

How I got from this

to this using Photoshop CS5



There are two main problems with the original; perspective distortion, partly due to it being taken with a wide angle lens, and tonal imbalance between the ceiling and the rest of the picture. This is how I improved it using Photoshop CS5. Other methods can be used to achieve a similar result.

### Distortion Correction

Select/Select All (or Ctrl A)

Edit/Free Transform (or Ctrl T)

Hold down Ctrl and hover over bottom right corner until an arrow head appears. Still holding down Ctrl pull the bottom corner to the right until vertical lines become vertical.

This leaves the bucket badly distorted, so

Select the bucket using the Quick Selection Tool or Polygonal Lasso Tool

Edit/Free Transform (or Ctrl T)

Hold down Ctrl and hover over the corners of the Free Transform rectangle and pull them until distortion is corrected.

### Tone Adjustment

Select the ceiling using the Polygonal Lasso Tool. Go to Refine Edge/Feather and choose about 40px.

Adjust tone using Image/Adjustments/Levels.

Go to Select/Inverse and adjust tone of the rest of the picture as above.

Any questions, ask me. David Bax.