2-POINT EFFECT WITH TOPAZ STAR EFFECTS
Workflow

In this project, we will walk you through an example workflow to help you get acquainted with the tools and setup of the new Topaz Star Effects. For this example we will start our work in the presets panel and then make some manual adjustments to customize the effect. Our goal here is to enhance the light post to instantly draw the eye to that light source.

1. Open your image in Photoshop (or another compatible host program) and go to Filters -> Topaz Labs -> Star Effects.

2. Once your image loads, use the zoom tools to zoom in on a specific part of your image. Then you can click on the preview and drag it around until you find an area that you like.

3. Go to your Presets panel on the left side of the screen and select the Sun Flare I preset.

   This will automatically detect the available light sources in your image and apply the effect to those light sources.

   Don’t worry if too many or too little light sources are affected. We will be able to adjust this using the Threshold slider and also the selective star brush tool.

   We are going to work on two aspects of this image. The first is the light cast on the wall behind the light post and then the second will be the actual light post itself.
Tutorial

Topaz Star Effects

Workflow
4. Go to the Star Setting tab and select the Remove brush option and brush over the light post to remove the Sun Flare I effect.

Once the effect is removed from the light post, we can focus on enhancing the light characteristics of the light reflection on the back wall.

5. Go to the Main Adjustments tab and we are going to slightly lower the Luminance and Spread sliders, which is going to lower the intensity of the added effect to give it more of a natural look.

6. Skip the Color Adjustments tab and go directly to the Additional Effects tab. Here we are going to also slightly lower the Glow and Flare sliders.

Be sure to use the Original and Preview buttons to see your before and after for comparison. You can also use the spacebar shortcut key.

Once you are happy with your adjustments you can either click OK to process your image or you can click Apply to add more effects.

7. For this example we also want to enhance the actual light post. So we will click the Apply button to apply and save the changes we’ve made so far.

Next we will focus on enhancing the lighting in the light post.

8. Select the Star Flare I preset again.

9. Go back to the Star Settings tab and select the Remove brush option. This time we are going to brush over the back wall to remove the effect. This will allow us to enhance only the light in the light post.

Tip: If you want to reposition the selected light source in your image, then you can use the Remove brush to erase it and then switch to the Add brush to select a new light source or reposition the center point of a selected light source.
To see only the added star effect(s), go to your Star Settings tab and select the Stars Only Mode. This will display on the created effect on a black background.

Tip: Don’t forget to switch back to the combined mode.

You also have the option of processing only the star effects without your base image. Just stay in the Stars only mode and then click the OK button.

10. Go to the Stay Type option in the Star Settings tab and change this to Hyper Star.
11. In the Main Adjustments tab we are going to lower the intensity of the effect by decreasing the value of the luminance and spread sliders.

12. We are going to subtly enhance the color of the effect using the sliders in the Color Adjustments tab. Slightly increase the Temperature slider (for a warmer effect) and also the Rainbow Strength and Rainbow Frequency sliders.

13. Finally we will go to the Additional Effects tab and increase the Secondary Points slider, while slightly lowering both the Flare and Glow sliders.

14. Once you are happy with your adjustments, click the OK button to process your changes and save your image back to Photoshop.
Before Topaz Star Effects
After Topaz Star Effects
Connect with Topaz

Follow us on Twitter for notifications of recent news and easily get in touch with us whenever you feel like it!

Find us on our Facebook page and network with other Topaz users!

Participate in the entirely user-led Topaz Flickr group for a helpful and highly active community for Topaz Photoshop plug-ins!

Subscribe to our YouTube channel to keep up with any newly released product video tutorials!

Check out our new Forum and our blog for tutorials, tips and updates from Topaz Labs!