Customizing your Workspace

Workspace – Essentials versus Complete

Choose the **Complete** workspace so you will have all the tools and settings needed for your projects. It will also resemble more the workspace in the video tutorials.

Workspace and background colors

Choose what you prefer in the **User Interface** menu. I chose the light grey interface. What do you prefer?

Palettes and toolbars

Make some room to work on your project. Close the unnecessary palettes like the **Learning center** and the **Organizer**. Of course, if you have a very large monitor, you'll have room to keep them. It is still a matter of preference.

Windows

Make sure you have the untabbed windows so you can see multiple images. It will look more like an actual table where you would work with several photos. Go to the **Window** menu and make sure the **Tabbed Documents** is UNCHECKED

Additional Customizations

Rulers

Go to **View > Rulers** and make sure it is checked. That will allow you to get Guides, later on, but also get an idea of the size of your images or selections.

Resolution

By default, the resolution of your images will be 200 pixels/inch. If you ever want to print any project, it is recommended to use 300ppi. You can set it up under **File > Preference > General program preferences** and check the **Units** on the left. Change the setting on the far right to 300 pixels/inch (or 118 pixels/cm if you are using the metric system)

Default launch workspace

If you mostly use the Edit workspace, go to **File > Preferences >General Program Preferences**, and click on **Tabs**. Then, click on **Set Edit as default.**

Materials Palette

Since version X7, a new Material palette and Materials properties window is available. It has many added features, but I normally don't use them so I set my Materials Palette to the simpler, earlier format. If you want the same, go to **File > Preferences > General Program Preferences** and go to the **Palettes** option, on the left. Then, check the **Use classic Material Palette**