# A Quick Guide to: Common Photo Corrections

Sometimes photos don't turn out the way we want them to - regardless of how much time and effort we put into making sure everything is just right.

But don't worry! Some messy photos can be fixed and turn out just fine!

In this guide we will look at four of the most common issues that come up in Yearbook Photography, and go through some quick fixes for them.
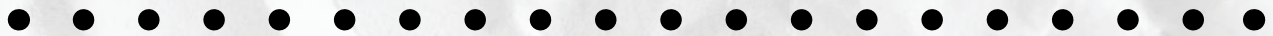
Too Blurry

Blurry photos can be a real pain. Sometimes a large of action is out of focus, or even the main subject has no details.

Although blurry photos can be artisitc in some cases, for a Yearbook they are not practical.

Common causes for blurry photos are too much move at the time photo was taken, either by the subject or by the photographer, or using the wrong settings on your camera.

In most cases, blurry photos are not need-ed for the Yearbook. So, if you come across them, while going through your takes, throw them out.

Exceptions to the Rule:

- If part of a photo is blurry, you can crop the blurry part out.

- If the content is still recognizable or the scene is much larger, we can actually use the photo something like a background image.
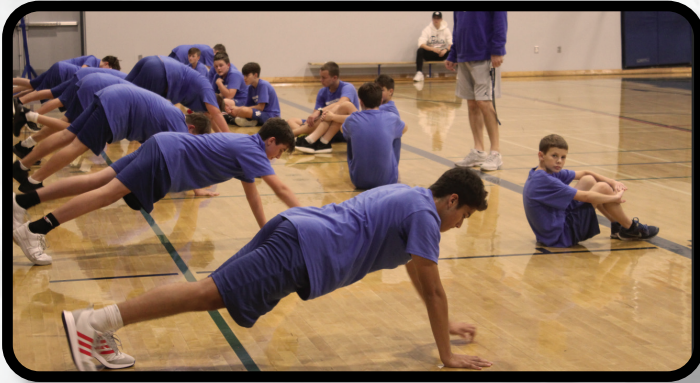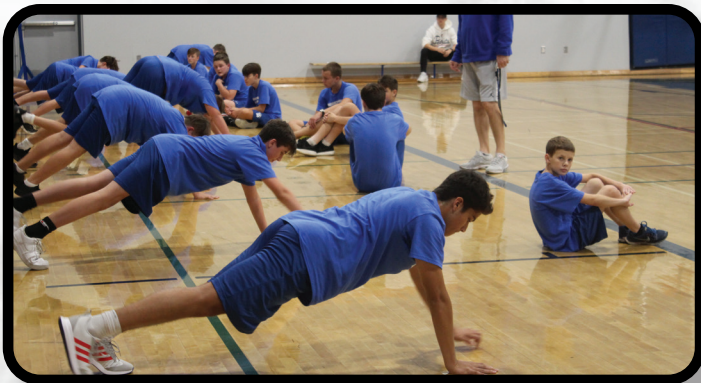
Too Orange

Photos with an orange hue are often caused by fluorescent lighting. This type of lighting is pretty common in older builings and schools.

Natural light is often has a blue hue, so an orange picture can be off putting to the eyes.
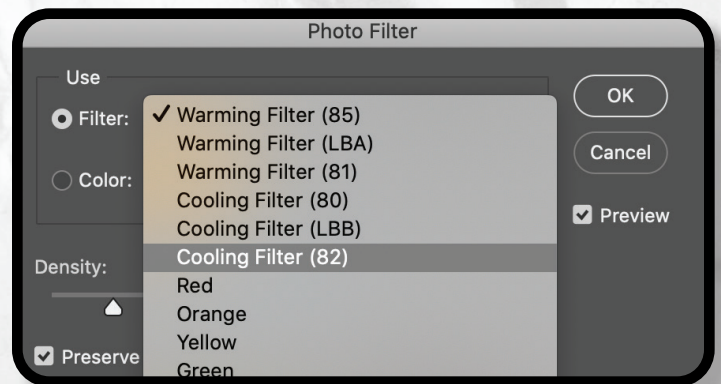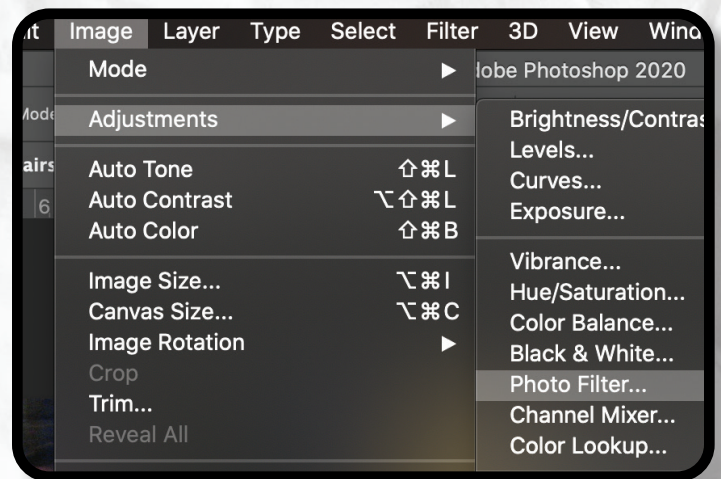
Before

