

Lightroom Tips and Tricks

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It's like magic. . . you can make things appear with the "O" key in the Develop module.

In Lightroom's Develop Module the "O" shortcut key is one you will use over and over again when you learn how helpful it is.

When using the crop tool, hit the "O" key on your keyboard to change the crop overlay guide on your screen. Each time you hit the O, the overlay changes to a new guide. Several of the guides have an orientation that may not fit your photo, but not to worry. Hold down the Shift Key and hit O again to cycle through all the orientations of your chosen crop guide. Too many crop guides you don't use to cycle through? Then get rid of the ones you don't use. Go to the Tools Menu → Crop Guide Overlay → Choose Overlays to Cycle, and check/uncheck the guides you want to view the next time you use the crop tool.

And if that weren't enough, the O key may be even more helpful when using the Local Adjustment Brush. After you pick the brush of your choice and begin painting the effect on a specific area of your photo, you can toggle on and off the mask overlay by hitting the letter O. This allows you to clearly show where you have been painting the effect without selecting the show overlay option button at the bottom of the module window. You can quickly turn the mask overlay on and off to guide you while you paint.

Shortcut keys are often very useful when navigating Lightroom, but you may find the O key is one of the most useful and time saving in the Develop module. Give it a try!