



Your skills. Your advantage.

Tosa for Adobe Photoshop*

Exam Blueprint

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Introduction to the Tosa[®] Exam Blueprint

For Tosa[®] Assessment and Certification

Tosa® (Test on Software Applications)

Tosa® assessments and certifications are designed to determine a candidate's proficiency level by evaluating their skills in office software and digital tools commonly used in a professional or educational environment.

These tests are specifically developed to validate the professional competencies of candidates looking to enhance their employability (employees, students, job seekers, and individuals undergoing career transitions).

Tosa® assessments and certifications are adaptive tests, developed using scientific methodologies. The scoring is based on Item Response Theory (IRT). The test algorithm adapts to each candidate's response in real time, adjusting the difficulty level of subsequent questions until it precisely determines the candidate's skill level by calculating the upper limit of their competencies. As a result, the tests provide a detailed and unique diagnosis of each candidate's abilities.

The rigor and reliability of Tosa® tests stem from the combination of a mathematical model for analyzing question difficulty and the relevance of the questions selected for each candidate (IRT).

Tosa® Exam Blueprint Objective

This exam blueprint outlines all the skills assessed within the domains and sub-domains of the Tosa® assessment and certification tests for Photoshop.

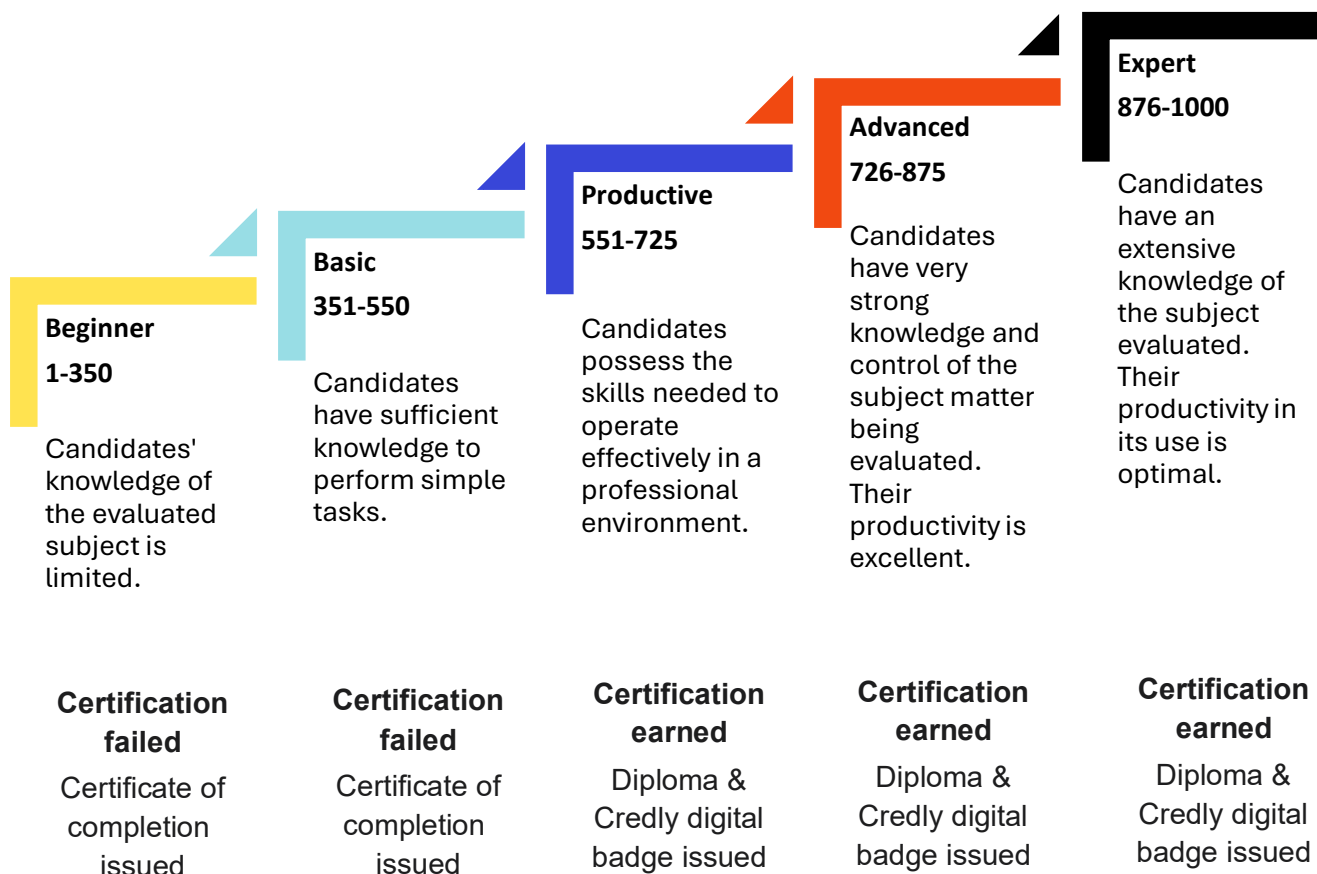
Tosa® assessment and certification solutions are designed to determine learners' proficiency levels using a single scoring scale—ranging from 0 to 1000 for certification—and divided into five levels, from “Beginner” to “Expert,” for the assessment.

