

*Let's travel back in time and learn about history. That may sound a little strange, but with Adobe® Photoshop® 5.0 it's easy to get history on your side. Think of this as an introductory History 101 college course. I'm going to give you a quick overview, but when we're done you will understand the potential for taking this technique into the future. The possibilities are as vast as history itself.*



Adobe Senior Creative Director Russell Brown takes you back, back, way back, into history with Photoshop 5.0  
**INTERMEDIATE**

## THE FUTURE IS HISTORY!

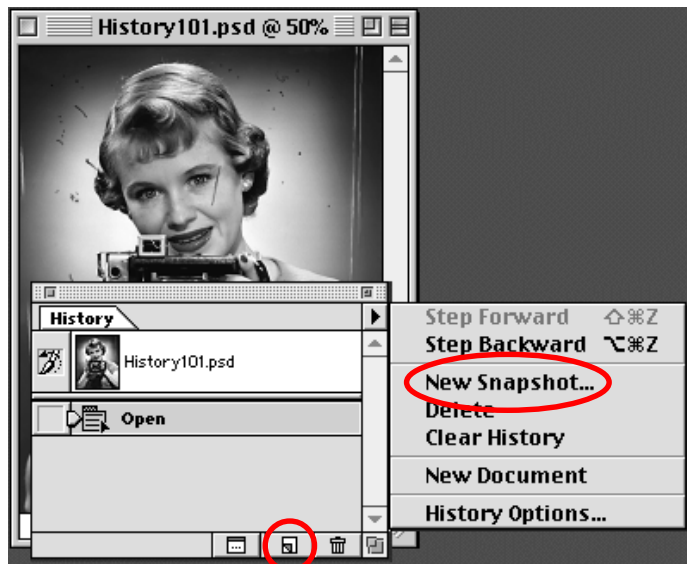
1. I'm going to start this history lesson with an old classic photo. As you can see, it's an extremely scratched and dusty image. The basic concept here is to repair this photo by painting between different snapshots of the same image—one with flaws and scratches and one without. Keep in mind, I'm starting with a damaged photograph for this example, but you can use this repair technique to do many other special effects much easier and faster.



### History palette

The success of this technique is dependent upon the use of the History palette to make snapshots of a current state of an image. Once a file is closed and reopened, the History palette is clear of all the previous states.

2. To begin with, open the History palette. Notice that the default setting in Photoshop 5.0 automatically provides you with a snapshot when you open the palette. If you want to create a new snapshot, either select New Snapshot from the pop-up menu or click the New Snapshot button at the bottom of the palette.



### Snapshots

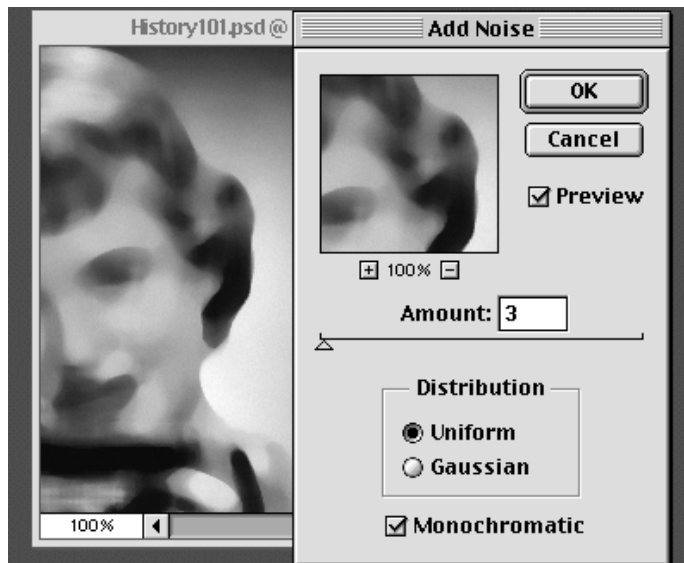
A snapshot is a temporary copy of a particular state of an image. Snapshots are not saved when the image is closed.

