How to Use the Selection Tools in Adobe Photoshop CS5

Subject Descriptors: Selection Tools, Rectangle Selection Tool or Marquee Tool, Elliptical Selection Tool or Marquee Tool, Single Row Selection Tool or Marquee Tool, Single Column Marquee Tool or Selection Tool, Magic Wand, Magic Wand Tool, Quick Selection Tool, Quick Selection, Lasso Tool, Polygonal Lasso Tool, Polygonal Lasso, Magnetic Lasso Tool, Magnetic Lasso.

Application (Version): Adobe Photoshop CS5

Task Description: How do I use the selection tools?

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Rectangle Selection Tool

This tool will allow you to create a rectangle selection.
Hold down your mouse and drag your selection to the desired size.

You can also move the rectangle selection around your image.
Elliptical Marquee Tool

This tool will allow you to create a circular selection.
Hold down your mouse and drag your selection to the desired size.

You can also move the circular selection around your image.
Single Row Tool

This tool allows you to make a horizontal selection.
Click in the desired area to make a horizontal line.

If you do not like where the line is; then just click in the desired area.
This tool allows you to make a vertical selection.
Click in the desired area to make a vertical line.

If you do not like where the line is; then just click in the desired area.
This tool is a free hand drawing selection tool.
Hold down your mouse button as you draw in the area that you would like to have selected.

- Hold down "Shift" on the keyboard as you draw in the area that you want **added** to the selection.
- Hold down "Alt" on the keyboard as you draw to **subtract** from a selected area.
Polygonal Lasso Tool

This tool allows you to click points around your picture to create your selection.
Click on a point, let go, and move to your next point and click again.

A straight line is drawn from point to point.

**Magnetic Lasso Tool**

This tool allows you to select an object by tracing its outline.
Click on the object’s edge to create a starting point.

Click where you would like to start your selection point.

Trace around the edges of the image.

- The trace does not have to be perfect because the tool will magnetically stick to the edges of the image.
- Make sure to click on parts that will be changing directions. All the little squares are places that I have clicked so that the trace will be a lot more accurate.
Click on the starting point.

- To finish the selection you have to click back on the starting point.
- The "Magnetic Lasso" will have a small circle next to it when you are back to the starting point.

**Magic Wand Tool**

This tool allows you to select areas that are similar shades of color.
Click on the area that you would like selected.

- Hold down "Shift" on the keyboard and select another area to **add** to the selection.
- Hold down "Alt" on the keyboard and select the area that you would like to have **subtracted** from a selection.

  *The reason that you would have to do this is if the selection has different shades of color.*
Quick Selection Tool

This tool is like the "Magic Wand Tool" except you will be able to keep clicking on areas to have it selected instead of having to hold down the "Shift" key, but you will have to hold down the "Alt" key if you want to subtract areas that were selected. You also will be able to select different areas of the image.
Click all of the areas that you would like to have selected.

To subtract areas hold down "Alt" on your keyboard and click on the areas that you would like to have subtracted from your selection.