The purpose of this blueprint is to specify the technical knowledge expected at each level and within each of the four main skill categories of Photoshop. It is intended to help identify the most appropriate teaching or training programs to match a learner's target score.

Unique Tosa® Scoring

The Tosa® assessments and certifications are based on a unique score, divided into five levels.

- Ranging from 1 to 1000 for the certification.
- Divided into five levels, from Beginner to Expert, for the assessment.



About the Tosa® for Adobe Photoshop certification

The Tosa for Adobe Photoshop Certification relies on a database of more than 130 questions. It is composed of 35 questions from the question database and lasts for 1 hour. The algorithm adapts to each of the candidate's answers to adjust the difficulty level of the questions until reaching the candidate's skill limit. This ensures a precise and accurate result.

Since the test is adaptive, the series of questions that a candidate gets is unique for each test. This algorithm allows for a more accurate evaluation of the candidate's level. It also limits cheating and the memorization of questions on different passages.

Our platform allows individuals to take the certification in a classroom setting, an approved testing center, or remotely via our integrated asynchronous online proctoring solutions.

Our remote proctoring solutions provide added flexibility for both the administrator and the candidate, allowing the certification exam to be taken anywhere, at any time. The candidate only needs an internet connection and a computer equipped with a working webcam and microphone.

Candidates receive a numeric score out of 1000 points. This score corresponds to one of five proficiency levels. Candidates who score between 1 and 550 points do not earn the certification. They receive a certificate of completion in lieu of a diploma. Candidates who score 551 points or above earn the certification and will receive a diploma by email within five business days. If a candidate scores 551 points or above, they will also be eligible to receive a digital Credly badge.

There are no prerequisites to be eligible to take the exam, but to ensure a candidate is well prepared on exam day, we suggest they:

- Take at least one Tosa for Adobe Photoshop adaptive assessment to estimate their level and get familiar with the test format
- Use the free practice tests on our website for training
- Follow an e-learning or training course (average duration per level is between 10 and 15 hours per certification, so around 150 hours total)

Tosa certification diplomas are valid for three years from the date of issue. This three-year period has been set to ensure that our certifications are consistently accurate and relevant, taking into account software version updates as well as the natural evolution of a candidate's skills over time. Limiting the certification period also reflects the need for life-long learning and continual professional development.

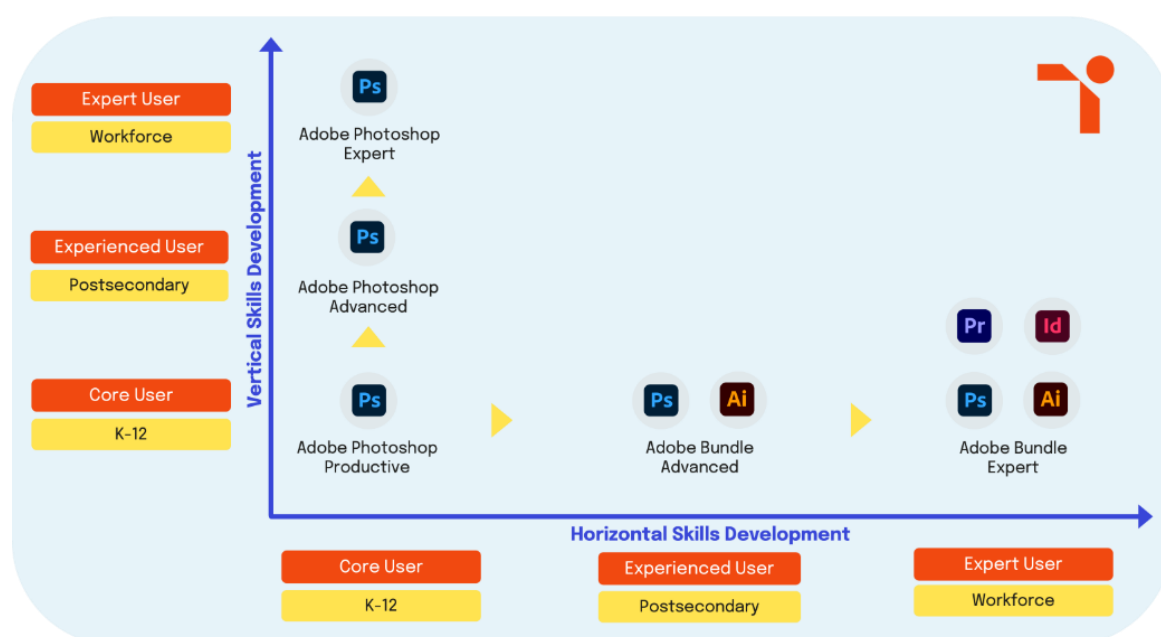
Tosa certifications can be retaken when they expire. Earners willing to improve their score and proficiency level can retake the exam at any time.

