

A tour of Corel® Painter™ 11 for users of Adobe® Photoshop®

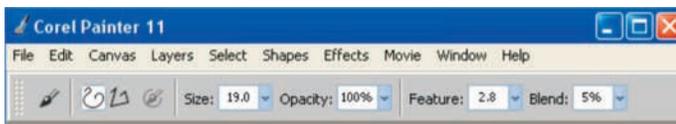
Join Painter Master Cher Threinen-Pendarvis as she walks Adobe Photoshop users through key tools and features of Painter 11 and shows how simple it is to find your way.

The responsive, realistic brushes, and multitude of rich textures and fabulous special effects in Painter 11 can not be found in any other program. The biggest difference that you'll notice between Photoshop and Painter 11 is the warmth and texture of the Natural Media® brushes and paper textures. You'll find realistic bristle brushes that lay down oily paint, and dry media brushes such as the Chalk and Pastels that are sensitive to textures on the Canvas. Now let's get started!

As a Photoshop user launching Painter 11 for the first time, you should begin with the Default palette layout. To make sure you're using the Default palette layout, go to the Window menu and choose Arrange Palettes>Default.

The Property Bar

Now, at the very top of the screen, you'll see the Property Bar. The Property Bar is similar to the Options bar in Photoshop and changes contextually depending on the tool chosen in the Toolbox.



The Property Bar with the Brush tool selected from the toolbox.

The Brush Selector Bar

On the far right of the Property Bar is the Brush Selector Bar, which houses the amazing Brush Categories (such as the RealBristle Brushes) and their variants.



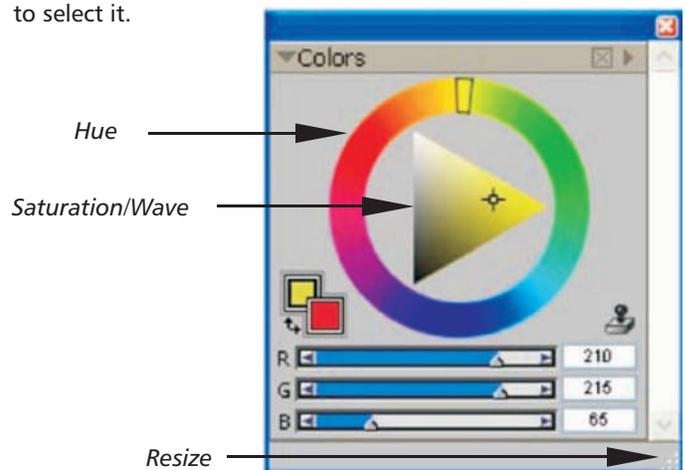
The Brush Selector bar lets you choose a brush category (1) and a brush variant (2).

The Colors Palette

Directly below the Brush Selector Bar you'll see the large, beautiful Colors palette with its Hue Ring and its Hue, Light, and Saturation triangle. For those who prefer to mix color using numbers, three sliders are located under the Hue Ring, and these can be set to read Red, Green and Blue, or Hue, Saturation and Value, using the pop-up menu on the right side of the palette. Also located on the Colors palette is the Clone Color button, a useful control that allows painting with color from a source image. On the left of the Colors palette are the Main Color and Additional Color squares.

The Painter 11 color squares operate differently than the Foreground and Background Color squares in Photoshop. Click on the Main Color and change its color by choosing a new color on the Hue Ring, or by clicking in the HSV triangle

to choose a new tint or shade of the color. To change the color of the Additional Color square, click on it and choose a new color in the Colors palette. The Additional Color can be used with certain brushes that paint with more than one color, and when creating gradients. The Additional Color does not affect the image Canvas like the Background Color in Photoshop. Before moving on with the tour, click back on the Main Color to select it.



Colors palette

In Painter 11, the Colors palette can be resized by dragging the lower right corner of the palette. Resizing the palette allows for more accurate color selection. To resize the palette, you must drag the Mixer and Color Set sections off the Colors palette, then the resize triangle on the bottom right of the Colors palette will appear. Click and drag the right corner to resize the Colors palette.

Textures

Basic Paper texture is automatically loaded when you launch Painter 11. Additional rich paper textures can be accessed from the Paper Selector near the bottom of the Toolbox, or from the Papers palette (Window>Show Papers).

Layers and Mask Channels

You can open Photoshop files with pixel-based layers and layer masks in Painter 11. The layers and layer masks can be accessed in the Layers palette, much like in Photoshop, and the layers and their layer masks can be edited. Painter will open Photoshop files with multiple channels intact.



Layers palette

Photoshop Layer Styles

If you're using native Photoshop Layer Styles such as the Drop Shadow layer style, it's best to save the file in Photoshop format with the live layer styles for your archive, and then save a new copy of the Photoshop file, so that you can convert the layer style information into pixel-based layers before importing into Painter 11. To convert a layer with a Drop Shadow Layer Style applied, select the layer and then choose Layers>Layers Style>Convert to Layer.

A word of caution: Some aspects of the effects cannot be reproduced with standard layers.

File Formats

For the utmost flexibility, save your Photoshop files in Photoshop format for input into Painter 11. Painter 11 can open Photoshop format files saved in RGB, CMYK and Grayscale modes, with pixel-based layers and mask channels preserved. Painter 11 will also open TIFF files, but with only one mask channel preserved. Layered TIFF files created in Photoshop will open in Painter 11 as flat TIFF files. When working in Painter save your files in the native format, RIFF, for the utmost flexibility. For instance, special paint media layers such as Watercolor layers require the RIFF format to retain the live "wet" capabilities.

Now roll up your sleeves, grab your stylus and continue exploring the exciting brushes and effects.

About the Author

An award-winning artist and author, Cher Threinen-Pendarvis is a pioneer in digital art. She has been widely recognized for her mastery of Corel Painter, Adobe Photoshop, and the Wacom® pressure-sensitive tablet and has used these electronic tools since they were first released. Her artwork has been exhibited worldwide, her articles and art have been published in many books and periodicals, and she is a member of the San Diego Museum of Art Artist Guild. She has taught Corel Painter and Adobe Photoshop workshops around the world and is the principal of the consulting firm Cher Threinen Design. Cher is the author of *The Photoshop and Painter Artist Tablet Book*, *Creative Techniques in Digital Painting*, and all eight editions of *The Painter Wow! Book*.