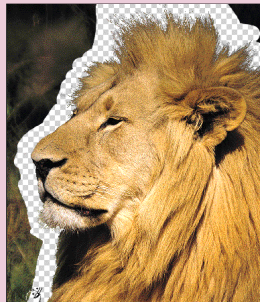
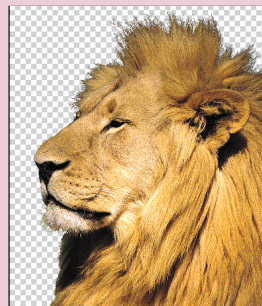




UNMASKED IMAGE



MASK OUTLINE



COMPLETED MASK

WHAT IS EXTENSIS MASK PRO™?

Mask Pro is a powerful and indispensable tool that allows you to create professional-quality precision masks in Adobe® Photoshop®. Innovative Color Matching Technology and the creation of elegant vector-based clipping paths allow you to slash the time it takes to create professional quality masks.

HOW CAN MASK PRO HELP ME?

With Mask Pro you can create high-quality complex cutouts and selections for image composition, isolations, color corrections, and more. Innovative color controls produce superior masking results, and masking with Mask Pro is far easier than using conventional methods and tools.

Click or drag with special eyedropper tools to select the colors you want to keep and the colors you want to mask out, then paint away the edges with special brushes and pens that give you complete control over edge softness, brush size and opacity threshold. Even smoke and wispy hair are easily masked with Mask Pro!

Mask Pro's new IntelliBrush and IntelliWand features add intelligence to the Magic Brush and Magic Wand tools, automatically determining which areas to mask and which to keep based on where you click. And with the addition of an all-new Magic Pen tool with PrecisionEdge detection, you can now outline objects by dragging a line that automatically snaps to the edge.

Other features new to Mask Pro are EdgeBlender, a post-masking tool that reduces or eliminates halos; Make Work Path, which allows you to create a vector-based clipping path from your mask or selection; and additional views that allow you see your image against the background of your choice, including active layers, Quick Mask, and a solid background color of your choice.

You have nearly unlimited undo/redo capability—including a new revert to start command—and special image navigation and zoom/pan tools, plus numerous keyboard shortcuts to make the job even easier. And with Mask Pro you'll produce pre-press ready images that print flawlessly.

Extensis Mask Pro cuts masking projects down to size—leaving you more time to be creative.

HOW CAN THIS QUICK START GUIDE HELP ME?

Use this guide as a quick way to get up and running, and to become familiar with the basic operations and features of Mask Pro. When you've finished with this guide, we suggest you turn to the comprehensive Tutorial in the Mask Pro User Guide to really get the most out of this ground-breaking product. To learn more about the magic of Mask Pro, and the innovative tools and color matching technology that make it possible, refer to your Extensis Mask Pro User Guide, to the Read Me files in your Mask Pro application folder, or visit the Extensis web site at: <http://www.extensis.com>

STEP 1: OPEN AN IMAGE IN PHOTOSHOP

Locate and open the image that you want to mask.

STEP 2: DETERMINE THE START MODE

There are three different modes in which Mask Pro can be opened: Mask mode, which allows you to drop out the background of an image; Select mode, which allows you to create a selection and keep the background; and Mask Composite, which is just like Mask mode, but adds the ability to view all visible layers as you mask. Which mode you choose determines which command you use to open Mask Pro. Commands for all three modes are available from the Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro menu in the Photoshop menubar.

Mask mode/Mask Composite mode: Before you can open Mask Pro to drop out the background you must create a channel in which to store the mask. You can do this in a number of ways, such as switching into Quick Mask mode, using a layer, creating a layer mask, etc. A quick way to create a destination channel is to open the Layers Palette (F7) in Photoshop then double-click on the *Background* layer. Photoshop displays a dialog box allowing you to name the new layer. Click "OK." Once the channel has been created, choose Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro ⇨ Mask... If you would like to view the other layers while masking, choose Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro ⇨ Mask Composite...

