

SideKick Portrait

User Manual

Portrait Retouching Workflow Tool for Adobe Photoshop

1. Introduction

SideKick Portrait is an Adobe Photoshop script that automates portrait retouching. Combining 15 style presets with three strength levels, it applies professional-grade color grading, skin smoothing, dimensionality, and vignetting — all non-destructively.

"Presets distribute looks. Sidekick Portrait distributes judgment."

Choosing a style is a directional decision for your photo. Each style has its own mix of enabled and disabled processing steps — and the results stack up as Photoshop layers you can tweak individually.

2. Installation

2-1. File Placement

Extract the distribution ZIP and copy the entire Sidekick_Portrait folder to (the script runs from any location):

Windows:

C:\Program Files\Adobe\Adobe Photoshop 2026\Presets\Scripts\

Mac:

/Applications/Adobe Photoshop 2026/Presets/Scripts/

Folder structure:

Scripts/

Scripts/Sidekick_Portrait/

Scripts/Sidekick_Portrait/SideKick_Portrait.jsxbin Main script

Scripts/Sidekick_Portrait/modules/

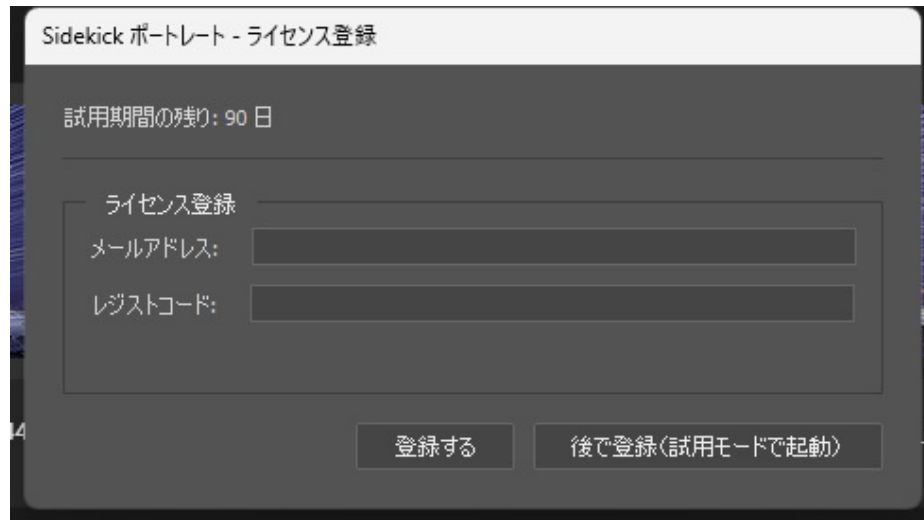
2-2. Associating with Photoshop

Right-click SideKick_Portrait → Open with → Adobe Photoshop. Check "Always use this app", then click OK. After that, double-clicking will launch Photoshop and run the script.

3. License Registration

On first launch, a license registration dialog will appear.

- Trial period: 90 days (full functionality)
- After purchase: Enter your registered email and license code, then click Register

The image shows a software dialog box titled "Sidekick ポートレート - ライセンス登録". At the top, it states "試用期間の残り: 90 日". Below this, there is a section titled "ライセンス登録" containing two input fields: "メールアドレス:" and "レジストコード:". At the bottom of the dialog, there are two buttons: "登録する" and "後で登録(試用モードで起動)".

