

## Photomatix Essentials (4.0 version)

VOICEOVER	ON SCREEN
In this video, I am going to show you how to create an HDR image in Photomatix Essentials from these three bracketed photos..	
First, select the bracketed photos. You can do this via drag and drop or by clicking on the "Browse" button.	Start with Cove Point pics ( <i>note: this differs from previous video where we started with Venice pics and then restarted and loaded with Cove Point pics</i> )
<p>The list of thumbnails on the left shows the photos you just selected, the thumbnail on the right shows the effect of removing or adding a photo to the list when unchecking or checking its box on the left.</p> <p>To load the photos and merge them to HDR, click on the 'Next: Adjust &amp; Preview' button</p>	
<p>The next window lets you specify options for merging the photos.</p> <p>The three photos of the lighthouse were taken using a tripod, but we still check the Align source images option to correct for small alignment problems that may happen even with a tripod.</p> <p>If your scene includes moving objects or people, check the "Remove ghosts" box.</p>	
The image in the middle shows a preview of the final processed image. You can adjust the preview size using the magnifier icons on top.	Step 2 window opens with 'Default' preset selected.
Try different presets to choose a style you like from the thumbnails listed. Clicking on a thumbnail shows the effect of the preset on the preview image.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Balanced</li><li>- Photographic</li><li>- Natural</li><li>- Painterly</li><li>- Painterly 2</li><li>- Painterly 5</li><li>- Vibrant</li><li>- Enhanced</li></ul>	Click on each of the thumbnails (with the preview on the screen so that the effect can be seen), pausing after each click to give the time to see the effect on the preview:

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Surreal</li><li>- Surreal 2</li><li>- Grunge</li><li>- Creative</li><li>- Soft</li><li>- Soft3</li><li>- Monochrome</li></ul>	
Once you have found a preset you like, you can refine the effect by adjusting the setting on the left.	Go back to the 'Painterly' preset, and adjust two settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Click on the 'Natural+' button on the Lighting Adjustments box</li><li>- Move the Color Saturation slider to 60%</li></ul> Stay with these settings for processing the image.
Once you are satisfied with the adjustments, click on the "Next: Finish & Save" button.  Photomatix Essentials will align your photos, merge them, and apply the preset and tone and color settings you adjusted the image with.	
The image is now ready to save. We will add a finishing touch before saving.  As the image has been processed at full size, we can view it at 100% resolution.  We add some sharpening  We add a bit of contrast to the image.  To save the image, click "Save" and select a location. You can open the saved image in a photo editor of your choice. We select here the [Windows]Windows Photo Viewer [Mac]Preview app which is installed by default on the OS. Click [Windows] "OK" [Mac] "Save"	Step 3 window opens.  Zoom till 100%. Then click on 1st pop-up menu and select 'Medium Sharpening'  Double-click on the Zoom slider to go back to initial preview size.  Click on 2nd pop-up menu and select 'Mild Contrast', then 'Strong Contrast', then come back to 'Mild Contrast'  Click on Save.

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<p>The final image now shows in Preview.</p> <p>The final image now shows in Windows Photo Viewer.</p> <p>You can see other examples of images processed with Photomatix in the user gallery at the HDRsoft website.</p>	<p>Show the saved image in the [Windows]Windows Photo Viewer [Mac]Preview app at a resolution that makes the image fits on screen.</p> <p>Show the user gallery page and briefly show the gallery page of Girolamo Cracchiolo and Maciek Duczynski (galleries are ordered by last name).</p>
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