Selection mode: To create a selection while keeping the background, choose Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro ⇨ Select...

STEP 3: EXAMINE THE MASK PRO WORKSPACE

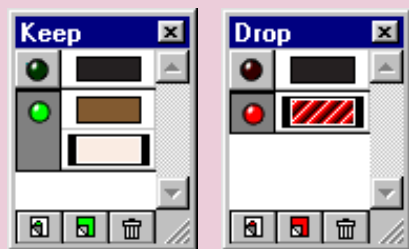
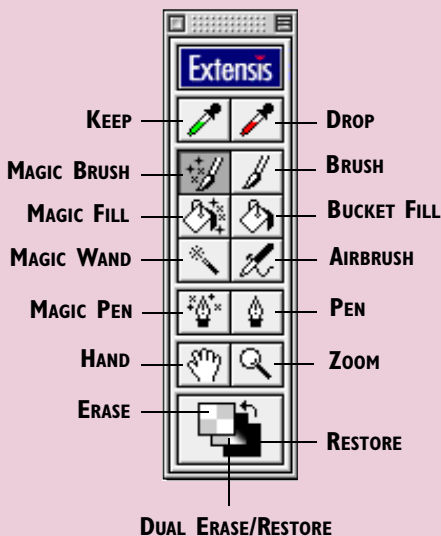
Mask Pro provides a Toolbox and several special palettes to make masking quick and easy.

The Toolbox Palette gives you quick access to all the tools needed to create your mask and navigate the image. At the top of the palette are the Keep and Drop Eyedroppers, which allow you to select colors in the image to mask away (drop) and colors in the image to preserve (keep). A Mode indicator at the bottom of the Toolbox allows you to switch quickly between Erase mode, where you'll be painting away the background; Restore mode, where painting will restore pixels removed in Erase mode; and the special Dual Erase/Restore mode which is available when you use the Magic Brush and Magic Fill tools. The remaining tools are painting and navigating tools that behave similar to ones you're familiar with in Photoshop.

Special Keep and Drop Palettes organize the colors you select with the Keep and Drop Eyedropper tools.

The Brush and Threshold Palettes allow you to change the size, width, softness, and opacity threshold of the painting tools.

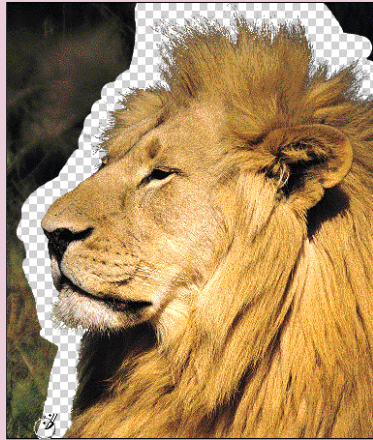
The Navigator Palette provides a convenient way to move about the image. You can even open multiple Navigators to zoom back and forth between several locations.



KEEP AND DROP PALETTES



BRUSH AND THRESHOLD PALETTES




MASKING WITH THE
MAGIC BRUSH 





MASKING WITH THE
MAGIC PEN 



MASKING WITH THE
MAGIC WAND 

STEP 4: SELECT COLORS TO KEEP AND DROP

-  Use the Keep and Drop Eyedroppers to select colors from the image to retain or mask away. Drag through an area to create an “average” color to Keep or Drop. You can add colors and sets of colors,
-  and activate and deactivate them as needed. You might want to create color sets for distinctly different areas of color, or when similarly colored areas appear in different places along the edge. You only need to choose a few Keep and Drop colors—Mask Pro works best with between one and four colors total, divided between the Keep and Drop Palettes. Keep and Drop colors affect only the Magic Brush, Magic Wand, and Magic Fill tools.



STEP 5: MASK AWAY THE BACKGROUND

You can use the Magic Brush, Magic Wand, and Magic Pen tools to make quick work of any masking task. These tools magically remove pixels that would otherwise be laborious and time consuming to remove. (See also *IntelliBrush* and *IntelliWand* on the following page.)



