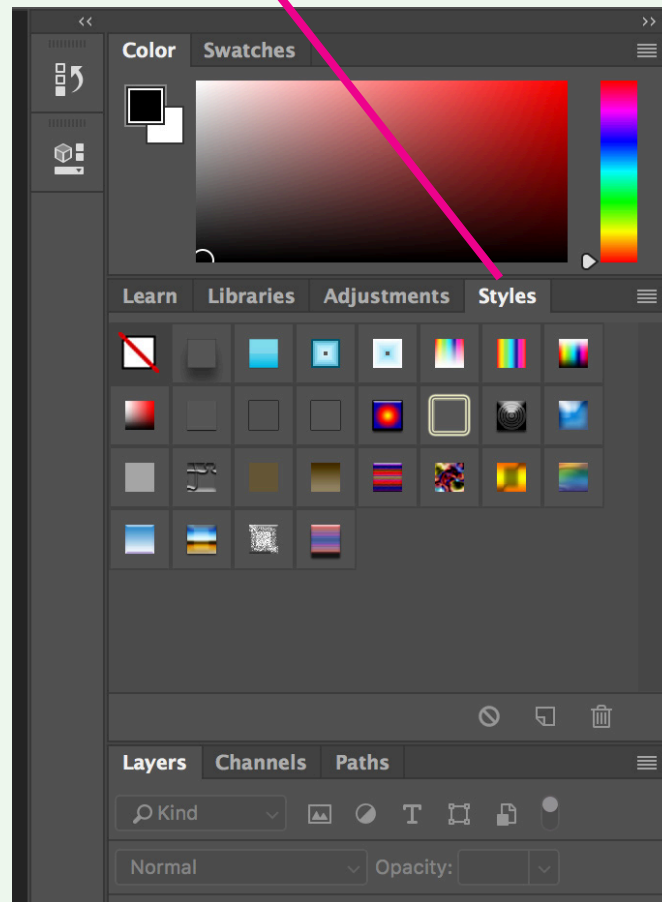**Color Swatches:** Color choices. These can be added to by creating your own.

Color Panel: Allows choice of shades of color.

Libraries: Create a library of color for a document. Save these for future use.

**Adjustments:** Add an adjustment layer from the selections pictured.

Styles: Add styles layer for texture and color overlays.

Layers: Shows the layers in order, top to bottom. Add layers or delete them. Reorder them. Add a mask, or adjustment layer.

Paths: Vector paths allow you to make masks, and selections. You can build paths using the pen or shape tools. Activating a path allows you to use it.

