

Defogging the Image

The Unsharp mask can be used for other purposes than simply sharpening the picture. This technique is a great way to add some punch to your image. I call it De-Fogging.

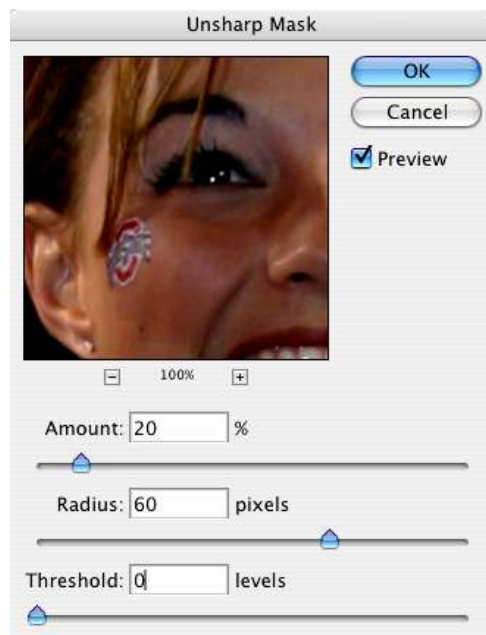
Here, we're not trying to sharpen small detail, but increase the contrast between large areas of the picture. It makes the image look like it was taken with an expensive lens compared to a cheap lens. The more expensive lenses produced images that had a bit more contrast. De-fogging the image with the Un-Sharp Mask filter gives that same look.

Here are my the settings for a 6 mega-pixel digital camera, or high resolution scan:

Amount: 20 (range 10-20) An amount of 10 will give less affect.

Radius: 60

Threshold: 0



I use this technique first thing on my digital camera images. This setting makes the image look like it was taken with a more expensive lens.