Adobe® Photoshop® 5.0 comes with more than 100 different Actions. Several of these Actions create frames. If you like the frame but want to customize it for your image, you can do so easily. In this technique, you will make a picture frame for your image and then change its color using an adjustment layer. Adjustment layers allow you to alter the color of the frame without losing its shading, beveling and texture.
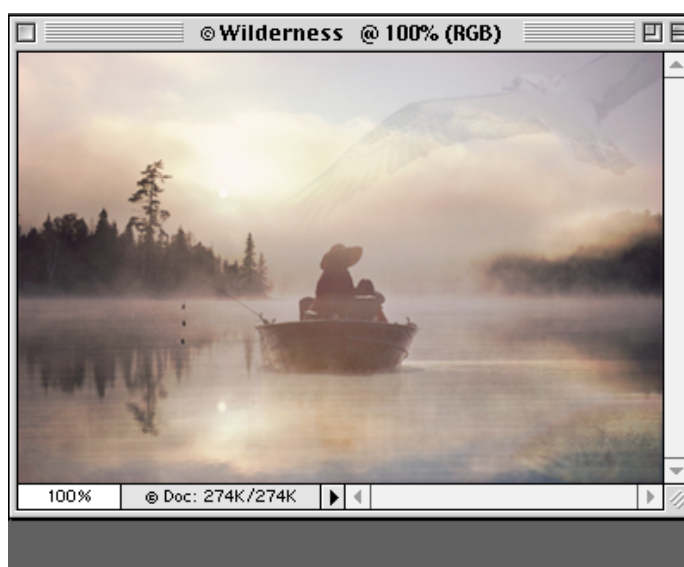
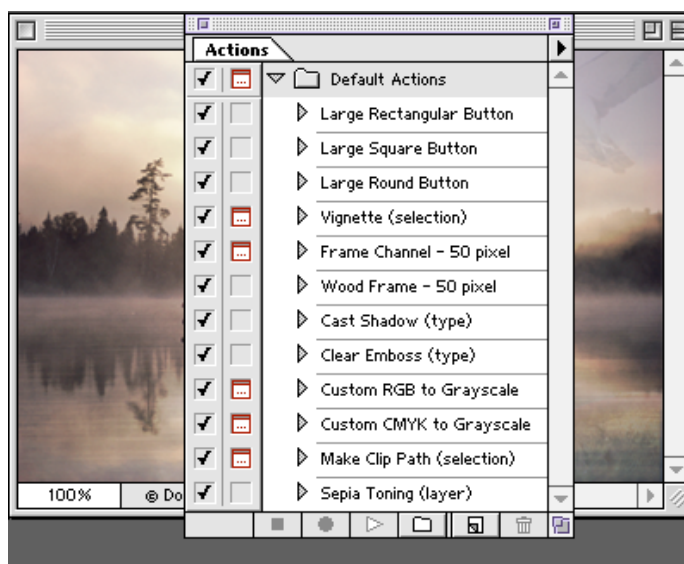Luanne Seymour Cohen, Adobe Imaging Evangelist, customizes Actions in Adobe Photoshop 5.0.

BEGINNER

QUICK PICTURE FRAMES

1. Open the image you want to frame. The image size must be more than 100 pixels in both width and height. This action works best on a flattened or a one-layer file. Here we are using the *Wilderness* file found in the Adobe Photoshop 5.0 Goodies Sampler folder.
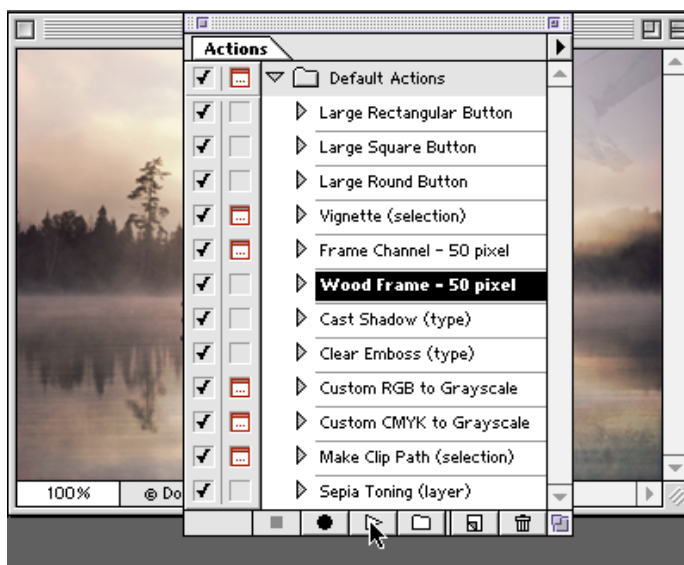
2. Choose Window > Show Actions to display the Actions palette. Open the Default Actions set.

100 free Actions
Photoshop 5.0 ships with eight Action sets containing more than 100 different Actions. You can find them in the Goodies folder inside the Photoshop 5.0 application folder for both Mac and Windows versions.