Sidekick ポートレート - ライセンス登録

試用期間の残り: 90 日

ライセンス登録

メールアドレス:

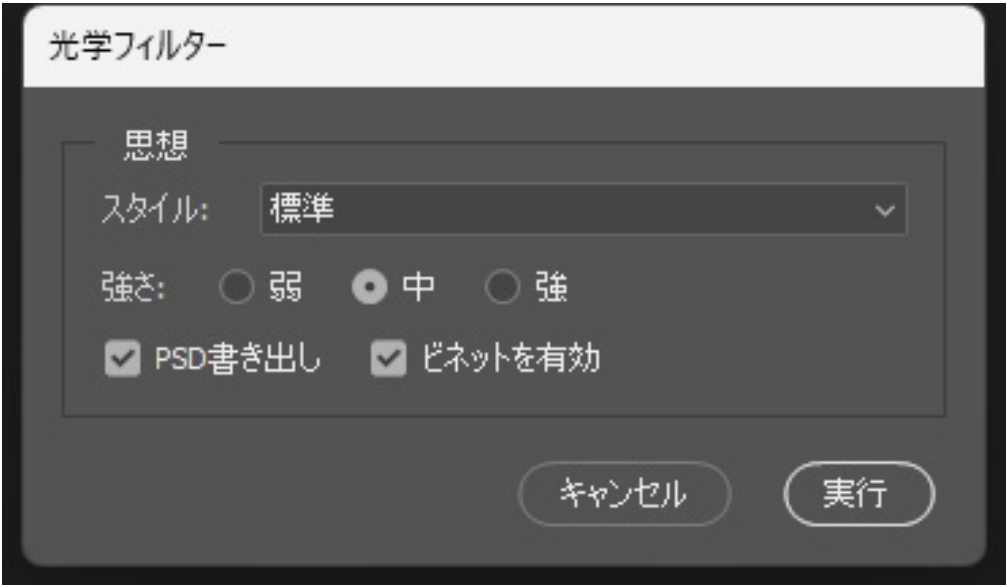
レジストコード:

登録する 後で登録(試用モードで起動)

License registration dialog (first launch)

4. Using the Main Dialog

Double-clicking SideKick_Portrait.jsxbin opens the Sidekick Portrait dialog. Choose a style and strength, then click Run.



Main dialog

Item	Description
Concept (Style)	Choose one of 15 style presets
Strength (Weak / Mid / Strong)	Adjust effect intensity in 3 steps Weak=0.7 × Mid=1.0 × (default) Strong=1.25 ×
Export PSD	When ON, saves result as a separate PSD file Keeps the original while managing the finished file
Enable Vignette	Toggle vignetting ON/OFF Feather amount and blend mode are optimized per style
Run	Apply settings and start processing
Cancel	Cancel and close the dialog

5. Effect Details

5-1. Strength Multipliers

The strength setting is a multiplier applied to all effect parameters simultaneously.

5-2. Processing Composition per Style

Sidekick Portrait does not just vary parameters — the combination of enabled processing steps is specifically designed for each style.

Strength	Multiplier	Typical Use
Weak	× 0.7	Use as a base layer / effect feels too heavy
Mid	× 1.0	Default reference value
Strong	× 1.25	Pushing strongly in a directional style

Style	White Mist	Shadow	Structure	Saturation	Notes
Seiso Milky	ON	OFF	OFF	—	Delicacy first — dimensionality restrained
Seiso Haze	ON	OFF	OFF	—	Even softer, dreamlike
Beauty	ON	—	ON	—	White mist + structure — the classic
Gravure	ON	ON	ON	ON	All processing ON — lustrous and full
Cinematic	—	—	—	—	Adds teal shadow layer
Monochrome	—	—	—	—	Adds desaturation layer

6. Output Layer Structure

After processing, the following group is added to the Photoshop Layers panel. You can fine-tune results by adjusting individual layer opacity or toggling groups.

Layer structure (top to bottom):

* When Vignette is enabled, a vignette layer is added above [SideKick] at the very top.

Layer Name	Purpose
[SideKick] (outermost group)	Root group for all Sidekick processing
└─ [ポートレート]	Portrait processing group
└─ ポートレート_瞳リップ	Eye & lip saturation boost via AI detection
└─ ポートレート_エッジグロウ	Edge clarity: High Pass + LINEAR DODGE
└─ ポートレート_ソフトフォーカス	Softness: Gaussian blur + Screen blend
└─ ポートレート_肌スムーズ	Skin smoothing: Surface blur + Luminosity blend
└─ ポートレート_フィルムトーン	Style color grading (bottom of stack)

7. Style Gallery (15 Styles)

Sample images (white and black background) and descriptions for each style. All images use Strength: Mid.

