Effects in Editing

Photo editing is not all that fun. It demands ***time, effort, creativity*** and a willingness to mess around in the digital mud until things turn out the way you would like them. That's what I have learned after years of editing photos.

Steps in the process:

1) <u>Crop your photo</u> – use the cropping tool to cut some of the excess area out of the picture. Doing will draw more attention to the main object in the picture.

2) <u>Select the foreground subject</u> – To select the foreground subject use the Lasso tool and draw a freehand border completely around the subject.

3) <u>Adjust the light setting</u> – If the foreground subject is lighter than the background image, you can minimize this difference by opening the Hue/Saturation dialog box and sliding the Lightness setting to an appropriate number.

4) <u>Copy the foreground subject and paste it into the background</u> – Moving the subject from the foreground to the background is a simple matter of copying the selected area and pasting it into the background image.

5) <u>Resize the foreground subject</u> – The foreground subject may need to be resized. To change the size use the Scale function. And pull it inward to reduce the size or outward to increase the size.

6) <u>Perform touch-ups</u> – To complete you adjustments you may need to use the Hue/Saturation dialog box again, and reset the Lightness setting. You may also need to use the Smudge tool to soften some of the harsh lines between the foreground and background.

These or some of the step you can or may need to take to adjust your photos. Remember that image editing is all about modification. The modification can be as simple as removing red eye from a subject's eyes or as complex as swapping one background for another. Always before you start to edit a photo – BACKUP, you're original so you always have it to go back to.

The Rotating, cropping, resizing, and Lightness tools and of course the various different filters will be some of your best friends as you start editing your photos.

Practice does and will make perfect – when you are using the editing tools to touch up your photos.