

Adobe Photoshop Lightroom Classic

2024 Release



Classroom in a Book®

The official training workbook from Adobe

RC Concepcion

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Classroom in a Book®

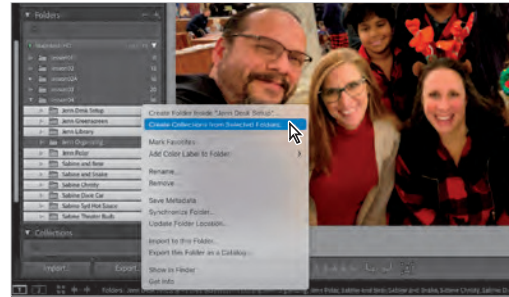
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Pro tip: Automatic collections from folders

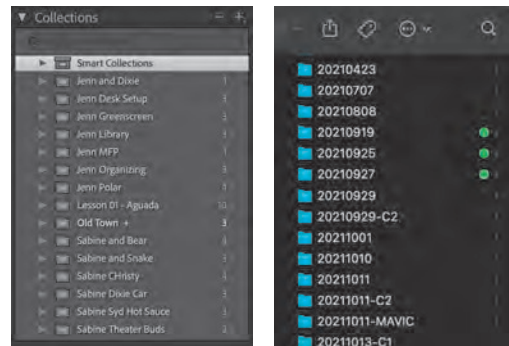
Let's make collections from all of the folders for this lesson.

- 1 Click the first folder and Shift-click the last one to select all of them. Command-click/Ctrl-click the Jenn Organizing folder (we already made that one). Right-click any one of the selected folders and choose Create Collections From Selected Folders.



- 2 In the Collections panel, compare the collection names to the names of the folders that you imported from the lesson04 folder, making sure all match.

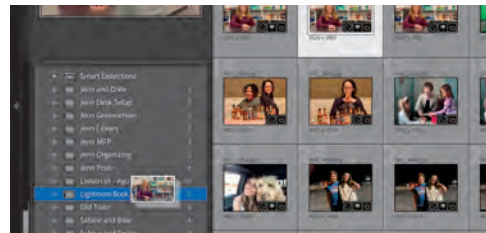
Here, I created folders with names to make it easier for you, but when you're doing this for your archive, I recommend keeping dates for folder names and renaming them in the Collections panel later.



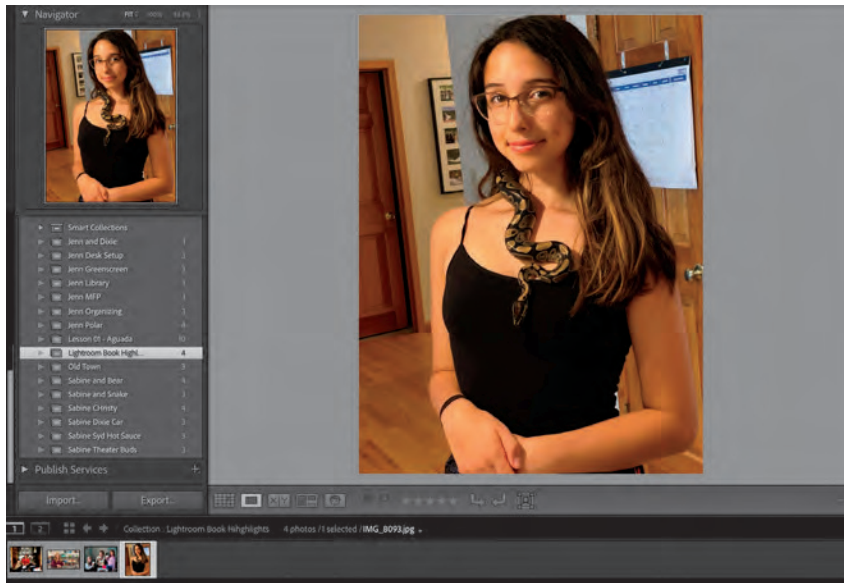
Your turn: Make a new collection

Let's make another new collection, this time one that includes images from multiple folders.