Tosa Sequence for Progressive Skills Development

Students and professionals can tailor their certification journey with Tosa, demonstrating their expertise in ways that align with their unique needs and goals.

With the **Tosa for Adobe Photoshop Certification**, starting at a productive level, users can progress vertically, advancing to advanced and expert levels as their skills grow. This clear path encourages continuous improvement and validates each stage of their development. Tosa's structure makes it easy to track progress and showcase evolving expertise.

With the **Tosa for Adobe Bundle Certification**, users can expand their skill set horizontally across Adobe applications, mastering interconnected applications that touch on a broader range of competencies. This flexible approach empowers individuals to develop both depth and breadth in their skillset, enhancing career prospects and workplace versatility.

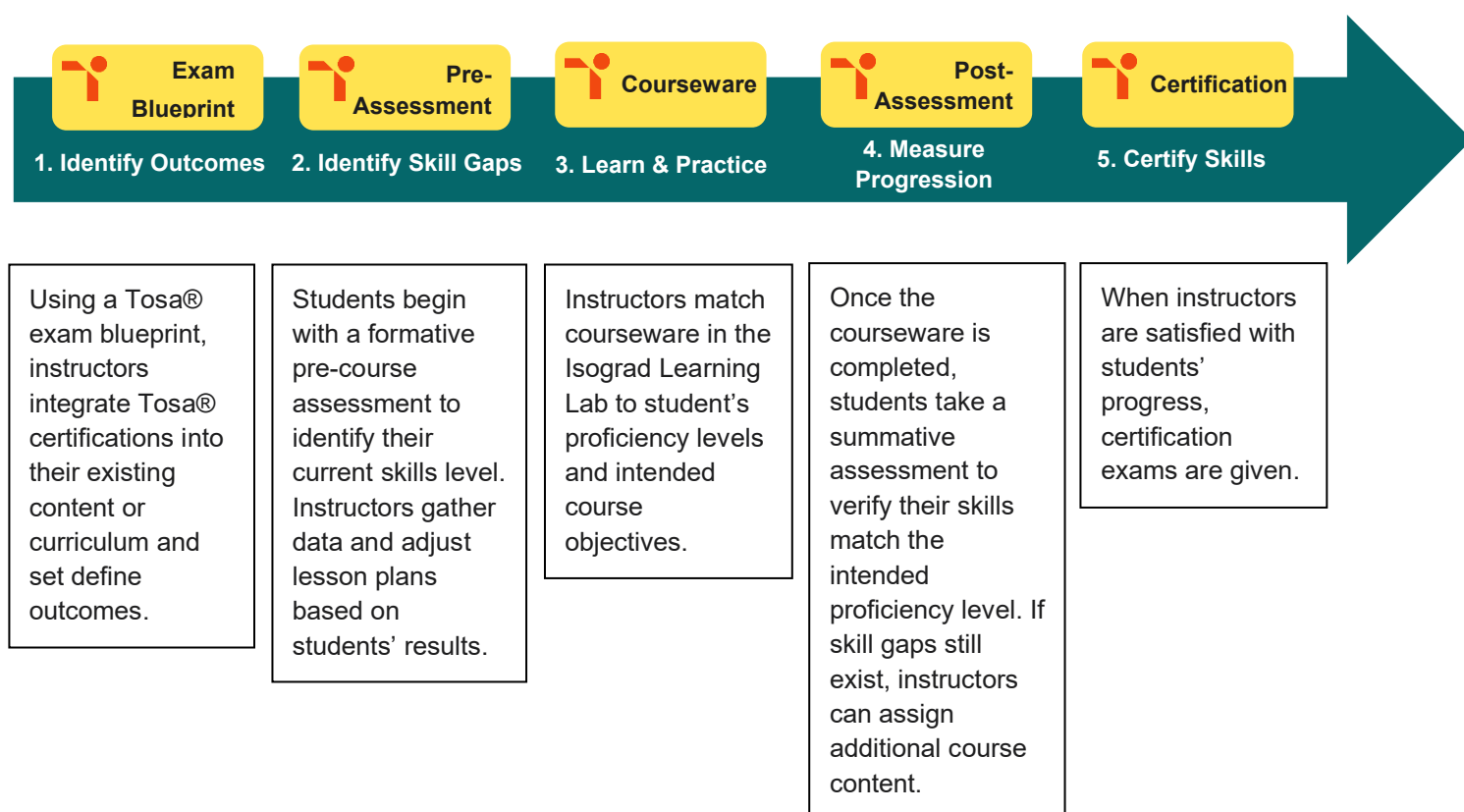


Isograd Learning Lab

The Isograd Learning Lab is a multifaceted and adaptable courseware solution designed to help learners prepare for Tosa certification exams. It offers personalized, self-paced, and fully interactive learning experiences, equipping candidates with the essential digital skills that employers seek. These skills span a wide and varied range, applicable to learners just starting their career journey to those wishing to advance on their path.

