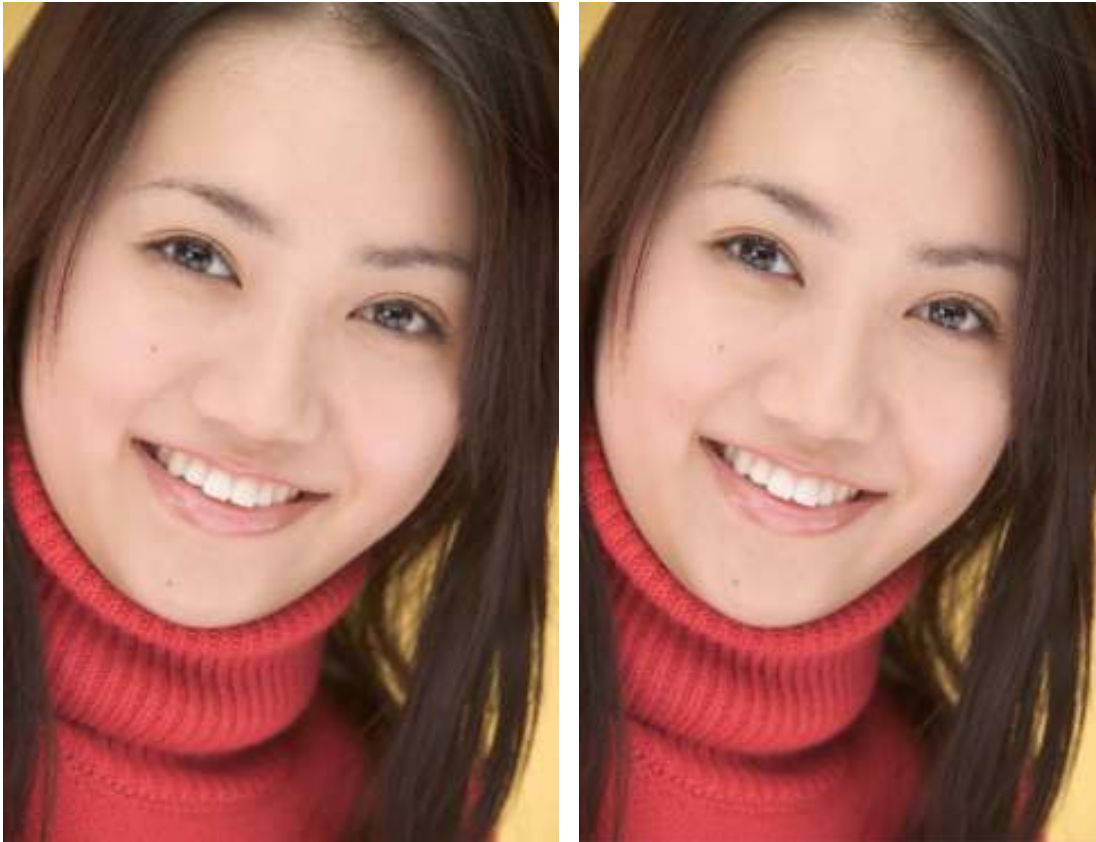


# Make Someone Look Ten Pounds Thinner

I learned this technique from the late Carl Volk. Carl was a great Photoshop instructor and friend. Some Photoshop techniques are more involved than others. This one is as simple as it gets.



You need to be subtle with this technique, as it is easy to overdo. Remember you never want your client to know they have been retouched! The picture on the left is the before image. The picture on the right makes the person look ten pounds thinner.

Here are the steps:

- Make Background Copy
- Edit / Free Transform
- Throw the background layer away

## Re-Crop the image

Image: Kodak Head Shot

Start by making a background copy.



Choose: **Edit / Free Transform**. Then look for the side handles of the **Free Transform Box**.



**Click and drag one of the side handles in a little bit. Something like this:**



**This is where you want to be careful and not drag the layer too much. Press the enter key to complete the Transform. You will be able to see the underlying background layer. Go to the layer palette and drag the background layer to the trash at the bottom of the layer palette.**



**The image will look like this:**



**All that's left is to re-crop the image. You can use the crop tool or the Rectangular Marquee Tool. I like to use the Rectangular Marquee tool. If you want, you can double click on the Background copy layer and re-name it "Background". I use this technique all the time.**



**This technique works great on group shots also.**