Magic Brush: Use the Magic Brush tool to erase pixels along the edge of the image that you want to mask. To use the Magic Brush, select it from the Toolbox, then select Dual Erase/Restore mode (half black/half checkerboard in front). Paint along the edge that you want to erase. Mask Pro will analyze the active colors in the Keep and Drop palettes and will determine which areas to mask and which to keep based on those colors.

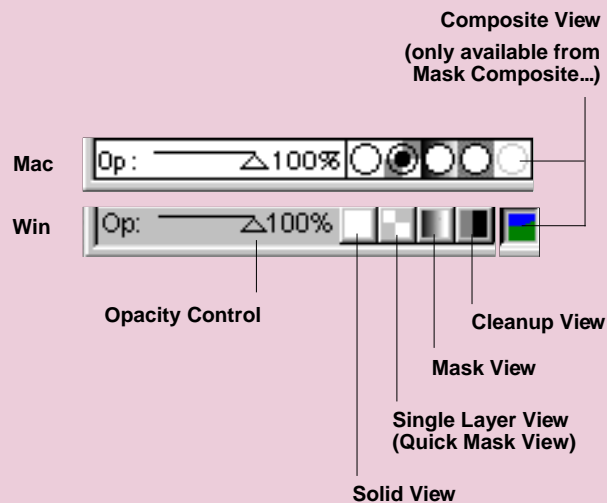
Use the Brush Size and Edge Palette to change brush size and softness. Use the Threshold setting on the Threshold Palette to vary how much of the image to keep. Pixels similar to the Keep colors stay opaque and pixels similar to the Drop colors become transparent. The Transition setting determines the softness of the edge that the Magic Brush (or Magic Wand or Magic Pen) will produce in response to a smooth transition between the Drop and Keep colors.

Magic Pen: Use the Magic Pen tool to draw a closed path around an area to mask either the area inside or outside of the path. To use the Magic Pen, select it from the Toolbox, then select Erase mode. Drag the pen along the edge that you want to erase—the line will snap to the edge. Drag out into the background and close the loop (), then click inside or outside the enclosed area () to remove those pixels.

Magic Wand: Use the Magic Wand tool to mask simple backgrounds consisting of just a few colors. To use the Magic Wand tool, select it from the Toolbox, then select Erase mode. Click in the area that you want to erase.

To mask around smooth edges, you might want to use the standard Brush or Pen tool. These tools do not utilize the Keep and Drop colors.

Mask Pro tools are described in detail in the Mask Pro Tools section of the Mask Pro User Guide. The Tutorial, also included in the User Guide, is an excellent way to learn how to best use these powerful tools.



OPTIONAL: USE INTELLIBRUSH AND INTELLIWAND

If your image contains areas of high contrast you can use Mask Pro's new IntelliBrush and IntelliWand features to mask without selecting Keep or Drop colors. To use these enhanced masking features, be sure that you do not have any Keep or Drop colors active (either remove them from the palette or disable them by clicking off the red or green light). With no Keep or Drop colors active, choose either the Magic Brush or the Magic Wand, then click (Magic Wand) or drag (Magic Brush) in the area that you want to erase. Mask Pro will intelligently apply its Color Matching Technology to select a temporary Drop color (it will not be displayed on the Palette) from the area where you clicked, and will drop that color from the image.