The browser-based platform supports all learning styles with a wide array of features, including in-application exercises. These in-application capabilities allow learners to experience real-world examples of specific tasks within a given software environment. The lab includes inclusive learning resources, along with extension activities and project-based learning challenges that foster creativity and critical thinking.

All course content on the Isograd Learning Lab is aligned to a Tosa exam blueprint, which is the foundation of any Tosa certification exam. By aligning course content to an exam blueprint, learners will be prepared to take the exam once they complete the courseware.



Tosa® Adobe Photoshop Level Descriptions

At each level, candidates can:

Beginner

- Understand what Adobe Photoshop is, identify its typical users and audiences, and know how to start a project using the application.
- Demonstrate basic understanding of the Photoshop interface and essential tools.
- Be able to create and save documents, apply simple color and brightness adjustments, and make basic selections.
- Perform basic tasks such as cropping and resizing images, but may require supervision and instruction for more complex tasks.

Basic

- Understand the purpose of Adobe Photoshop, master key concepts and terminology, and be familiar with project planning and the post-production workflow.
- Apply basic Photoshop skills to everyday work situations, such as image editing.
- Use transformation tools, apply layer styles, and use layer masks for non-destructive adjustments.
- Manage documents by organizing layers and using guides and grids.
- Perform clearly defined tasks and solve common problems independently.

Productive

- Identify the main tools and features of Adobe Photoshop, understand its use cases, and grasp the stages of the post-production process.
- Master Photoshop tools to perform a variety of complex tasks, such as creating photomontages and employ advanced use of layer masks.
- Apply color and tone adjustments precisely, use actions to automate repetitive tasks, and optimize images for web and print.
- Use advanced clipping techniques and combine multiple images to create more sophisticated compositions.

Advanced

- Understand how to target the right audience, plan the visual structure of a project, and navigate the overall production process in Adobe Photoshop.
- Take full advantage of Photoshop's advanced features for complex projects.
- Master advanced photo editing techniques, use scripts to automate complex processes, and apply custom layer styles to create sophisticated effects.
- Manage projects involving multiple images and layers, using advanced document management techniques.
- Optimize images for different media, taking into account the specifics of format and use.

Expert

- Use advanced and innovative Photoshop techniques for demanding, professional projects.
- Master sophisticated methods of image manipulation, portrait retouching, and special effects creation.
- Integrate 3D elements and advanced lighting effects for artistic and realistic compositions.
- Develop custom workflows and complex automated solutions using scripts and plugins to maximize efficiency.
- Provide training and guidance for other Photoshop users.

Business Applications

Attaining the Beginner score defines little or limited knowledge of the Photoshop application, including the application's basic functions and features, highlighting the inability to use the application in a professional environment.

For a marketing assistant or junior content creator, skills at this level enable a candidate to work with images: open and save files, crop and resize them, make simple adjustments, and insert text or basic graphic elements to enhance visuals.

For a graphic design assistant, marketing coordinator, or entry-level production artist, these skills enable a candidate to create and refine visual content; adjust layout; apply retouching; and incorporate typography or graphical elements before exporting assets for publication.

For a content designer, digital marketing specialist, photographer, or media production coordinator, these skills enable a candidate to enhance and structure complex visual projects, manage graphic elements, apply consistent branding, and export assets in the appropriate format for use.

For a senior graphic designer, brand manager, digital content strategist, or creative lead, these skills enable a candidate to customize the workspace, manage complex visual hierarchies, produce fully tailored visual assets, and execute advanced image manipulation and graphic integration across diverse media platforms.

Domain 1: Fundamentals and Applications

Sub-domain 1: Getting started with Adobe Photoshop

Includes identifying when and for whom to use the Adobe Photoshop application, and matching Photoshop to real-world use cases.

Beginner

- Understanding what Adobe Photoshop is.
- Identifying users and audiences.
- Starting a project in Photoshop.

Basic

- Understanding Photoshop and its purpose.
- Identifying basic editing tasks and interface components.
- Describing the editing workflow and how to organize a project.

Productive

- Applying tools and features of Photoshop in real-world contexts.
- Recognizing editing tasks and use cases across professions.
- Understanding post-production structure and editing concepts.

Advanced

- Adapting projects to audience needs and content types.
- Structuring production workflows across pre-, mid-, and post-production.
- Comparing Photoshop to other photo editing tools and platforms.

Expert

- Collaborating efficiently on shared project.
- Planning and adapting content for diverse platforms and audiences.
- Managing accessibility, client goals, and format/export requirements.

Domain 2: Interface, Workspace, and Fundamentals

Sub-domain 1: Navigating and personalizing the interface

Covers: Adjusting the workspace, including managing panels and tools, and customizing menus.

