

4. Cropping a photograph.

At the end of this lesson you will be able to demonstrate how to crop a photograph using the basic crop method by selecting the crop tool from the toolbox, dragging a cropping border over the image and hitting the return key on your keyboard when satisfied.

Step 1

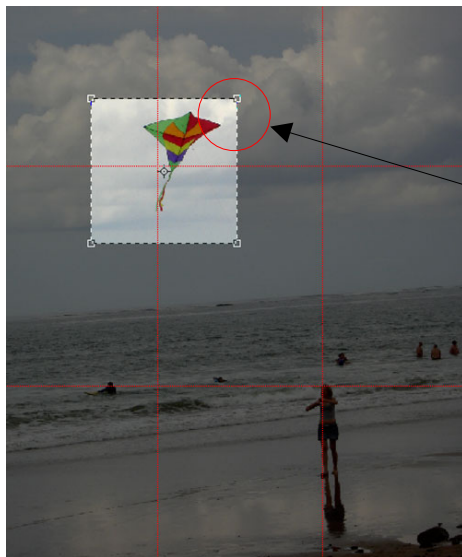
When you have opened your image in Photoshop CS3 press the letter **C** to get the crop tool. Alternatively, select the crop tool directly from the Toolbox as shown in figure 4.1



Figure 4.1 Crop tool

Step Two:

Click within your photo and drag out a cropping border. The area to be cropped away will appear darkened as shown in figure 4.2. You can edit the size of the selected crop border by clicking and dragging the points that appear in each corner and at the centre of each side.



Clicking and dragging the points at the corners will adjust the size of the selected crop border.

Figure 4.2 Cropping an image

Step Three:

While you have the crop border in place, rotate it by moving your cursor outside the border, just click and drag in the direction you choose and the cropping border will rotate in that direction. Refer to figure 4.3

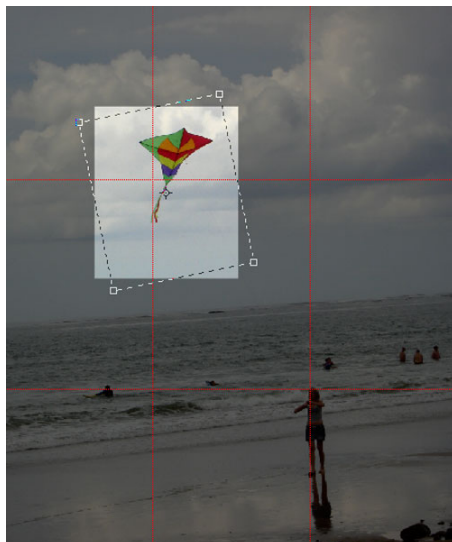


Figure 4.3 Rotating the direction of the crop

Step Four:

When you are satisfied with the size and position of the crop press the Return key to crop your image (PC: Enter). Alternatively select the **tick mark** on the option bar.

Note: If you drag out a cropping border and then decide you do not want to crop the image press the Esc key to cancel the crop.

In the next lesson we will be cropping an image using the “rule of thirds”.