



ALCE 3

QUICKSTART GUIDE

WHAT IS IT FOR?

ALCE (**Advanced Local Contrast Enhancer**) is a Photoshop Panel that boosts the image's Local Contrast, adding *shape*, and a distinct 3D look.

Radius

How Local you want the Contrast boost to be:
Large Radius → Global Contrast
Small Radius → Local Contrast

Run / Reset

Manually Run the Contrast Boost
(Live Preview is on by default)
or Reset the values



AT A GLANCE

ALCE 3 is in the menu **Windows > Extensions**

Intensity

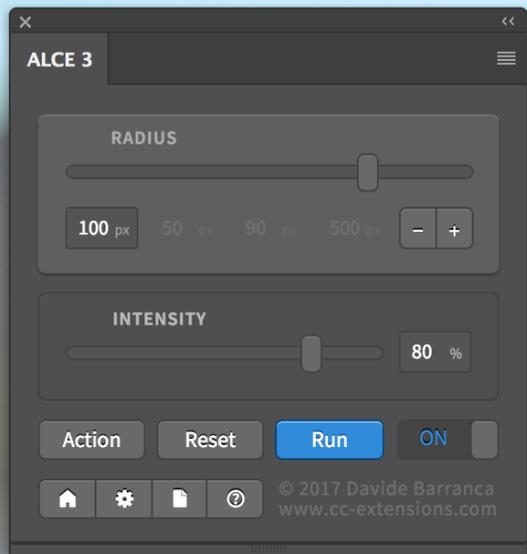
How strong the Contrast will be

Preview

Switch ON/OFF the effect Preview

SIMPLE USE

If you're after a quick Contrast Boost, **play with the Radius** around the default value (Live Preview is enabled). When you reach a pleasing result, you're done! You can always **tweak the Intensity** if it feels like too much.



High Radius

Gives shape to the portrait, without exaggerating skin texture or smaller, distracting elements. Tweak Intensity to taste.





Low Radius

Better fit for the feathers: it emphasises smaller features. Full Intensity for a stronger effect.

ADVANCED USE

More elaborate effects can be obtained modulating **multiple runs** of ALCE at **decreasing Intensities**. ALCE 3 can automatically do this for you! Click the +/- buttons to reveal additional Radius slider handlers, each one with its suggested Intensity. Use the Global Intensity to control the combined radii/intensities effect.

Radius/Intensity pairs

Corresponding to each new round of ALCE (Radius above, Intensity below)

Global Intensity

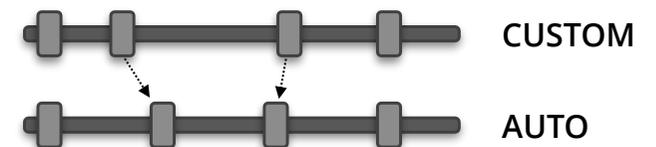
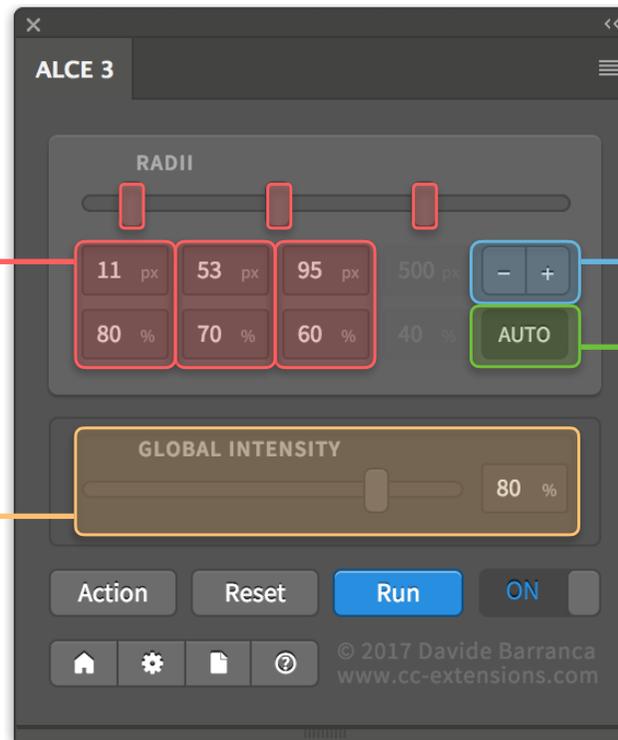
Since each round's Intensity is paired with the radius above, this Slider now controls the Intensity of the combined effect

Add/Remove Radii

Each new Radius will add an extra round of ALCE on top of the previous one

Automatic Radius Spacing

If you have three or more Radii, the Auto button will toggle between evenly spaced radii, and custom arrangement





Multiple Radii

The smallest Radius gives a sharpening effect to the subtle fabric features.

