

Replacing Skies – (Difficult Subjects e.g. Trees)

Open image

Select 'Channels'

Pick image most contrasty, e.g. Blue or Red (Highest degree of contrast).

Select 'Image' (from menu)

Select 'Calculations' from dropdown.

Source 1 = Background

Channel = Blue or Red (see above)

Source 2 = Background

Channel = Blue or Red (see above)

Blending = Overlay

Mask = unticked

Result = New Channel

OK.

This creates a new alpha channel – "Alpha 1" under the blue channel.

Menus

Image, Adjustments, Levels (or CTRL + L)

Move arrows -> & <- until foreground is black and sky is white.

OK.

Paint over any holes in foreground with a black brush.

Menus

Image, Adjustments, Invert or (CTRL+i)

(CTRL +) while clicking on the Alpha Channel to create a mask.

Click on RGB Channel.

Click on Layers Tab

Now drag your image using the move tool (V) onto a new background image (sky). Holding down the shift key will make the two images fit together in unison.