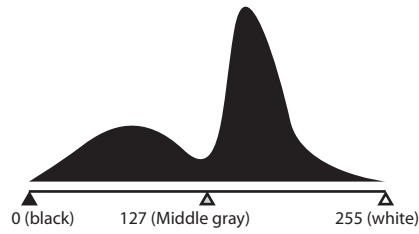
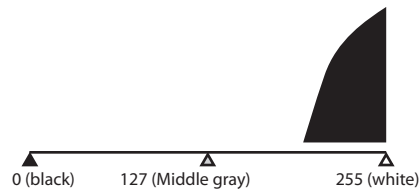


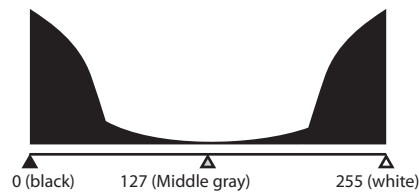
Your basic histogram measures the quantity of values in an image.
 X axis shows values, from 0 (black) to 255 (white)
 Y axis shows QUANTITIES of those values (the higher the curve, the greater the quantity)



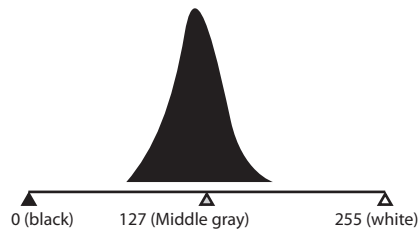
This image is UNDER-EXPOSED



This image is OVER-EXPOSED

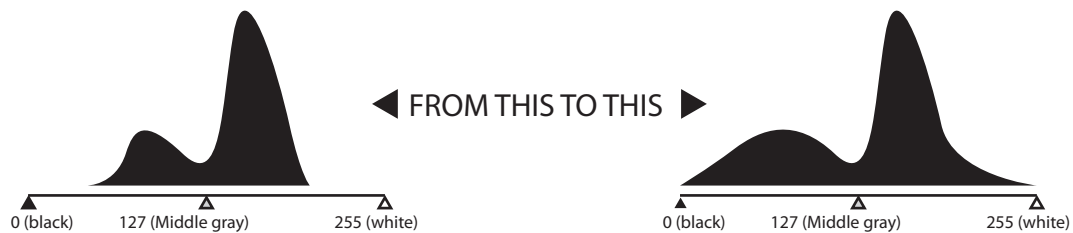


This image has TOO MUCH CONTRAST



This image LACKS CONTRAST (appears dull)

The purpose of the histogram, beyond displaying this information, is to SPREAD the range of values out so that they extend all the way from black to white.



This is accomplished with the sliders below the X axis.



To spread the range of values, move the black and white sliders:

The histogram illustrated can be accessed from the IMAGE menu:

IMAGE > adjustments > levels

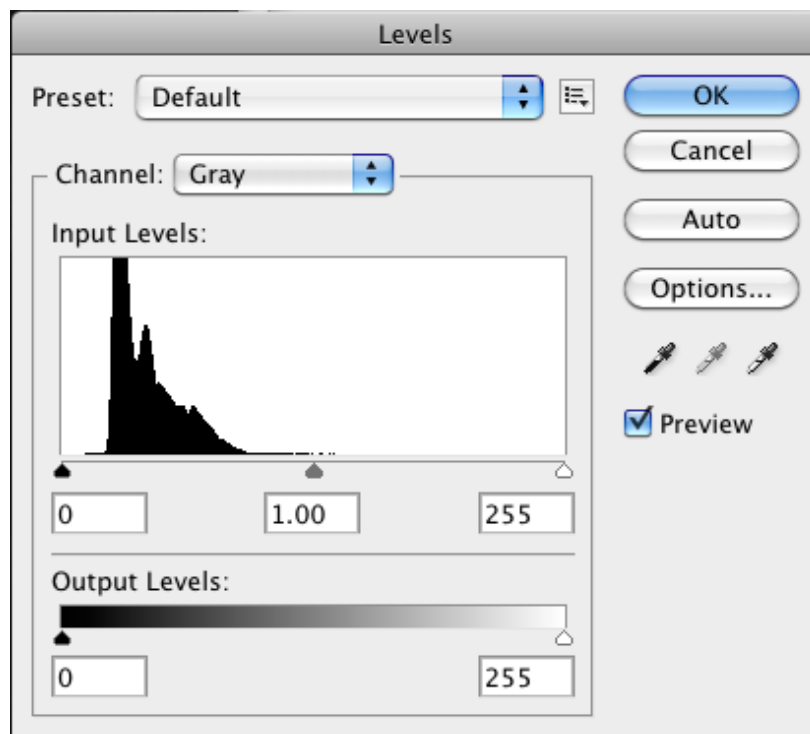
Or as an adjustment layer from the LAYERS palette.

Thesed sliders determine the new black and white values.

You can lighten or darken the middle ranges by sliding the middle slider
(left lightens, right darkens)

Explore: holding down the option key when sliding the black or white sliders reveals the lightest and darkest pixels in the image; these are the pixels that need to be changed to absolute black and absolute white.

Once the darkest and lightest pixels are revealed, clicking on them with the black and white eyedroppers will change them to absolute black and white; Do the black FIRST.



Color images can be adjusted as well; drop down the channel menu and do ONE CHANNEL AT A TIME.

Adjust the middle slider in the combined (RGB) channel, NOT individually.