Beginner

- Identify the basic elements of the Photoshop interface, such as panels and main tools.

Basic

- Adjust the Photoshop workspace by moving, resizing, and arranging panels and tools to suit personal needs.

Productive

- Effectively manage panels and tools in Photoshop by customizing menus, creating custom workspaces, and using keyboard shortcuts for faster navigation.

Advanced

- Customize the Photoshop interface in advanced ways by creating custom panel and menu sets for specific workflows, creating custom keyboard shortcuts, and integrating scripts to automate repetitive tasks.

Expert

- Demonstrate mastery of the Photoshop interface by using advanced techniques to maximize efficiency, integrating plugins and extensions to extend functionality, and sharing custom configurations with other users for effective collaboration.

Sub-domain 2: Applying digital imaging principles

Covers: Mastery of the concepts of resolution, color modes (RGB, CMYK, etc.), and file formats.

Beginner

- Understand the differences between basic file formats such as JPEG and PNG.
- Recognize basic digital imaging terms such as resolution and color modes.

Basic

- Adjust image dimensions and resolution for different uses.
- Understand the basic concepts of resolution, color modes (such as RGB and CMYK), and common file formats (such as JPEG and PNG).

Productive

- Convert images between different color modes and apply basic color profiles.
- Effectively apply basic digital imaging principles by choosing appropriate resolution settings, selecting color modes appropriate for project needs, and using appropriate file formats for image storage and exchange.

Advanced

- Manage advanced color swatches for professional print preparations.
- Demonstrate advanced use of digital imaging concepts by optimizing resolution for various output media, mastering the subtleties of different color modes for accurate results, and choosing the most appropriate file formats for specific needs.

Expert

- Implement color management solutions across various media and platforms.
- Fully master digital imaging principles by advanced resolution manipulation for specialized needs, creatively using color modes to achieve specific effects, and understanding the benefits and limitations of various file formats for professional workflows.

Sub-domain 3: Managing documents

Covers: Creating, opening, and saving documents, including organizing layers and using guides and grids.

Beginner

- Identify the basic actions for creating, opening, and saving documents in Photoshop.

Basic

- Use guides and grids for basic positioning.
- Create, open, and save documents in Photoshop, understanding how to organize layers and use guides and grids for alignment.

Productive

- Effectively manage documents in Photoshop by organizing layers logically, using guides and grids to align elements, and applying basic project management principles to maintain order in files.

Advanced

- Demonstrate advanced use of document management features in Photoshop by creating complex layer structures for sophisticated projects, using guides and grids for precise layouts, and implementing advanced document management techniques for maximum productivity.

