

FAKE LOMO TECHNIQUE

File: Open: the picture you want

Image: Adjustments: Brightness/Contrast: increase contrast by 20
(yes, I say never use this... but for this technique, OK)

Image: Adjustments: Hue/Saturation: increase saturation by 20

Choose the Rectangular Marquee Tool (your basic selection tool)

Change feather amount to 1/12 the width of your picture
(for my 4000 pixel image I set to the max 250 pixels)

(menu) Select: Inverse

Layer: New: Layer

Change your foreground color to black. Fill the selection (on the new, blank layer). (edit - Fill - black)

Change the blend mode of this layer to Overlay

Layer: Duplicate Layer (Command - J)

Now select your base layer (the one with the picture on it).

Layer: New: Layer

Change your paint bucket tool to the Gradient tool

Change your Gradient Type to Radial Gradient
(I have been playing with this and sometimes I like linear gradient, explore and play)

Change your Gradient Shading Style to "foreground to transparent"

Change your foreground color to white.

With the gradient tool selected, click in the middle of the picture, and drag the line out to the farthest edge of your picture (if it's a portrait, use top or bottom, if landscape, use left or right).
you are in control... play with where you place your start point of the gradient.

Change the blend mode of this layer to Overlay

Change the Opacity of this layer to 80% or less

Make it into an action...

what type of photo is best to start with, a high contrast photo or a low contrast photo?
test them both.

use your raw files. make one version low contrast, one version high contrast, let me know