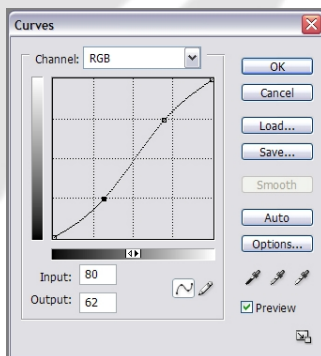
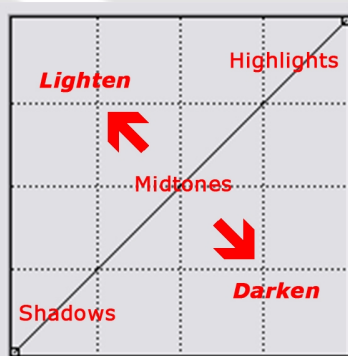
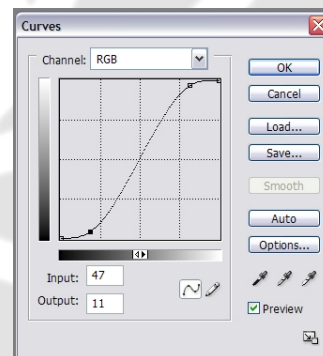


PHOTOSHOP CURVES ADJUSTMENT

The main use of Curves is to change the contrast within an image. Curves have the advantage over Brightness/Contrast because they are more selective over the range of tones that the change is applied to. Unlike Brightness/Contrast where the change will be applied to the whole of the tonal range, it is possible to apply the change selectively to the shadow, midtone and highlight areas. The Curves dialogue box consists of a graph with a line that runs at 45° from the bottom left to top right and by clicking on this line and pulling it has the effect of changing the contrast in the following ways.



Gentle Increase in Contrast



Dramatic Increase in Contrast

The usual adjustment is to apply a gentle "S" Curve as in the first example. If a more dramatic increase in contrast is required, with the emphasis in the shadow and highlight areas, the Curves can be adjusted as in the second example. Other adjustments can be made depending on the effect required and having an understanding of what is happening makes it easier to make the adjustments.