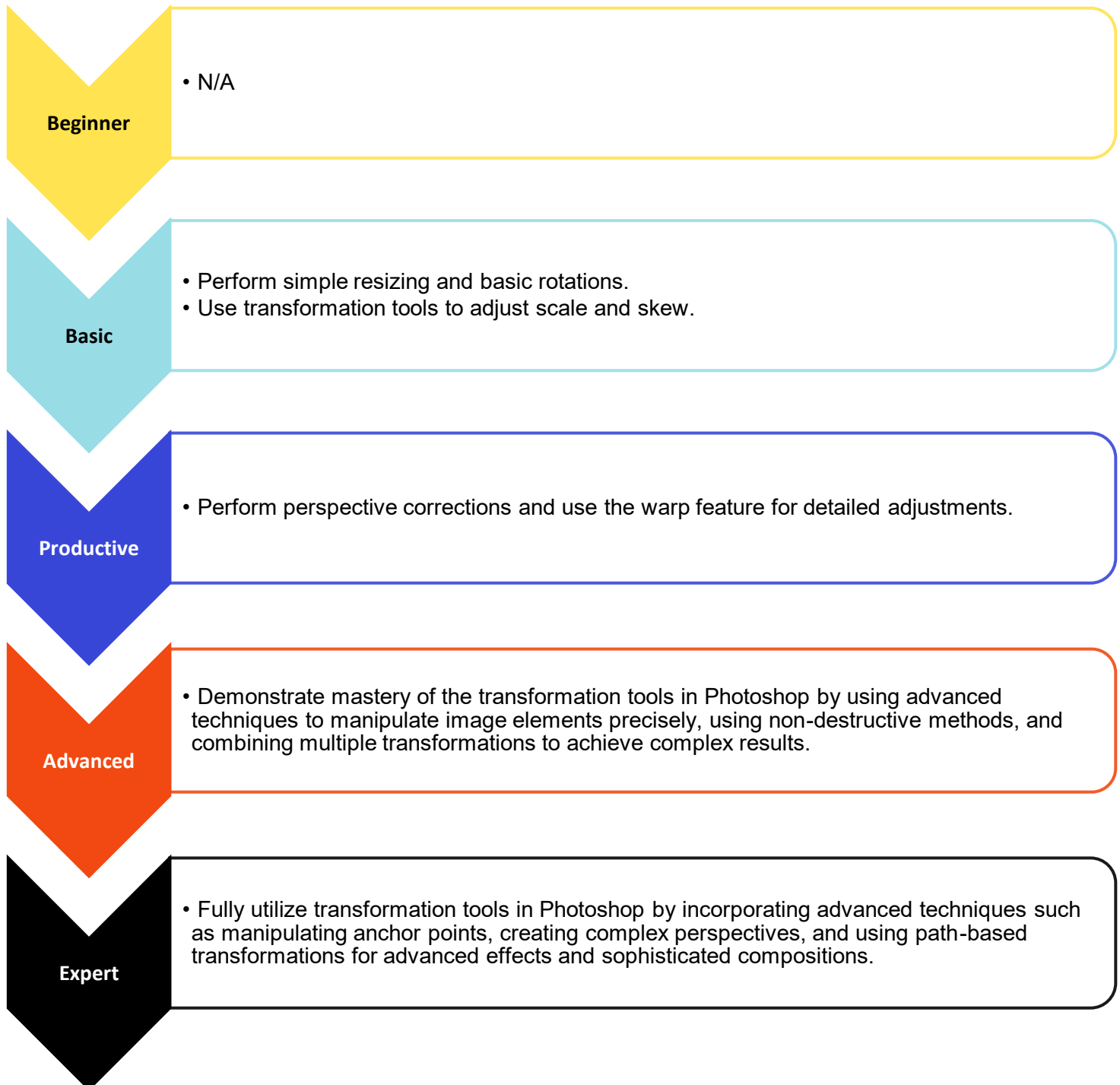
Expert

- Automate document management elements and create scripts to manage complex projects.
- Fully master document management in Photoshop by optimizing workflows for creating, opening, and saving complex documents.
- Employ advanced techniques to efficiently organize layers, and leveraging built-in project management tools.

Domain 3: Image, Geometry, and Corrections

Sub-domain 1: Using transformation and geometric adjustment tools

Covers: Using transformation tools to resize, rotate, and distort image elements.



Sub-domain 2: Correcting color and tone

Covers: Using the available correction tools of photoshop to ensure image quality consistency. Understanding of the principles of image quality and color correction such as tone, brightness, and contrast.

Beginner

- Identify the basic tools for adjusting brightness and contrast in Photoshop.

Basic

- Use basic Photoshop tools to adjust brightness, contrast, and color balance to improve image quality in a basic way.

Productive

- Effectively use Photoshop adjustment tools to correct colors and tones, applying changes to improve overall image quality.

Advanced

- Master advanced color and tonal adjustment techniques in Photoshop, using specific tools and techniques to achieve accurate and consistent results.

Expert

- Fully utilize Photoshop's color and tonal adjustment capabilities, using advanced techniques such as selective correction, color correction, and the use of curves and levels for complete control over image quality and final output.

Sub-domain 3: Retouching photos

Covers: Retouching techniques to correct imperfections and improve the overall appearance of photos.

Beginner

- Identify the basic photo editing tools in Photoshop.

Basic

- Use basic editing tools in Photoshop to correct minor imperfections and improve the overall appearance of photos.

Productive

- Effectively use common photo retouching tools such as the Spot Healing Brush Tool, the Healing Brush Tool, and the Clone Stamp Tool to remove minor imperfections like spots and skin blemishes.
- Apply brightness, contrast, and color adjustments to improve the overall appearance of photos.

Advanced

- Restore historical images with advanced tools.
- Employ tools like the Camera Raw Filter for more advanced color and tone corrections.

Expert

- Create complex manipulations for professional-level restorations and special effects.
- Take full advantage of Photoshop's capabilities by using advanced photo editing techniques such as manipulating light and texture, creating blur and bokeh effects, and using advanced composition techniques to enhance the aesthetics and visual storytelling of images.

Domain 4: Silhouetting, Masks, and Photomontage

Sub-domain 1: Applying masking and cutout techniques

Covers: Mastery of selection tools and cutout techniques to isolate objects.

Beginner

- Identify basic selection tools in Photoshop, such as the Magic Wand Tool and the Quick Selection Tool, to begin cutting out simple objects.

Basic

- Use the Magic Wand for simple selections, adjusting selection parameters as needed.
- Use the Pen Tool for more precise cutouts.

Productive

- Use selection masks to refine the edges of complex objects.
- Master Photoshop's selection tools to efficiently cut out objects, using techniques such as color range selections and feather selections for more precise results.

Advanced

- Employ advanced cutout techniques in Photoshop by combining different selection methods, using layer masks to refine edges, and using tools such as the Curvature Pen for complex cutouts with high precision.

Expert

- Demonstrate mastery of advanced cutout techniques for post-production and commercial visuals.

Sub-domain 2: Using masks

Covers: Creating and manipulating layer masks to control the visibility of different parts of an image.

Beginner

- Identify the function of layer masks in Photoshop to control the visibility of different parts of an image.

