AKVIS Enhancer V. 1.1
By Tamera Vesta

System requirements

Pentium II 233 MHz (and more)
RAM at least 96 MB
5MB of free space on the hard disk
An installed photo editor supporting plug-ins

Overview

AKVIS Enhancer v. 1.1 is a versatile and useful photo editing plug-in. If you have an image that has over-exposed highlights, under-exposed shadows, or both, this allows for fast and accurate recovery of the lost detail without altering the overall exposure.

There are three controls that you can use to obtain the desired effect.   First in the line is the level of detail slider.   It's pretty evident what this does, however I found it should be adjusted after the next slider which is the Highlight/Shadow Priority slider. Depending on the position from zero (the even distribution of detail in both highlights and shadows) you can increase detail in the underexposed areas by increasing the slider value and to detect details in the overexposed areas, decrease the values to the negative. The last slider allows you to control the intensity of the overall effect. This plug-in was also handy to apply effects to images that you are converting to black and white.

I would recommend this to anyone that has a plug-in capable photo editor. It allows for fast, effective detail recovery, and also does some pretty nifty effects when you play around with it. Priced at $69, its worth the money for the time it saves you if you have to do these color transitions yourself. It is available for a 10-day free trial at www.akvis.com.

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