3. Now that you have a history state to work with, choose Filter > Noise > Dust & Scratches. Set the Threshold to 0 and increase the Radius setting until most of the small flaws disappear. Make sure you select Preview to see how the filter is affecting the image. You may need to use the clone tool to repair any large flaws that the filter cannot handle.



**Dust & Scratches**  
Normally, you would run this filter on the original image. Here, we're running it on a copy of the original and then using this copy or snapshot as a source from which to repair the original. Sounds a little complex, but don't worry — it works!

4. You will now use this snapshot along with the History brush to “paint” over the flaws in the original image. Since the snapshot has been blurred by the Dust & Scratches filter, you need to reintroduce some noise so that the grain matches that of the original image. Choose Filter > Noise > Add Noise. Select Distribution: Uniform, select the Monochromatic option, and a small Amount of 3.



**Monochromatic**  
Selecting Monochromatic is important when working with color images since this option ensures that no random colors are introduced with the added noise. The higher your image's resolution, the higher a value you'll need for the Add Noise filter.

5. Next, create a new snapshot of the current state of the image. Choose Merged Layers from the pop-up menu. Merged Layers simplifies the document by reducing the number of layers that might be in the original. The History brush will let you work with as many layers as you want, but doing so can be like going through a time warp. Going back and changing the history of a single layer is extremely powerful, but it goes beyond this 101 course description.



**Merged layers**  
When you create a new snapshot you have three choices from which to choose. The first one, Full Document, makes a snapshot that contains all the layers in an image at that state. Merged Layers will make a snapshot with all of the layers merged in the image at that state and Current Layer makes a snapshot of only the selected layer of a particular state.

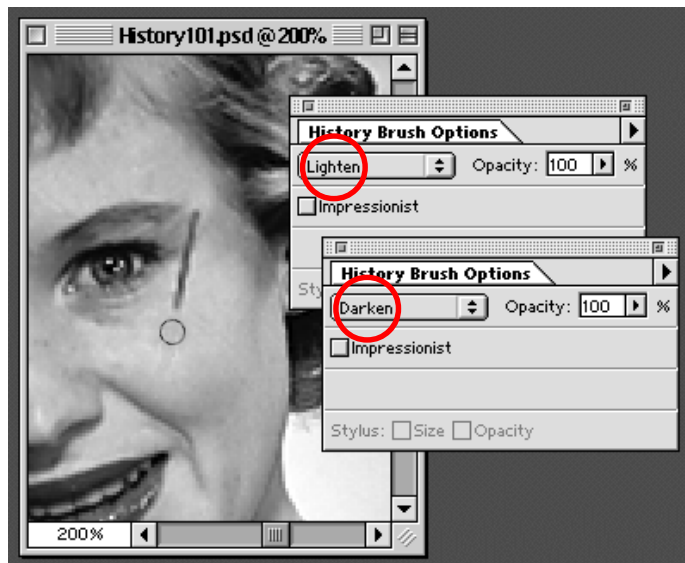
6. Select the history brush from the Tool palette. Target the original image (History101.psd), in the History palette but set the source for the history brush to correspond to the second, more blurred snapshot we just made and named Snapshot 1.



### History options

If you don't want to lose all the current states of an image when you make a new snapshot, you need to select the History options from the History palette pop-up menu and select Allow Non-Linear History.

7. In the History Brush Options palette, set the mode to Darken. Choose a fairly small brush size and start eliminating the lighter scratches in the image by painting over them. When you have eliminated the lighter scratches, set the mode to Lighten in the History Brush Options palette, and paint over the spots and dust in the image. It is sometimes necessary to use both Darken and Lighten to correct an image.



### History brush option modes

With Lighten mode selected in the History Brush Options palette, the history brush will replace only the areas that are darker than the snapshot—that is, the dust and spots—while the rest of the photo is protected. With Darken mode selected, the history brush replaces only the areas that are lighter than the snapshot.

8. Here is the finished image, just as it was in the past, void of dust and scratches.

You are now ready to travel into the future with the past, letting history show you the way.



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