# Directions for simple Photoshop processes part 2

## Using the clone stamp

Make a copy of your background - drag layer down to piece of paper next to trash can - do this EVERY time you open your photo BEFORE you start to edit.

Select Clone Stamp tool – either by hitting the letter s or by clicking on the 5$^{th}$ tool down on the tool palette when it is doubled up, by clicking on the arrows at the top of the tool palette.

To sample what you will for the clone stamp, hold down the Alt key and click with the mouse on an area close to what you want to change. On the top bar where you can change the brush size, to the right where it says "opacity" you may want to reduce this to somewhere between 90 and 98 for small quick fixes or to much less (10 – 15) for larger areas, however this will require more 'stamping'. This helps to avoid blotchiness and
to avoid obvious circles being formed. To engage the clone stamp, click on the area you want to change.

Be careful to note where the crosshairs are, as this is indicating what area you are "cloning".

Be sure to re-sample often (by holding down Alt key and clicking) as shadows and highlights and other things create variations and as you move the clone stamp to clone something the crosshairs move too.