

ON1 Photo RAW + Luminar Neo: Integrated Editing Workflow Cheat Sheet

Overview

The presenter demonstrates an advanced photo editing workflow using ON1 Photo RAW in conjunction with Luminar Neo as a plugin. ON1 Photo RAW is configured to recognize Photoshop-compatible plugins, allowing seamless use of Luminar Neo. Differences between plugin and standalone versions are highlighted, such as the lack of a catalog in plugin mode. The tutorial covers sending a photo from ON1 to Luminar Neo, applying presets, using AI tools like Enhance AI and Atmosphere AI, and managing layers back in ON1.

Highlights

- ON1 Photo RAW supports Photoshop plugins, allowing integration with Luminar Neo.
- Luminar Neo's plugin mode lacks a catalog but provides full editing functionality.
- Presets in Luminar Neo provide a quick starting point for creative edits.
- Enhance AI tool adjusts brightness, contrast, and detail in one unified step.
- Luminar's additive filter stacking affects edit previews.
- Atmosphere AI adds realistic fog or haze effects.
- Plugins return "baked" images to ON1, requiring fresh edits for changes.

Key Insights

Workflow Integration Enhances Creativity: Combining ON1 Photo RAW with Luminar Neo leverages the strengths of both programs. ON1 provides advanced local editing, while Luminar's AI tools boost creativity and speed. Together they support a flexible and exploratory editing process.

AI Tools Simplify Complex Adjustments: Luminar Neo's Enhance AI tool streamlines brightness, contrast, and detail edits, making high-quality enhancement fast and intuitive.

Understanding Filter Stacking is Crucial: Edits to lower filters in Luminar disable higher ones during preview. Understanding this behavior is essential for proper edit assessment.

Presets as Creative Launchpads: Presets are starting points for creative edits, offering mood and tonal ideas. Opacity adjustments allow subtle blending with the original image.

Atmosphere AI Adds Realism and Mood: Simulates fog or haze for mood-rich landscapes. Works well in morning or winter scenes to evoke atmosphere and storytelling depth.

Non-Destructive Layer Blending in ON1: After returning from Luminar, ON1 allows blending of the edited and original layers using opacity, ensuring flexible and non-destructive final output.

Baked Plugin Files Limit Re-Editing: Plugin use returns flattened images. Re-editing requires a fresh export to Luminar. Planning sequence avoids lost flexibility.