Welcome to this tutorial using PaintShop Pro X5®. In this tutorial, you will learn how to use filters to create stunning profile pictures on your social media sites.

What you will Learn

- How to apply Instant Effects to a photo
- How to combine multiple Instant Effects to create a unique image
Open PaintShop Pro and make the Adjust screen active.

In the Adjust section you will notice that there are various options displayed on the left hand side of your screen. These resources are available for you to make any necessary adjustments prior to using the Instant effects.

Use Show Navigation to locate the images you wish to work with by clicking on the icon with the two file folders on it. After selecting the folder, click the icon again to Hide the Navigation.

The Instant Effects Palette is open by default in PaintShop Pro X5 and appears on the right hand side of the screen. If the palette is closed accidentally it can be re-opened by pressing the key combination Shift + F2 on your keyboard or selecting it from the Palettes section of the View menu.

- Instant Effects are grouped together in 8 Sections, the first being Recently Used which is a collection of the last 10 effects that were applied.

- The Artistic section contains effects that make images look like drawings, paintings and other works of art.

- There is a section dedicated entirely to Black and White filters.

- Film Styles contains a collection of effects that emulate the progression of photographic technology through the 20th century.

- Landscape Effects are best used to change the look and feel of outdoor shots.

- Portrait Effects specifically focus on the types of changes that will enhance faces.
- **Retro effects** add dynamic color changes when you’re looking for that “Wow” factor.

- **Traditional effects** are a quick way to apply commonly used filters such as **brightness**, **contrast** or **Vignettes** to an image.

Each effect is shown as a thumbnail to show you what the result will be when it is used on the image.

1. Click on the photo from the tray below to bring it into the center of the screen.

2. Double click on any of the **Instant Effect** thumbnails to apply the effect to the image.

The first time you use Instant Effects, the **Getting Started** window will pop up and display useful information. This window will pop up each time you use an instant effect until you disable it by checking **Don’t show this window again** in the bottom left corner of the window.

3. Click **Close** on the Getting Started Window and you will see the effect has been applied to the image.

To remove an effect, click the left pointing arrow at the top of your screen or use the key combination **Ctrl + Z** on your keyboard to **Undo** the effect.
Instant Effects are great for applying themes to your photos.

Ever wanted to put yourself back in time? Using the **Film Styles** effects, you can make your profile picture look like a blast from the past. (right)

Or, any of the **Retro effects** are also great for making an otherwise ordinary profile photo have a trendy, vintage edge. (left)

Remember that these effects can also be combined; in this first example the **Retro Surreal** effect is used, followed by the **Instant Film** effect to produce a result that looks like a postcard.

There are no rules when it comes to using **Instant Effects** – Half the fun in using them is the unique ability to pick and choose which combination you want to apply to your photos.

In this next example, **Sepia, Albumen** and then **Instant Film** are used together to create a very unique black and gold look.
As you can see, Instant Effects have limitless possibilities for adding artistic flare to your Facebook or Twitter profile photos.

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