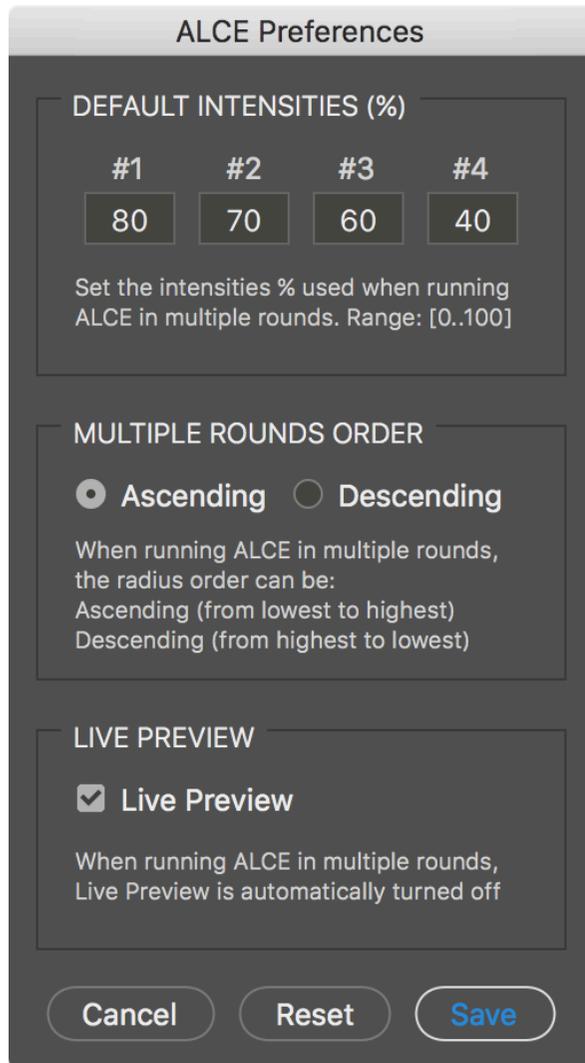
The median Radius adds shape and three-dimension to the lady's face and dress.

The largest Radius boosts a more "Global" Contrast.

Global Intensity is set to taste.



BATCH, PREFERENCES, AND DOCUMENTATION



Website

Opens the CC-Extensions ALCE homepage

Batch Processing

You can create an **Action**, and use it as a building block in your automated workflow with large amount of files.



Version Info

Copyright notice, website, support email

Quickstart Guide

Opens this manual

Preferences

Here you can set the Panel's:

- Defaults Intensities
- Multiple Rounds Order
- Live Preview (ON/OFF)

or Reset them to factory defaults

01_01 The ALCE tutorial videos | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 Bologna, 16th May 2010
 (by Alessandro Bernardi - PSSchool)

01_03 Between radius and saturation | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 1.3
 Introducing ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

Between Radius and Saturation
 Choosing ALCE's Radius and Dealing with Colors

01_01 What is Local Contrast? | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 1.1
 Introducing ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

What is Local Contrast?
 Understanding ALCE's Working Principles

01_02 Getting ALCE to work | Introducing ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 1.2
 Introducing ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

Getting ALCE to Work
 Installing and Running the Script. The Interface

02_1 ALCE in the Abbey | Simple ALCE layers tuned with opacity and hand-made layer masks
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

ALCE in the Abbey
 Simple ALCE Layers Tuned with Opacity and Hand-Made Layer Masks

Even if it's been produced for ALCE 2, on Vimeo you can watch a +90 minutes, multi-parts, HD video tutorial covering the basics aspects of Local Contrast, and ALCE advanced masking / channel blending techniques.

02_02 Smoked ALCE
 Comparison and Blending of ALCE Layers with Different Radii

02_06 ALCE Gets Married | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 2.6
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

ALCE Gets Married
 Enhancing Shape Where There's Little

02_08 ALCE, Leak-a-boo | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 2.8
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

ALCE, Leak-a-Boo
 Localizing the Effect by Conditional Blending

02_05 ALCE on Wuthering Heights
 Using Combination of Channels and Layer Masks

02_07 ALCE: Portrait or Fashion?
 Difference Leads to Different Approaches to the Same Image

02_07 ALCE in the Lab | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 2.7
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

ALCE in the Lab
 A Diversion Into a Powerful Colorspace

02_09 ALCE finds the Key | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 2.9
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

ALCE Finds the Key
 A Difficult Case Which Requires Black Magic

02_10 ALCE: The ultimate nightmare | Working with ALCE. By Marco Olivetto.
 from Know-How Transfer
 KNOW HOW TRANSFER
 the photography knowledge hub
 2.10
 Working with ALCE
 Tutorial By Marco Olivetto

The Ultimate Nightmare
 Improving Impossible CMYK Conversions

COMPATIBILITY

ALCE 3 is compatible with Photoshop from version CC onwards:

CC, CC 2014, CC 2015, CC 2015.5, CC 2017 and so on, on both Mac/PC.

