Making a Collage in Lightroom 4.2 (a multi-photo contact sheet)

The collage I made is really a multi-photo contact sheet. While it will accommodate many different photos, the size of each photo cell is the same.

- Prepare images (crop & soft proof); save as a Collection in LR.
- 2. Click on the **Print** tab
- 3. In the **Page Setup** (lower left), choose the printer and the paper size from the dialog box that appears. If you adjust *Printer Properties*, they will be saved in the template also!
- 4. Under the **Template Browser** on the left, choose any multi-photo template from the *Lightroom Templates* listed; a preview of your choice can be seen in the upper left corner under **Preview**. I

Name: EPSO Status: Ready

USB003

Sheet

Type:

EPSON Stylus Photo R2880

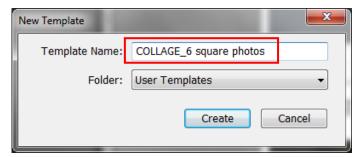
EPSON Stylus Photo R2880

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Landscape

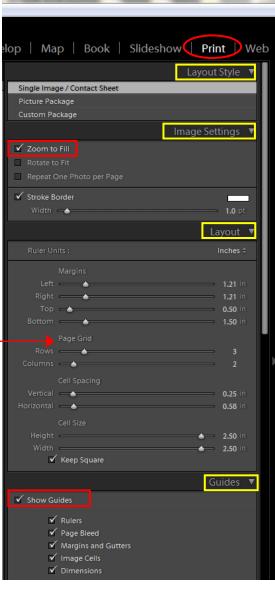
5. Click the + on the **Template Browser** (left) and give your template a name you will remember. As you update the specifications for this template, right-click this the name from the **User Template** folder and choose **Update with Current Setting**.

chose 2 x 2 cells. Note that **Single Image/Contact Sheet** is highlighted in **Layout Style** on the right.



- 6. Under Layout (right), set up the *Page Grid* to accommodate the number of photos you want to include. The *Cell Size* and *Cell Spacing* will adjust to fill the entire page size. Use all portrait images or all landscape images in the collage.
- 7. Or, if you check *Keep Square* and *Zoom to Fill*, both landscape and portrait images will fit:
 - a. Portrait photos can move up and down in the square cell
 - b. Landscape photos can move side to side in the square cell
 - c. If the crop placement is important, crop them to a 1x1 aspect ratio in Soft Proofing before you choose to print.
- 8. Play the spacing by putting numbers into **Layout** dialog box or pulling the margins on the screen.

This is both a visual and mathematical process. The left and right margins should be the same. Allow extra space on the bottom margin for text if you want it. When you are happy, right-click your named-template from the **User Template** folder and choose **Update with Current Setting**.



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9. Under the Page area you can change the Page Background Color. Default is white. When you click the white block, your choices are white, black, and a variety of grays (see 1st dialog box below). If you want a specific color, click the lower right corner of the box above HEX and enter the RGB numbers of the color you want in the Color dialog box.



- 10. If you want stroke borders around each image, go to the **Image Setting** area (pg. 2) and check **Stroke Border** and adjust the width and color.
- 11. If you want to add text, it is done through Page, *Identify Plate*. You can add your logo or modify the **Lightroom** text.
- 12. Right-click your named template from the User Template folder and choose *Update with Current Setting*. Do this every time you make significant modifications.
- 13. Under **Print Job** choose **Printer** (but you can print this to a **JPG file** instead of to a **Printer** for client approval).
- 14. Under **Print Job** provide the
 - a. **Print Resolution** (360 ppi should work)
 - b. **Sharpening** (Standard should work)
 - c. **Media Type** (glossy or matte)
 - d. Profile (paper-printer profile); IMPORTANT
 - e. *Intent* (perceptual or relative)
- 15. Instead of making a *Print Adjustment*, I find it better to Soft Proof each individual image (step # 1) before going to **Print** at bottom.
- 16. Print (Mode must be Custom, Off [No Color Adjustment])
- 17. Step back and admire your work!