After

Solution:

1. Open the picture in Photoshop, and go to the top toolbar -> Image -> Adjustments -> Photo Filter.
2. A pop up menu will appear, select Cooling Filter 82. Then adjust the Density to balance the image.
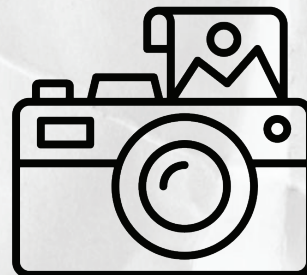
Watch Out!

- If the image is dark or has dark areas, you will need to adjust the Levels first before adding the Colour Filter.

Pro Tip:

Don't like what's happening to the photo as you edit?

Go to Edit -> Undo (Cmd + Z) to step back.

Too Dark

Photos that are too dark or have dark spots are not a big deal. However, it nice to be able to adjust them so details can pop out.

Usually black or very dark clothing doesn't come up well if you have the flash off or are in a poorly lit area.
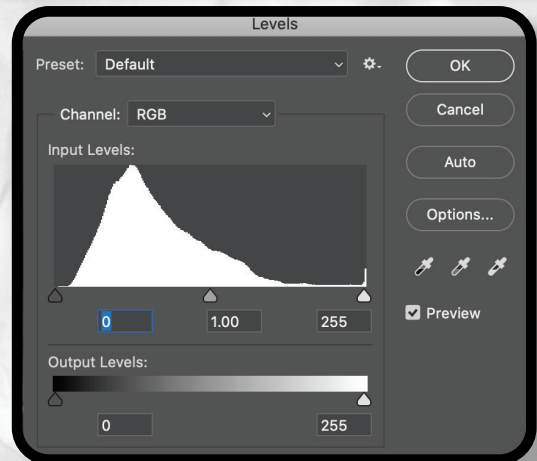
Before

After

Solution:

1. Open the picture in Photoshop, and go to the top toolbar -> Image -> Adjustments -> Levels.
2. A pop up menu will appear, start with the white triangle and adjust accordingly. Move on to the grey triangle and repeat. Move on the black triangle and repeat.
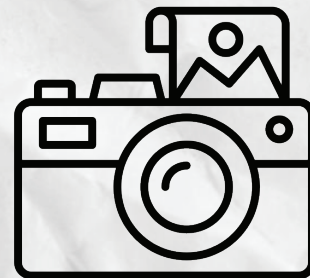
Watch Out!

Pay attention to what is happening in the photo as you make adjustments. If you go too far with them, light areas with wash out and be too bright.

Pro Tip:

You can keep an orignal copy of the photo you are working on.

Before you start editing, 'Save as' and give it a different name.

Too Bright or Washed Out

Sometimes photos can either been too bright or have areas that are too bright. This can be caused by a variety of things, including using flash too close to the subject, bright lights in the background, or just wrong camera settings.

Pro Tip:

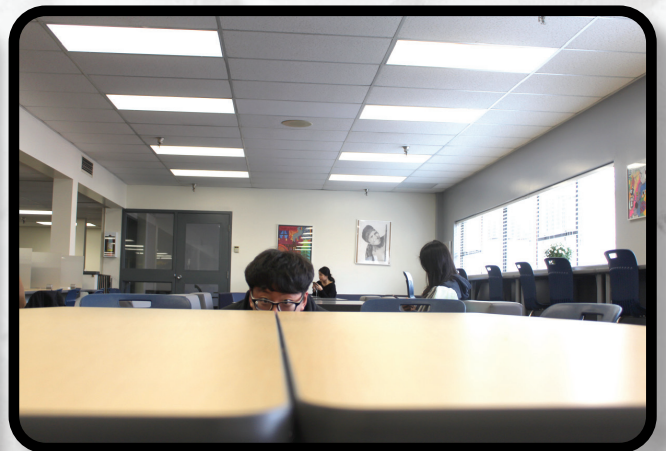Sometimes photos don't turn out the way to want...and that's OK.

Don't be afraid to take more photos than you think you will need.

Solution:

There are ways to fix photos that are too bright, however this can be a very time consuming (and occasionally complex) process. However, there are some creative ways to work around brightness issues.

1. Crop out the bright; if the brightness is on the edges or away from the main subject, don't include it!

2. Close ups; when framing a photo make it a close up to avoid too much brightness.

3. If it's just too bright, throw it out. Go take some more picutres!

Before

After