- 1 Click the Collections panel's plus sign (+) icon again, and create a new collection called **Lightroom Book Highlights**. Make sure Include Selected Photos is unselected. Click Create.
- 2 Click the lesson04 folder in the Folders panel to see all of the images you've imported. If necessary, make the thumbnails smaller so you can see all of them.
- 3 Command-click/Ctrl-click any four of the images and drag them into the new collection. The goal here is to make sure that you are selecting images from more than one folder inside the lesson04 folder.



Your new collection now houses images from different folders, yet each one still reflects only a single physical copy on your computer. As your photographic needs grow, you'll find that you need to organize collections like digital albums—to share the best of a series of images in short order.

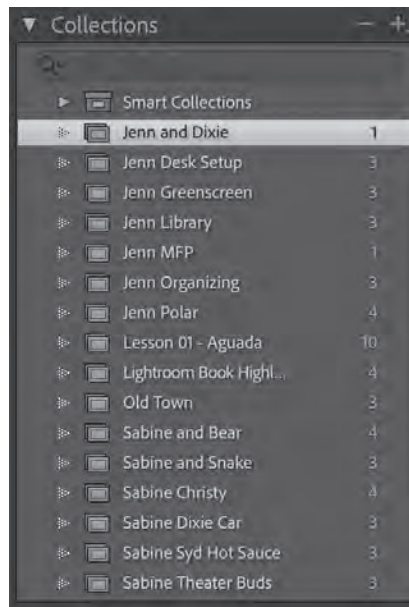


Working with collection sets

It's easy to see that, as you add more collections, your list in the Collections panel could get a little unwieldy. If you use Lightroom for professional and personal work and have a lot of different collections for each, it will be hard to scroll through them all and see where your work images are versus your family images.

We need to better group and organize our collections. This is where collection sets come in. Collection sets are virtual folders that can hold both collections and other collection sets.

Let's go through some examples with the collections that we have so far. Take a look at the collections we've made so far; we can find some elements that each of them share.



Tip: While it's incredibly useful to have collections created from existing folders, I'm not a fan of having them named exactly the same as my folder names. When I make collections, the names are more descriptive and less technical. So I normally rename the collections to something that makes more sense to me.

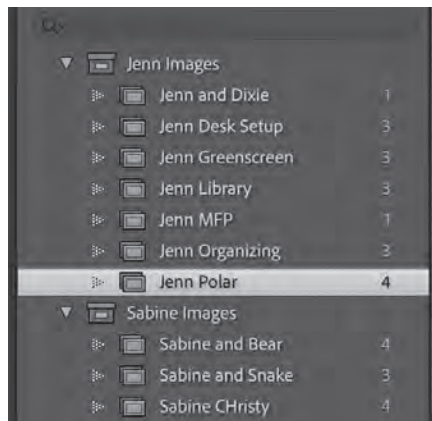
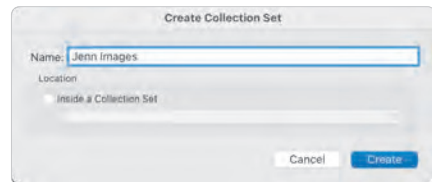
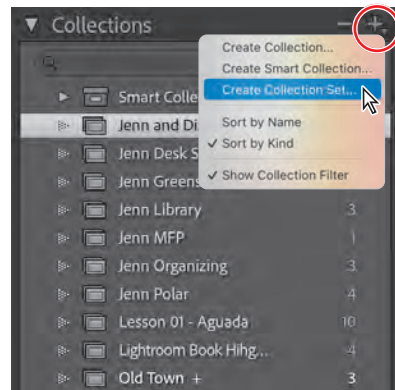
There is a series of collections with images of my wife, Jenn. There also is a series of collections with images of my daughter, Sabine. Let's start with Jenn.

- 1 Click the plus sign (+) icon at the upper right of the Collections panel and choose Create Collection Set.
- 2 In the Create Collection Set dialog box, for Name, type **Jenn Images**, and make sure Inside A Collection Set is unselected.
- 3 Click Create, and then drag all of the Jenn collections into the Jenn Images collection set.

You now have all of the Jenn collections organized in one spot.

