

## *BURNING & DODGING*

The goal in printing is to have the maximum amount of information in both the shadow and highlight areas. Often times, you will need to use one of both of these techniques to even your photograph out.

DODGING is used when parts of the image are too dark compared to the rest of the picture. It is acceptable to have some areas of pure black, but keep in mind that often times there is much more to be understood when looking at the photograph if more detail can be seen. DURING the initial exposure, use something to block the enlarger's light from hitting that particular area, taking care NOT TO MOVE THE EASEL. By lessening the amount of time, you are decreasing the density which makes it lighter. Your hands are a convenient tool for areas around the edges, but if it is a central location take a piece of wire and tape a small cardboard cutout to the end of it similar to a popsicle. You MUST CONSTANTLY KEEP MOVING to feather the decreased density in to the neighboring areas of the print, other wise you will get a halo!

BURNING is used when parts of the image are too light compared to the rest of the picture. You ALWAYS need to have some tone other than paper white, especially around the edges. AFTER the initial exposure and taking care NOT TO MOVE THE EASEL, block the enlarger's light from hitting the paper using a thick piece of cardboard or matboard and increase the time which the light areas get exposed to light. If it is an area on the edge, you can use the edge of the board, but if it is located in the central portion cut a hole in the middle of a piece of matboard or cardboard and use it similar to a spotlight. Be careful to ONLY LET THE LIGHT HIT THE AREAS YOU WISH AFFECTED because anywhere the light sheds on the paper, it will get darker. You MUST CONSTANTLY KEEP MOVING to feather the increased density in to the neighboring areas of the print, other wise you will get a halo! TRICK: for particularly stubborn areas, change your filter to a lower number during burning. Don't forget to put the correct one back in for your initial exposure, though!

Be cautious to make sure that you're not trying to compensate for inadequate contrast!