Basic

- Use layer masks in Photoshop to hide or reveal specific parts of a black and white image using simple tools such as the brush and fill tool.

Productive

- Manipulate layer masks to create complex transitions.
- Master the creation and manipulation of layer masks in Photoshop using painting and gradient techniques to precisely hide or reveal parts of an image, using group masks to organize layers efficiently.

Advanced

- Design vector masks for precise effects and detailed selections.
- Fully employ the capabilities of layer masks in Photoshop by combining multiple masks for complex effects, using advanced techniques such as luminance masks.

Expert

- Develop masking techniques for advanced film and advertising projects.

Sub-domain 3: Creating photomontages

Covers: Combining multiple images and graphic elements to create complex and artistic compositions.

Beginner

- Identify the fundamentals of creating photomontages in Photoshop and understand the basic concepts of image layering.

Basic

- Use simple techniques to combine multiple images in Photoshop and create basic compositions by layering graphic elements.

Productive

- Combine images to create more complex scenes with cohesiveness.
- Master photomontage techniques such as masking, clipping, and transformation to integrate multiple images and graphic elements into a cohesive composition.

Advanced

- Fully utilize Photoshop's capabilities to create complex photomontages using advanced compositing, retouching, and image manipulation techniques to create realistic results.

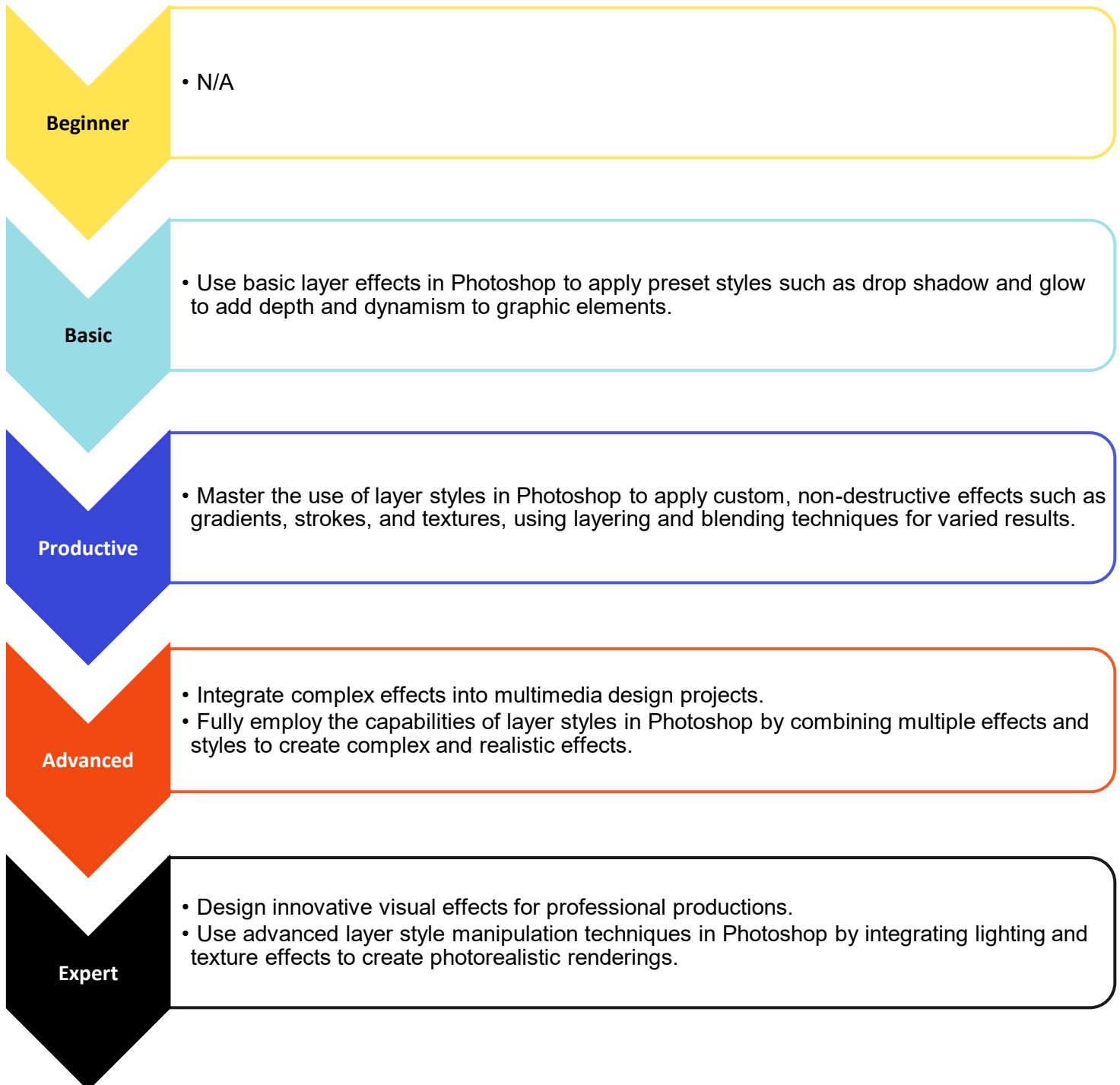
Expert

- Use advanced photomontage techniques in Photoshop for demanding professional projects, integrating 3D elements, creating special effects, and mastering advanced compositing techniques for artistic results.

