

PHOTOSHOP COLOUR SATURATION ADJUSTMENT

The intensity of colour in an image (Saturation) can be increased or decreased using the image adjustment **Hue & Saturation**.

Image > Adjustment > Hue & Saturation

or

By an adjustment layer in the layers pallet

When the dialog box is first opened you will find that the **Edit** is set to **Master** and when the **Saturation Slider** is moved, the intensity of all the colours change together. However, it is also possible to change the colours individually. This is simply done by clicking on the **Edit drop down box** and change the setting from **Master** to the colour you want to change the intensity of. This can be a very powerful, but simple, image manipulation technique and can be used to create both subtle and dramatic effects.

Used subtly it is possible to reduce the intensity of the green which, in landscape and natural history images, can sometimes appear too green making the image seem unnatural (to reduce the green in an image it is necessary to reduce the yellow).

For a dramatic effect, try increasing the dominate colour in an image to make it even more dominate.

When increasing the saturation there is normally a limit to how much the colours can be intensified before they start to block out. A technique of being able to push the colours further without this happening is to:

- Make a **Copy Layer** of the **Background** and blur it using **Gaussian Blur** to a **Radius** of **5 pixels** – the image will now look slightly blurred.
- Now change the **Blending Mode** of this layer to **Colour** – the image will now become sharp.
- Make sure you are still working on the **Copy Background Layer**, it is good practice to rename this layer "**Saturation**", and now when the saturation is increased, it can be increased further than before without the colours blocking out.