3. Select the Wood Frame - 50 pixel Action and click the Play button. Once you click the Play button a dialog box will appear. Click Continue if you have at least a 100 pixel wide and tall image. Click Stop if your image is smaller than this. Applying the Action to your image will make your image 100 pixels wider and 100 pixels taller than the original image.
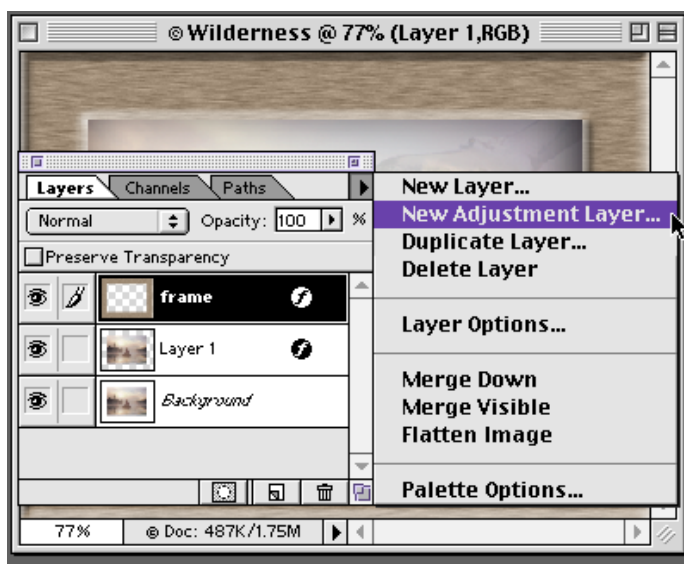
4. The Action creates a "wood" frame around your image. If you are satisfied with the image, save the file now and you are finished. If you want to change the color of the frame, go to step 5.
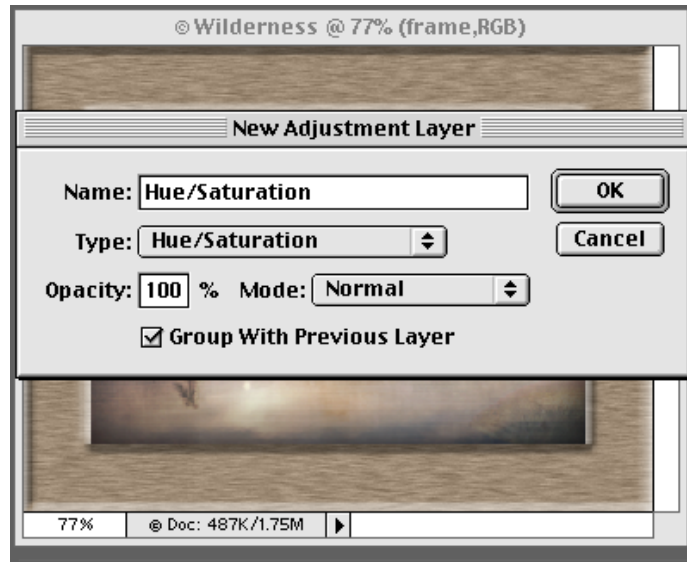
Layer Effects
To change a layer effect setting, double-click on the layer effect icon, located in the Layer palette.

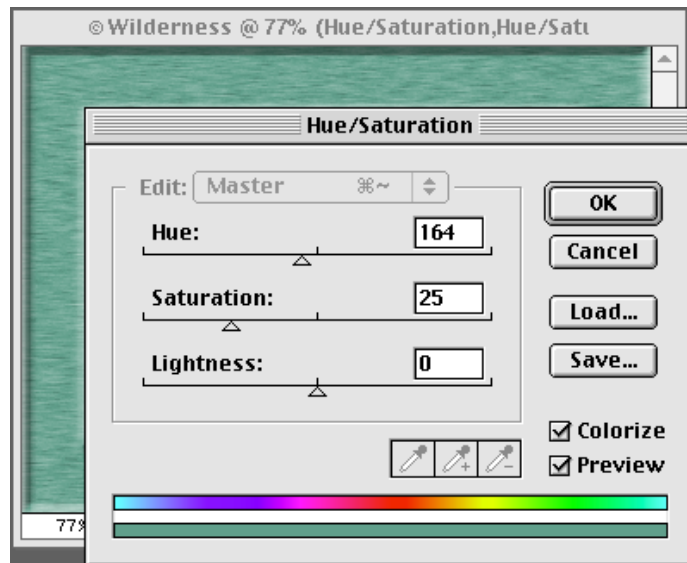**5.** Select the *frame* layer. From the Layers palette, choose New Adjustment Layer.

6. Choose the type of adjustment you want to make. In this case we want to change the color of the frame so choose Hue/Saturation. Click Group With Previous Layer so that the color adjustment affects only the *frame* layer.

Adjustment Layers
If you want to experiment with color or contrast adjustments but you don't want to permanently change the original, use adjustment layers. They float above the layers you want to alter. If you don't like the effect, just double click on the adjustment layer and change the values. You can apply an adjustment layer to an entire file or to just one layer at a time.

7. Select the Colorize option. Then move the Hue slider until you find the color you want. To make the color more or less intense, adjust the Saturation slider. To make the color lighter or darker, adjust the Lightness slider.

8. Click OK to view the results. Remember, you used an adjustment layer for maximum flexibility, so you can double click on it at any time and change the values.