Domain 5: Graphic Features and Effects, Export, and Automation

Sub-domain 1: Applying layer effects and styles

Covers: Using layer styles to apply non-destructive effects such as drop shadow, glow, and other custom styles.



Sub-domain 2: Exporting and preparing files

Covers: Using appropriate export formats for different uses, optimizing images for web and print.

Beginner

- Identify the main common file formats used for exporting in Photoshop, such as JPEG and PNG.

Basic

- Use basic export options in Photoshop to save images in formats appropriate for different uses, such as JPEG for the web and TIFF for printing, adjusting compression and quality settings as needed.

Productive

- Master the use of export options in Photoshop to optimize images for the web and print, adjusting resolution, color profile, and compression settings to achieve high-quality results.

Advanced

- Fully leverage export capabilities in Photoshop by using advanced techniques such as slicing and saving files as templates to automate the export process and ensure consistent results.

Expert

- Use advanced file preparation techniques in Photoshop for projects, optimizing images for specific media such as high-resolution displays and large-format prints.

Sub-domain 3: Automating tasks

Covers: Automating tasks in Photoshop, reducing the load of repetitive tasks. Optimizing workflow for professional Photoshop use.

Beginner

- Identify basic automation functions in Photoshop, such as actions and scripts.

Basic

- Execute pre-recorded actions to automate simple tasks.

Productive

- Create and record custom actions in Photoshop to automate specific task sequences, reducing time spent on common processes.

Advanced

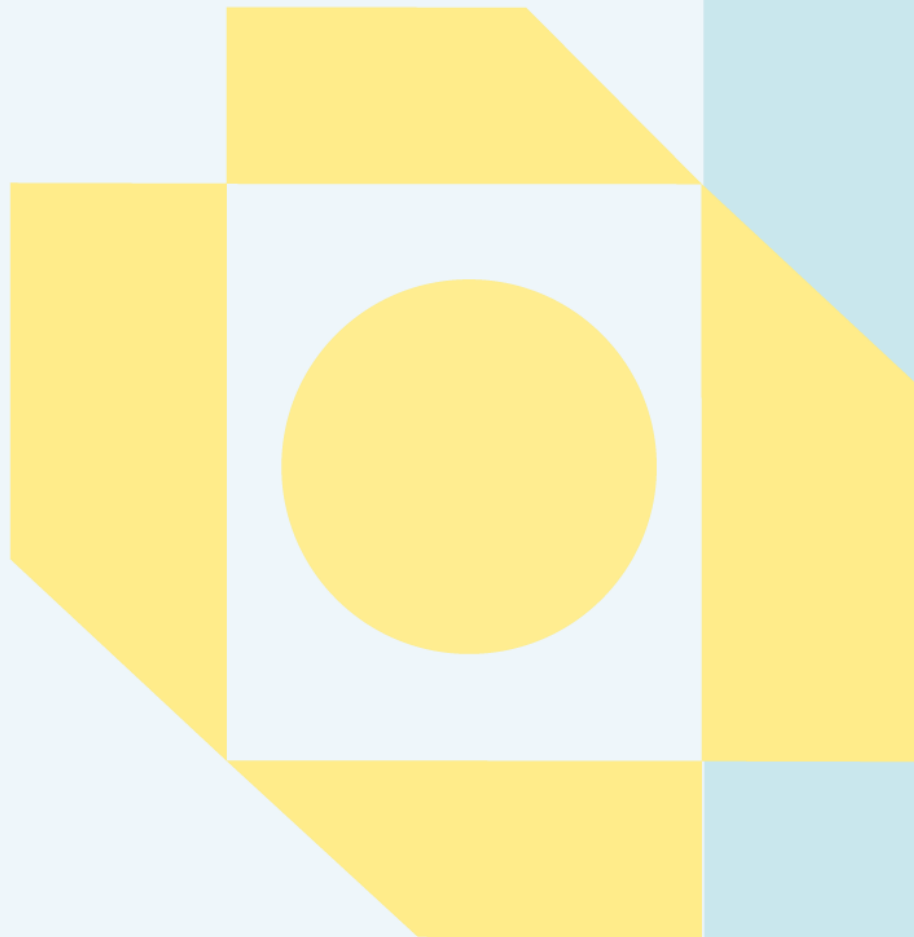
- Use scripts to automate complex tasks.
- Integrate automations into production workflows.

Expert

- Develop advanced automation systems to streamline studio operations by creating custom scripts to automate repetitive tasks.



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