Restoring Faded and Discolored Photos in PaintShop Pro

In this tutorial we are going to look at a few different tools and techniques you can use to restore or adjust the color in older photos that have become faded or discolored. This process can also be applied to newer photos that just seem dull and need to be brightened up.

Open PaintShop Pro in the **Edit** workspace.

Here is the first photo we'll restore, which has become faded over time.

If you'd like to compare the restored version to the original, choose **File** > **Save Copy As**. This creates an identical image file, which you can then open in PaintShop Pro, and place the two images side by side in the workspace. To see your two images together, go to the **Window** menu and choose **Tile Vertically**. Then you can resize and reposition both image windows as you like.

For the first fix, go to **Adjust** > **Color** > **Fade Correction**. Be sure to check **Preview on Image**, so that the effect of the tool can be seen on the image itself. Adjust the amount of correction; for this image, a value of **25** brings back a lot of the original color.

Next, go to **Adjust** > **One Step Photo Fix**. This tool performs several functions at once: increasing brightness, balancing color and saturation, and overall sharpening.

For the final step, go to **Adjust** > **Hue and Saturation** > **Hue/Saturation/Lightness**. In this example, the zero value for **Saturation** and **Lightness** seem fine. But you can carefully adjust the **Hue** – increasing this value by clicking the **Up** or **Down** arrow makes a significant difference. In this case, reducing the Hue to **-5** produces a nice result.

Here is the final result:

For the second example, we are going to use this image, which has become discolored over time.

We'll perform the same three steps that were used on the previous image. First, we will use **Fade Correction** – a value of **50** does a nice job.

Next, we will apply **One Step Photo Fix** (found under the **Adjust** menu) and then open the **Hue/Saturation/Lightness** settings (also under the **Adjust** menu) and adjust the **Hue** to **-8**. This brings out some of the reds in the more neutral tones.

With these 3 tools we've been able to get rid of the red discoloration and brighten up the photo nicely.