

change the font type and size, as well as the text color and alignment. If you have the Custom Shape Tool selected, you can change how it behaves, what shape it makes, and what color will result.

TOOLS PANEL

The Tools Panel, located on the left-hand side of your screen, contains tools that let you interact directly with your Photoshop files. Some of the tools have a small black triangle at the bottom-right. Click and hold down on one of these tools, and you will see the fly-out menu which contains related tools. For example, the fly-out menu for the Gradient Tool also contains the Paint Bucket tool. To select a tool, click on it in the Tools Panel. Many tools have keyboard shortcuts of single letters, indicated by a letter to the far-right on the fly-out tool menu. For example, you can press the G key to access the Gradient tool, and then press it again to access the Paint Bucket tool.

PANELS

The Photoshop panels, located on the right-hand side of your screen, give you even more options for your tools than the Control Panel does. Panels help you manage and edit your images, allowing for quick and easy access to the most common controls for a particular task. By default, three panels will appear when you open Photoshop: the layers, adjustments and styles panels. To view any panel that is not currently visible, select it from the Window menu.

IMAGE WINDOW

The Image Window is where you view the current image or images that you are working with. When you open an image in Photoshop, the image window will appear docked in the center of the workspace with a tab labeling the image in the upper-left corner. You can have multiple images open at the same time. Each image can be accessed by clicking on its corresponding tabs.

Be warned

Photoshop CS4 is a RAM hungry application. It needs a lot of RAM Installed to work well. If you don't have a lot of system RAM installed, and you have a lot of images open at the same time, you will experience a lot of trouble. Your system will lag and the program will become less responsive.

Collaborate:	Group Activity
Computerized Activity:	Hands-on Exercises
Culminate:	Seatwork for the whole lesson
Compu-Bits:	Added information/discussion for the lesson