If you need pre-CC compatibility (i.e. Photoshop CS6), you need to buy the old version, ALCE 2.

SUPPORT

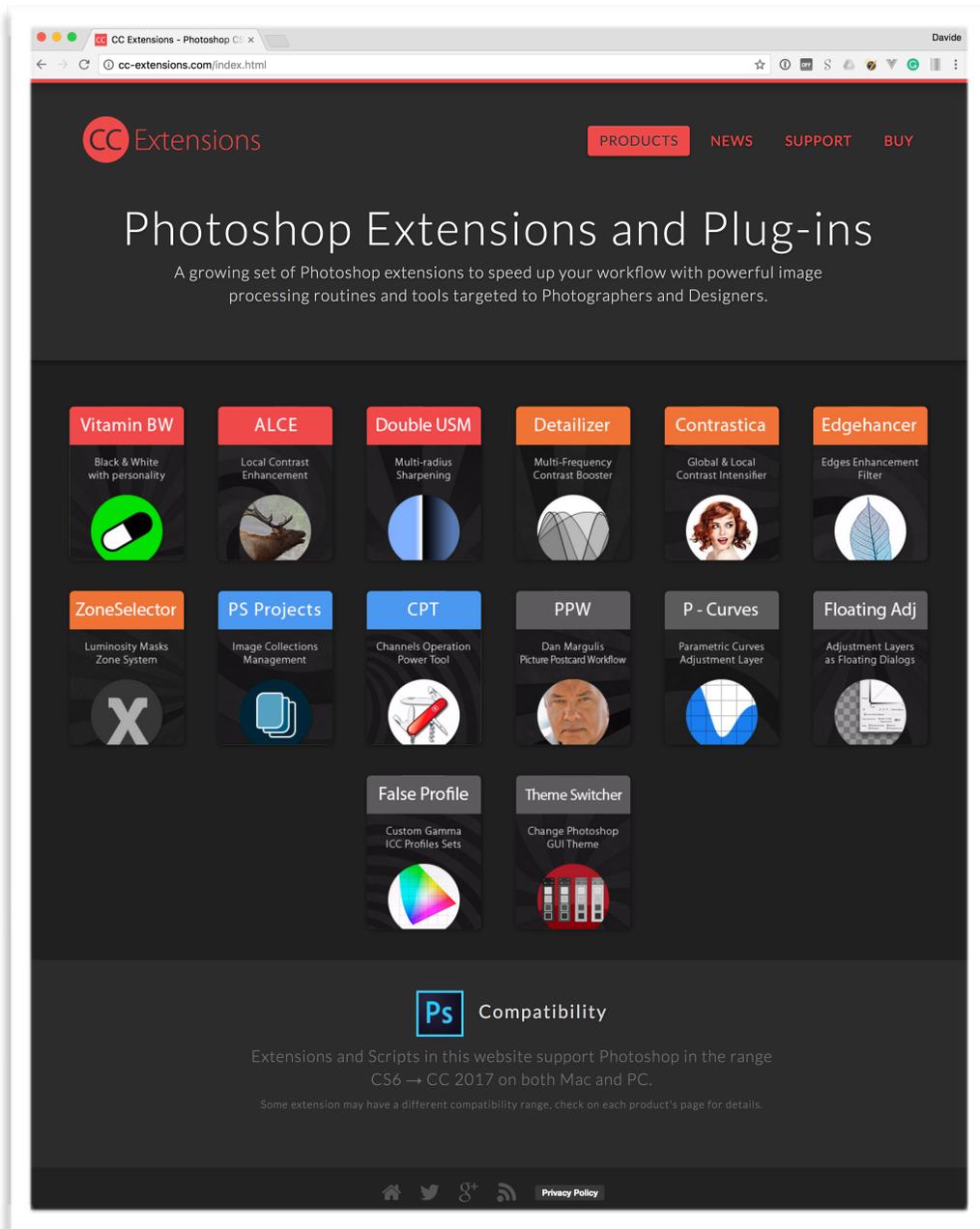
For installation instruction, please refer to the related installation guide.

If you need further support, you can reach me at:

support@cs-extensions.com

Thanks for buying ALCE 3 – you're helping me building more Photoshop products such as the ones you can find at cc-extensions.com

Davide Barranca



Visit cc-extensions.com and discover the full series of products targeted to Retouchers / Photographers / Designers:

- [Vitamin BW](#) - Black & White with personality
- [ALCE](#) - Local Contrast Enhancement
- [DoubleUSM](#) - Multi-radius Sharpening
- [Detailizer](#) - Multi-frequency Contrast boost
- [Contrastica](#) - Easy Global & Local Contrast
- [CPT](#) - Swiss Army Knife of Channel Operations
- [Zone Selector](#) - Zone System's Luminosity Masks

...and many others!