Channels: Grayscale channels that store different information. Color information channels open automatically with the image.
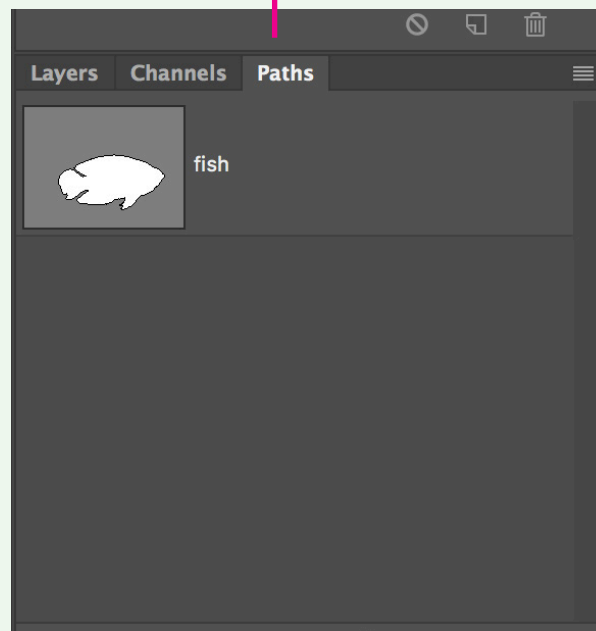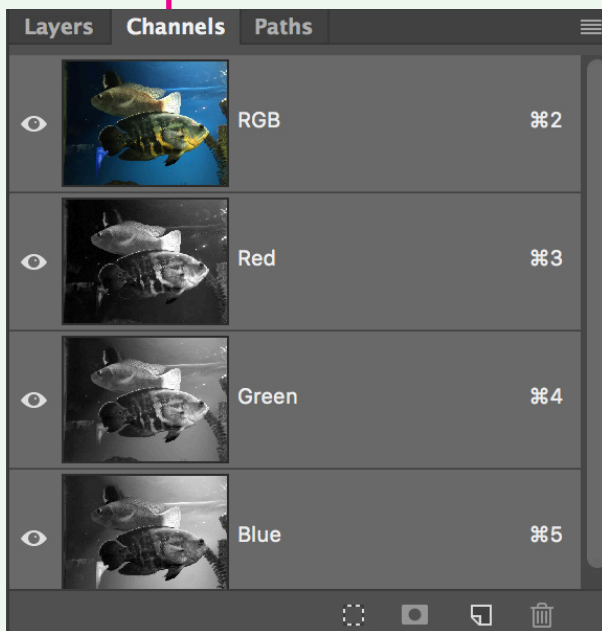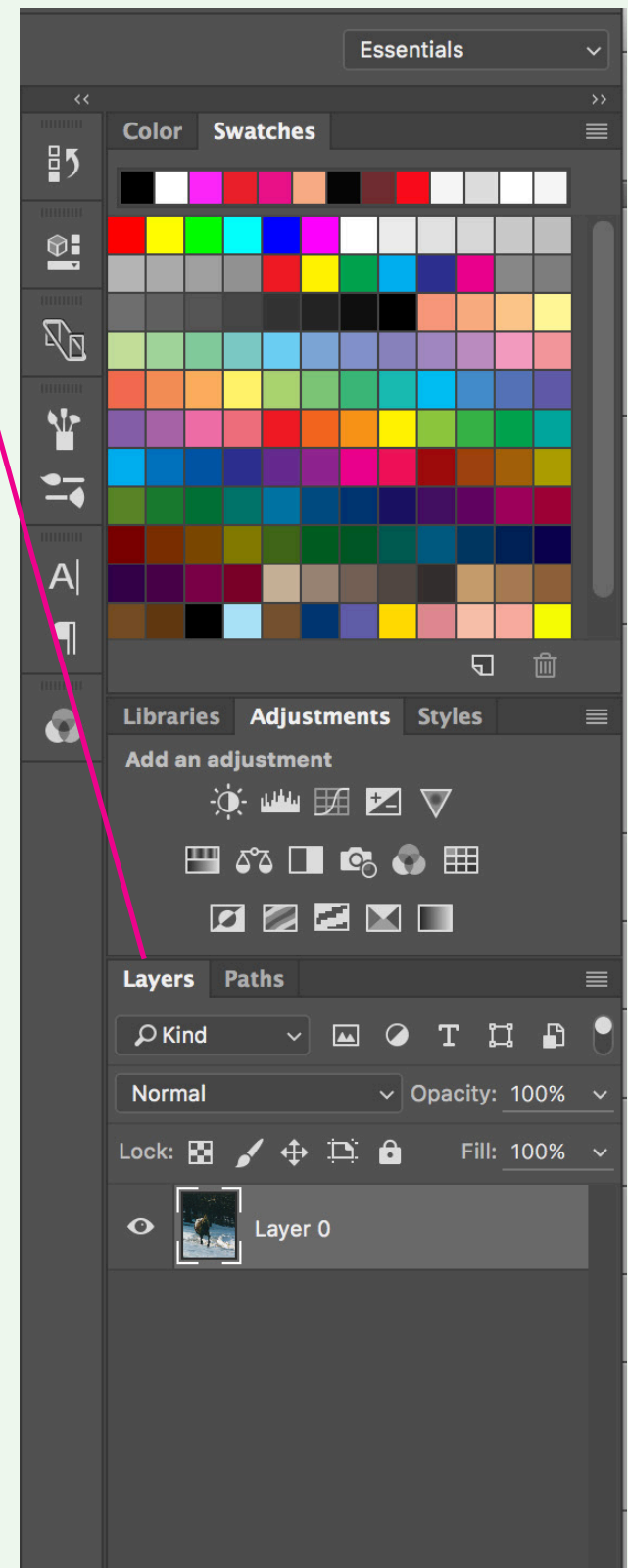
History: lists the actions used on the image. Unwanted actions can be deleted. You can save a version of the image where you are, or take a snapshot.

Properties: Shows layer properties

Brushes: Shows brush options and settings.

Character: Font selections and typography settings.

Paragraph: Paragraph parameters.

Many more tools can be added or removed from the docks. As you see here, adjustments is on this side dock, as opposed to being in the main panel area on the previous image shown.

The tools will populate differently depending on the workspace selected. Generally, if you can't find what you need, go to the top menu to Window, and opent it from there.

Once you discover what you like to work with, and how you like it arranged, save your workspace!