- 4 Create another collection set, and this time, for Name, type **Sabine Images**. Place all of the Sabine collections inside of it. When done, your collections should look like the illustration to the right.
- 5 Looking at the Jenn and Sabine collection sets, what do these two sets have in common? They are family pictures! Let's create one more collection set. In the Create Collection Set dialog box, for Name, type **Family Pictures**. Instead of placing collections in it, drag the two collection sets—Jenn Images and Sabine Images—inside of it.

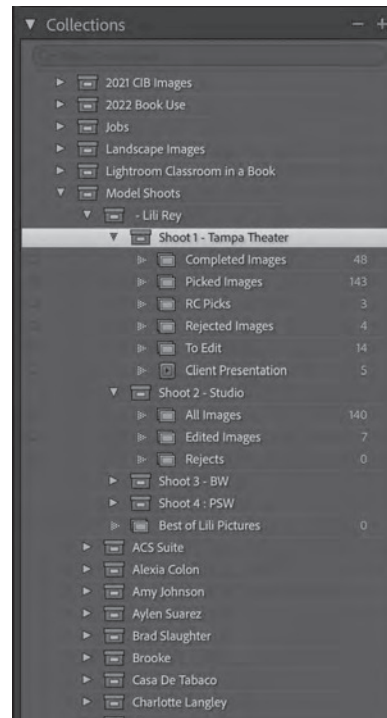
The great part about this is that you can see all of the family pictures by clicking the Family Pictures collection set, individual people by clicking their individual set, or specific moments by clicking the individual collections. Organizational nirvana!



When I turn to the work I do with people, I have a large collection set called “Model Shoots” that then has a collection set for each individual model I work with. Within the collection set for each model, there are separate collection sets for the individual shoots that I would do with them. This is helpful when you do multiple shoots with a specific person. Inside each shoot collection set, I have individual collections for particular views of my images: All Images, Picked Images, Final Images, and so on.

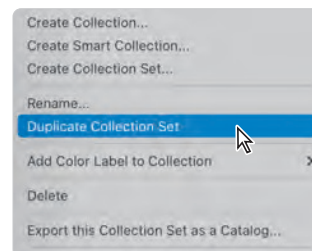
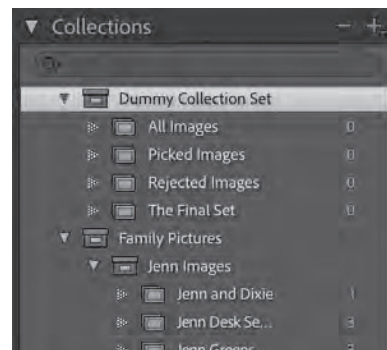
For my workflow, I like to make a collection set for each individual event, and inside that collection set, I tend to have a common set of collections that I use.

In previous versions of Lightroom, this was a process that required multiple steps, but Adobe has since made this much easier with one change.



Duplicating collection sets

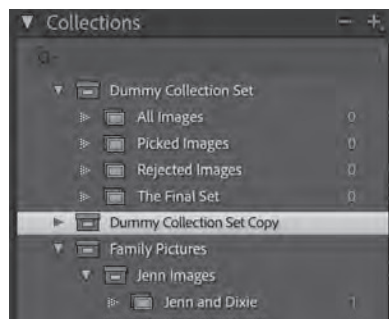
- 1 Create a collection set called **Dummy Collection Set**. In it, place a series of collections that you will find helpful for your specific workflow. I've included collections for All Images, Picked Images, Rejected Images, and The Final Set. Make sure that this dummy collection set is not inside of any other collection sets.
- 2 Once you have imported your images for your new shoot, right-click the dummy collection set you just created and select Duplicate Collection Set from the menu.



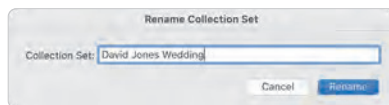
► **Tip:** The collections that you make inside of the collection set will be listed in alphabetical order. This is why I called the last collection set in the series “The Final Set” instead of “Final Set.” If I had not added the article “the,” it would have appeared below the All Images collection set. Making sure that I have it at the bottom just works better for me from a workflow perspective.

● **Note:** Previous versions of Lightroom had the ability to create a duplicate collection set, but did not bring along any individual collections that were inside of it. This change has taken an obscure feature and made it fantastically useful.