7-1. Standard [スタンダード]



White Background



Black Background

Universal base with moderate shadow lift. The best starting point when uncertain.

7-2. Dark – Warm Black [ダーク] [ウォーム]



White Background



Black Background

Strong shadows with warm-toned blacks and elevated contrast. Creates a weighty, luxurious feel.

7-3. Dark – Cool Black [ダーク] [クール]



White Background



Black Background

Strong shadows on a cool blue-tinted black base. Urban, sharp, and edgy.

7-4. Seiso – Milky White [ハイキー] [清潔感]



White Background



Black Background

Delicate milky-white overlay for a clean, soft look. Skin appears gentle; dimensionality is intentionally restrained.

7-5. Seiso – White Haze [ハイキー] [霞調]



White Background



Black Background

Translucent hazy-white tone. Even softer than Milky White — dreamlike and ephemeral.

7-6. Natural [ナチュラル] [バランス]



White Background



Black Background

Balanced whites and blacks with minimal processing feel. Honest, natural finish.

7-7. Beauty [ホワイト] [立体感]



White Background



Black Background

White mist plus enhanced dimensionality. The go-to beauty finish for impact and elegance.

7-8. Beauty – High Key [ハイキー] [ホワイト]



White Background



Black Background

Brighter variation of Beauty. Soft radiance and luminous skin.

7-9. Beauty – Low Key [ローキー] [立体感]



White Background



Black Background

Deeper variation of Beauty. Emphasizes presence through shadow.

7-10. Gravure [彩度高め] [艶やか]



White Background



Black Background

Elevated saturation with both highlight and shadow punch. Lustrous, voluminous gravure finish.

7-11. Korean Bridal [トレンド] [ハイキー]



White Background



Black Background

Bright, warm white tone. Soft and feminine — ideal for wedding and bridal portraits.

7-12. Korean SNS [トレンド] [彩度高め]



White Background



Black Background

Vivid, bright, and saturated. Trendy finish popular on Korean social media.

7-13. Model SNS [トレンド] [透明感]



White Background



Black Background

Transparency and vibrancy combined for a stylish model-account aesthetic.

7-14. Cinematic [テール] [映画的]



White Background



Black Background

Teal shadows layered for a cinematic, film-like atmosphere.

7-15. Monochrome [モノクロ]



White Background



Black Background

B&W; conversion base. The ideal starting point for portrait monochrome work.

8. Pricing

Price	¥4,800 (tax included, perpetual license)
Trial	90 days (no credit card required, full functionality)
License	1 license = 1 user (personal and commercial use OK)
After buy	Enter your email and license code in the dialog
Contact	murata@mbg.nifty.com

9. Troubleshooting

Q: The script does not launch.

Try running Photoshop as Administrator. Or drag and drop the jsxbn file directly onto Photoshop.

Q: The 90-day trial has ended.

Purchase a license, then enter your email and license code in the registration dialog to use it without restrictions.

Q: Will it affect existing layers?

SideKick Portrait uses non-destructive processing. All existing layers are preserved.

Q: Can I apply it directly to RAW files?

Develop in Camera Raw or Lightroom first, then open in Photoshop before running the script.

Q: Can I change the intensity later?

Adjust the opacity of the added layers in the Layers panel to fine-tune the effect.

Q: Is commercial use allowed?

Yes, one license allows both personal and commercial use. However, 1 license = 1 user.

10. System Requirements

- Adobe Photoshop 2020 or later (including Beta)
- Windows 10 / 11 (64-bit)
- macOS 12 Monterey or later
- 8 GB RAM or more recommended

11. Support

For questions or issues, please contact:

murata@mbg.nifty.com