







Adobe Photoshop CC vs Photopea

There's no question Adobe Photoshop CC is our 'Premier' choice for graphic design.

But if you don't have the software Photopea's a good alternative and you can even work on the PSD files in both!



Essential

	Adobe Photoshop CC	Photopea	 Tool Name Difference	 Other Notes
Organising your workspace	Panels Window	Panels Window		
Setting up a document	Arrange Windows	New Document		
Changing the document colour	New Document fill Bucket	New Document fill Bucket		
Guides	Guides Snap to Guides	Guides Snap to Guides		
Saving	Save	Save		
	Saving Options	Saving Options		
History	History Window	History Window		
Using a colour from an image	Colour Picker	Colour Picker		
Importing images	Place Embedded	Open & Place	✓	
Show Transform Tools	Transform Controls	Transform Controls	✓	
Smart Objects	Smart Objects	Smart Objects		
Transforming Images – flipping	flip Horizontal flip Vertical	flip Horizontal flip Vertical		

	Adobe Photoshop CC	Photopea	 Tool Name Difference	 Other Notes
Brightness/Contrast	Adjustments	Adjustments		Adjustments the same for both
Auto levels	Adjustments	Auto Contrast	✓	for levels, you are adjusting the contrast automatically
Auto colour	Adjustments	Auto Colour		
Eraser	Eraser	Eraser		
	Background Eraser	Background Eraser		Works slightly differently
	Magic Eraser	Magic Cut	✓	
Basic painting with a brush	Brush Tool	Brush Tool		
Adding text	Text Tool	Text Tool		
	Vertical Text Tool			There is not currently a tool in Photopea
Adding basic shapes	Rectangle Rounded Rectangle Ellipse Polygon Custom Shape	Rectangle Ellipse Line Parametric Shape Custom Shape	✓	
Applying filters	filters	filters		
	face Liquify	Liquify		Photopea does not have the same range of tools e.g. the ability to detect facial parts!
Move tools	Move Tool	Move Tool		
	Content-Aware Move Tool	Content-Aware Move Tool		Can be a bit slow when processing





Advanced

	Adobe Photoshop CC	Photopea	 Tool Name Difference	 Other Notes
Selection Tools	Quick Selection	Quick Selection		
	Magic Wand	Magic Wand	✓	
	Rectangular Marquee	Rectangular Select		
	Elliptical Marquee	Ellipse Select	✓	
	Lasso Tool	Lasso Tool		
	Polygonal Lasso Tool	Polygonal Lasso Tool		
	Magnetic Lasso Tool	Magnetic Lasso Tool		
	Inverse	Inverse		
	Save Selection			Not possible in Photopea
	Add To Selection	Add To Selection		Icons look a bit different
	Object Selection Tool	Object Selection Tool		
Manipulating layers	Selecting & Moving Layers	Selecting & Moving Layers		
	Adding & hiding layers	Adding & hiding layers		
	Changing the opacity	Changing the opacity		
	Non-Destructive Workflow	Non-Destructive Workflow		Look for Sample All Layers in Photoshop and Source in Photopea
Using adjustment layers	Adjustment layers	Adjustment layers		
Layer styles	Layer Style	Layer Style		
Levels	Levels Histogram	Levels Histogram		Photopea does not appear as comprehensive
Curves	Curves Histogram	Curves Histogram		Photopea does not appear as comprehensive
feathering (on edges)	feathering	feathering		
Cloning and healing	Clone Stamp Tool	Clone Stamp Tool		
	Spot Healing Brush Tool	Spot Healing Brush Tool		May need a few tweaks to get it to work how you want it to and can lag but it works the same



Advanced

	Adobe Photoshop CC	Photopea	 Tool Name Difference	 Other Notes
Gradient effects	Gradient Tool	Gradient Tool		
	Gradient Map	Gradient Map		
	Gradient Text	Gradient Text		
Stroke and fill	Stroke & fill options	Stroke & fill options		
Text special effects	Text on a shape	Text on a shape		Works slightly differently
	Text on a path	Text on a path		Works slightly differently
	Text effects	Text effects		
Modifying shapes with effects	Shape Effects	Shape Effects		
Burn, dodge and sponge	Burn Tool	Burn Tool		
	Dodge Tool	Dodge Tool		
	Sponge Tool	Sponge Tool		
Using masks	Mask	Mask		Rather than drag selection from image to image, use cut/copy and paste
Blur, sharpen & smudge	Blur tool	Blur tool		
	Sharpen tool	Sharpen tool		
	Smudge Tool	Smudge Tool		
Transformation techniques	Transformation Tool	Transformation Tool		You can use Ctrl/Command T still for quick selection