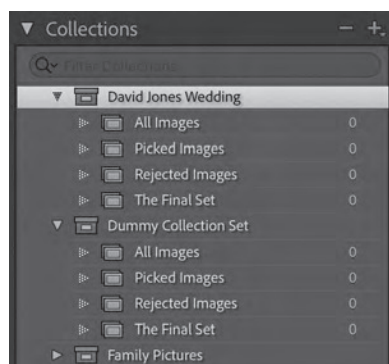
3 This creates a new collection set called “Dummy Collection Set Copy,” and you’ll notice that all of the collections that you created in Dummy Collection Set also are included in the copy.



4 Right-click the duplicate collection set and rename it to the specific name of your new shoot.

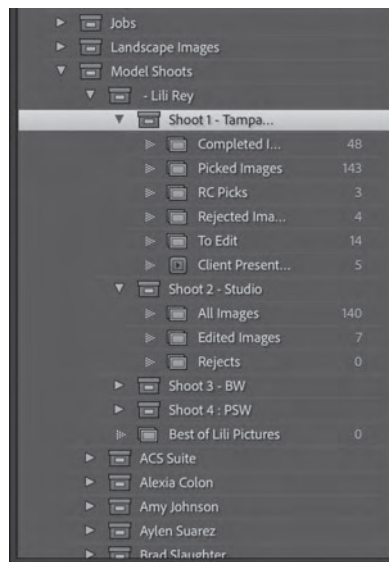


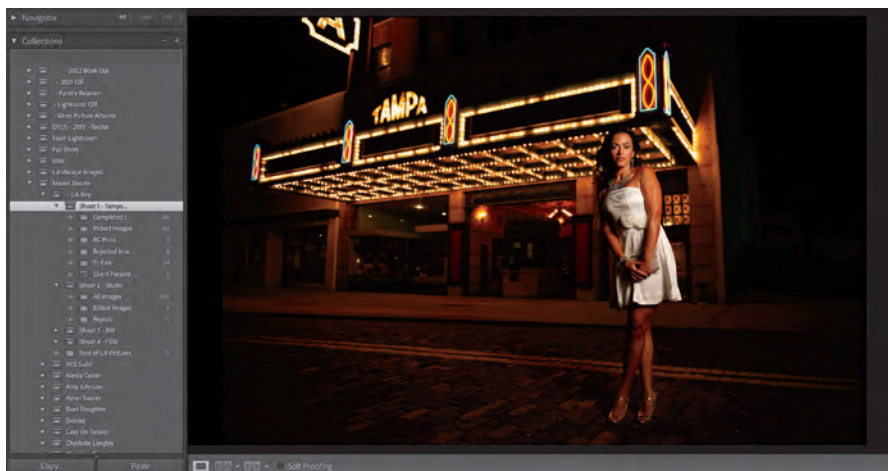
5 At this point, you can move the renamed collection set into any major category collection set you have created. Then, click Previous Import in the Catalog panel and move those images into the All Images collection for this shoot. As you start to cull the images down to a workable set, you can move them into the collections that make the most sense for you.



It’s important to note that collection sets can be set up in whatever manner makes the most sense for you and can vary from photographer to photographer.

Think of collections and collection sets as extremely powerful sock drawer organizers. There are a million ways to set them up, and each setup will be right for each individual person. The recommendations I make here are based on the amount of time I’ve spent making pictures, working with Lightroom, and consulting with other photographers on how to best set up their sock drawers. The bigger takeaway is that you need to have a plan.





Collection sets for organizing your work

Collection sets offer you a way to sort out large areas of your work into sections (as shown above) that are much easier to navigate as your library grows. For example, I have a collection set at the right called “Jobs,” where I keep all of my freelance work. In that collection set, I have other collection sets that house individual jobs that I’ve done. Inside each of my Jobs collection sets, I have individual collections. The David Michel Shoot collection set is a job, but in that job, I have a collection that shows me all of the images, and a collection that shows me the selected images from the shoot.

But what if a subset of my work included baby shoots? I could further break down my Jobs collection set by adding a Baby Shots collection set. In the Baby Shots collection set, I can add collection sets for each individual job (each baby or each client), and inside of those collection sets, I can add collections for different groups of images from that job (All Images, Selects, Final Pictures, and so on).

