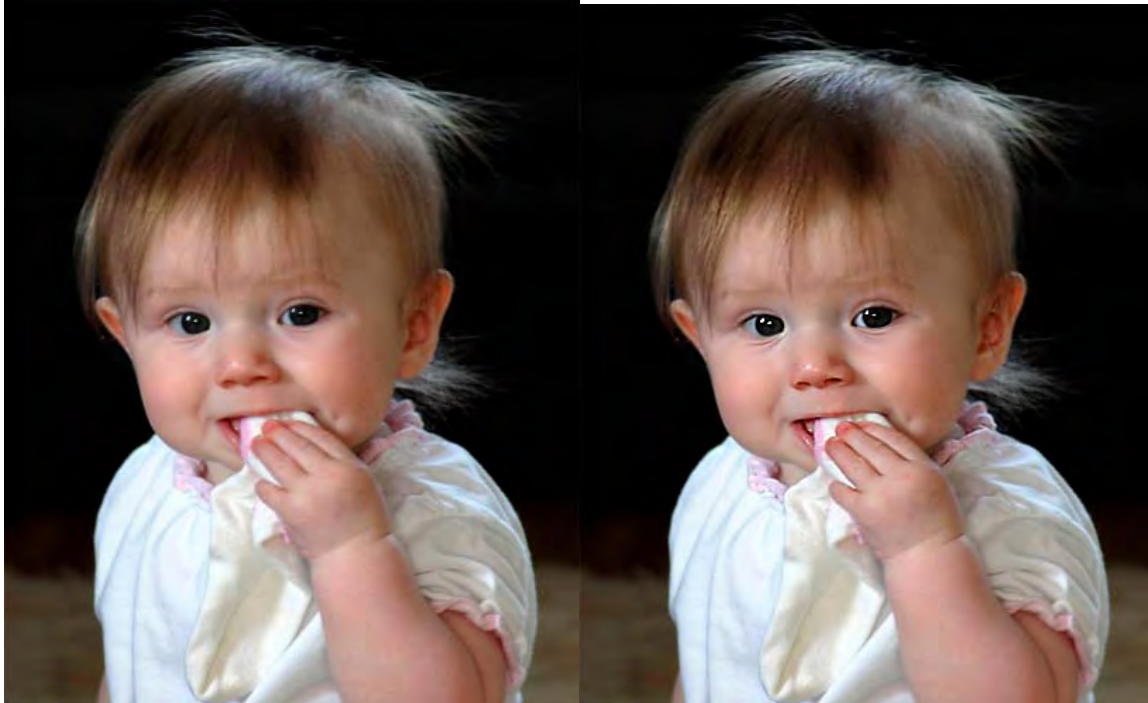


The Mystery of Sharpening.....Not really .

Most of us get un-sharp pictures, it's a fact of life, and we look and think "how the hell did that happen?"

Some you bin straight away, some are recoverable to a certain degree. That's what we are concentrating on in this tutorial. As before its done in CS2, but work's in most versions of PS.

OK, here is the image.....yup, I get them too.



Original – Look at the eyes

Here is the finished image

It may not look it, but it is un-sharp. So open your image without doing anything too it.

1. Duplicate the background layer...you now have two layers, check in the layers box.
2. Now go Filter Menu , un-sharp mask. Radius about 1.0, amount around 80-85% (This image was at 200+) with a threshold of 3 or 4 levels. I usually fiddle a lot with the radius area percentages, and the amount
3. OK, Hold the Alt Key (PC) click on the layer mask icon at the bottom of the layers palette, this will fill the layer with a black mask.
4. Get the Brush Tool and choose a medium soft brush.
5. Change the foreground colour to white.
6. Start painting over the areas you want to change the sharpness in, usually the eyes, lips and hair areas. You will see the sharpening start to take affect. Again it's a case of practice makes perfect.- Brian UK