

Synching For Speed Inside Lightroom's Develop Module

by Doug Sloss

When establishing an efficient workflow, one thing savvy photographers look for are ways to speed up the editing process. One effective way to improve speed in Lightroom is by employing the program's Synch command to quickly apply identical edits to an image set of similar photos captured in the same conditions. While it's possible to use the synch command to apply develop edits to a group of wide angle shots, it is especially helpful when running it on a group of macro subjects where lighting for the most part remains consistent and your subject often remains somewhat motionless, which gives you a fairly consistent background while talking your pictures. Here's how it works.

The first thing I did was choose a photo to make my initial develop edits on. I started with the first image in the Filmstrip and applied a lens profile correction and removed chromatic aberration from the photo using the controls inside the Lens Correction panel. I then applied a minor crop to tighten up the composition. These edits help improve the base image

and add additional thumbnail icons to the first filmstrip image. While all the images carry an icon for being inside a collection, just the first image has the additional develop icons displayed. (Figure 1)

I then wanted to improve the overall look and feel of the photo. As with any raw file you work with inside Lightroom, these need a little work to make them look their best. For example, the color of the anemone is not as vivid and green as I'd like it to be.

Massaging the colors back into place however is easy. Here, I improved the hues of the anemone by opening Lightroom's Hue Saturation and Luminance Panel, activating the Targeted Adjustment Tool (TAT), hovered a tentacle tip to work on, and clicked and dragged down with the tool to shift the colors more towards green.

The tool improved the hues by moving two sliders at once as

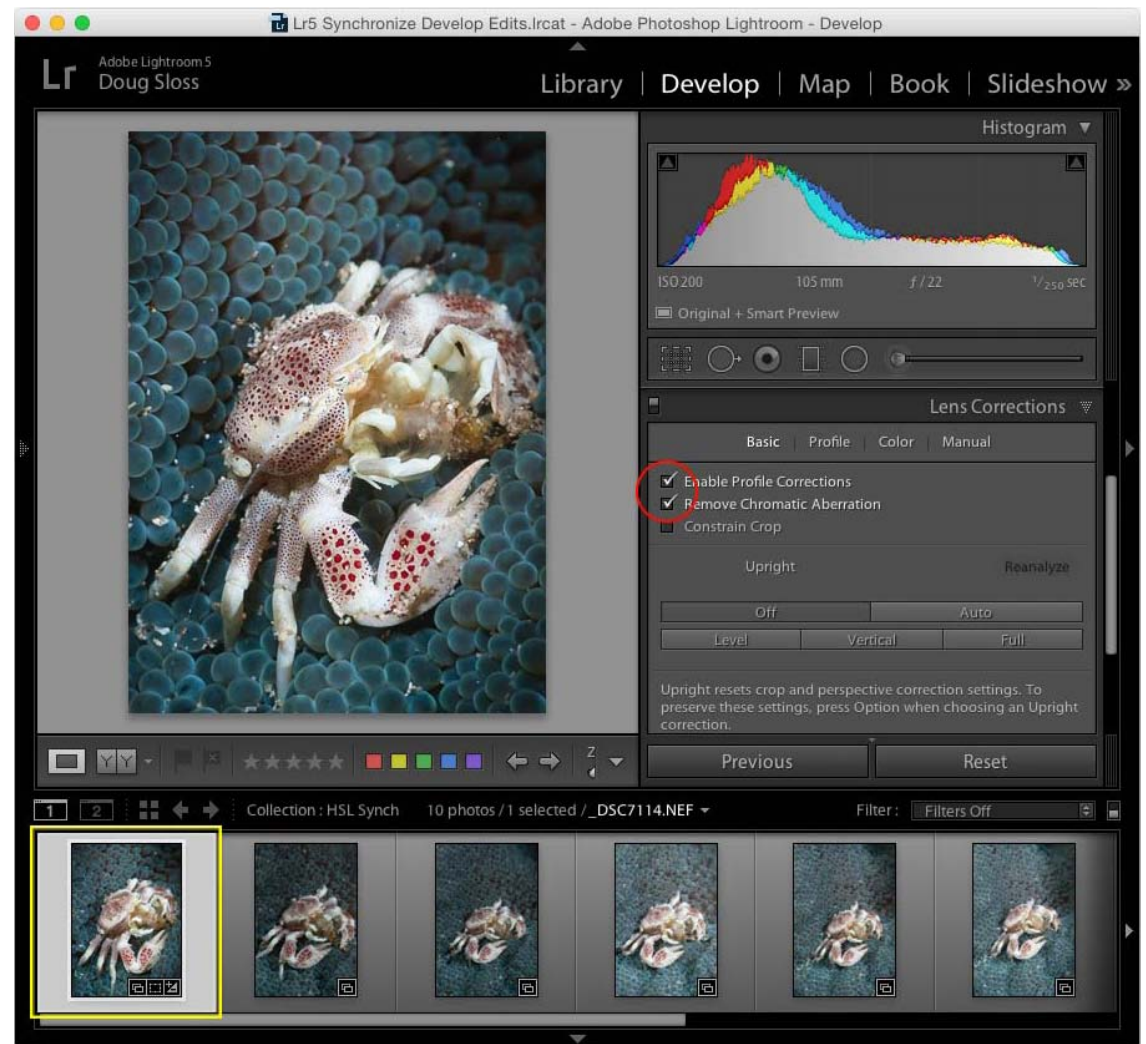


Figure 1: A profile correction was applied to the first raw file and chromatic aberration was removed as well (red circle). In addition, a small crop was utilized to zoom in on the crab. Notice the Filmstrip thumbnail (yellow square) carries develop and crop icons while the others display just a collection icon as no adjustments have yet been applied to those image files.