SUNSET COLOR RESTRAINT

Let sunset keep more than one color.

Preserve transitions between warm light, cooler shadows, and neutral surfaces instead of warming everything equally.

01	**Anchor**	Look at water, cloud or land that should retain some nuance. Use it to judge whether warmth has spread too far.
02	**Range**	Inspect the movement from yellow to orange, pink or blue. Uniform color can flatten an otherwise rich sunset.
03	**Light**	Avoid pulling bright areas down until they look gray. Protect meaningful detail while preserving the impression of light.
04	**Shadow**	Leave some cooler or quieter tone in shaded areas when it belongs. Warm-cool separation can support depth.
05	**Compare**	Back off the latest warmth or saturation increase and compare. Keep the stronger atmosphere rather than the stronger slider value.

Worked example

Over water, the sunlit horizon may be warm while the mountain and upper sky remain cooler. Pushing the whole frame toward orange removes that relationship. Keep the warmth concentrated where the light supports it.

Keep in mind

Sunset color varies widely. Use the actual scene and file as the reference, not a fixed palette or temperature number.

Your decision

Warm area

cool area

neutral anchor

excessive adjustment

preferred balance

Adapted from the PhotoMind source manuscript, section 9.2, pp. 164-168. Examples and worksheet are editorial applications.