STEP 6: FILL HOLES AND COMPLETE THE MASK

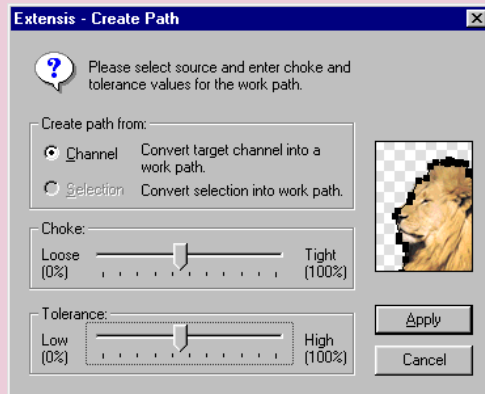
When you've finished masking around the image, you can fill the rest of the background with transparency using the Bucket Fill tool. Select Cleanup View from the View Palette (*see sidebar*). In Cleanup View, everything transparent is displayed as black, everything opaque is displayed as white, and pixels that are not completely transparent or completely opaque are displayed as 50% gray. This will allow you to see instantly whether your mask is complete. Verify that Erase mode is active, then click with the Bucket Fill tool outside the masked area. This fills the remaining background with transparency (black). If the inside area of the image (which should be white) also turned black, you have a leak in your mask outline. Undo the Bucket fill, use the masking tools to fix the leak, then try again.

When your mask is leak-free, you may notice little holes in the image or small specks in the area outside the image. Use the Magic Fill bucket to fix these. A square cursor around the Magic Fill icon indicates the fill area: Every speck within the cursor fills with transparency when in Erase mode, or with opacity when in Restore mode. To magically remove all the specks and holes at once, select Dual Erase/Restore mode, then double-click with the Magic Fill tool.

STEP 7: SAVE THE MASK/EXIT MASK PRO

When the mask is complete you'll want to apply it to your image. Select "Save/Apply" from the File menu. If you opened Mask Pro using either Mask... or Mask Composite..., Mask Pro will discard the background and return your mask to the selected channel. If you opened Mask Pro using Select..., Mask Pro will return your masked image as a selection.

UP AND RUNNING WITH MASK PRO 2.0



EXTENSIS CORPORATION

1800 S.W. First, Suite 500
Portland, OR 97201
Phone: 503-274-2020
Fax: 503-274-0530
E-mail: info@extensis.com
Internet: <http://www.extensis.com>

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Phone: 800-796-9798
E-mail: sales@extensis.com

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Phone: 503-274-7030
Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm Pacific
E-mail: support@extensis.com

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

OPTIONAL: GENERATE A CLIPPING PATH

When the mask is complete you may want to create a clipping path. Mask Pro creates only vector segments in its work path, not Bézier curves, thereby ensuring that your image will print reliably. After masking and before applying other effects (while the image is still selected), choose Make Work Path... from the Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro menu. A dialog box will be displayed allowing you to indicate Choke and Tolerance. The Choke parameter controls how loose or tight the mask will be based on edge pixel opacity. Tolerance manages the number of control points in the path. Generally, a choke value of 50% and a tolerance value of 30% will create an accurate clipping path.

OPTIONAL: BLEND THE EDGES WITH EDGEBLENDER

EdgeBlender replaces the partially transparent pixels along the edge of your mask that maintained some of the old background color with colors from the current masked image. This will allow your image to blend better with new backgrounds. After masking and before applying other effects (while the image is still selected), choose EdgeBlender from the Extensis ⇨ Mask Pro menu.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MASK PRO

We've given you an overview of the process of masking with Mask Pro, but the information presented was necessarily limited. We highly recommend that you complete the tutorial included in the User Guide. In addition, the following will give you more information about the many features and options available, as well as information on getting the most from your product:

- Extensis Mask Pro 2.0 User Guide—includes a comprehensive tutorial on masking with Mask Pro.
- Read Me—located in your Mask Pro application folder, this text file gives you late-breaking information.
- Sample Files—images to practice with.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

For Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), troubleshooting information, and other up-to-date information about Mask Pro or other Extensis products, visit our web site at: <http://www.extensis.com>.

In addition to Mask Pro, Extensis offers an array of products that extend the capabilities of popular graphics and layout applications such as QuarkXPress®, Adobe Photoshop®, Adobe Illustrator®, Adobe PageMaker®, and Macromedia FreeHand™. Other Extensis product information is available from our web site and on the Extensis CD in Adobe Acrobat™ PDF format.