

Notes from the Photoshop 'talk' at the July 14th, Second Wednesday SYVCC meeting by Shawn Miner.

Once Photoshop is open, to hide/show the tools hit the TAB key once to hide and again to show.

Photo #1 of the chalk painting at I Modinari at the Mission in Santa Barbara.

Use the 'measure tool' to straighten an image. To select the measure tool, click, and hold on the eyedropper tool in the left tool bar. When the bar opens, move your cursor to select the measure tool. (It looks like a ruler.)

Move your cursor to the left side of a line that you'd like to be level, click and hold your left mouse button as you drag to the right side of the line. Once there, lift up on the button and then select Image then Rotate then Arbitrary... At this point, Photoshop has already loaded the angle from your line and is set to rotate your image. Click OK and the image will rotate to 'level'.

Now, select the crop tool from the left tool bar and crop your image to be square again. Click and hold at one corner and move to the opposite corner, release the mouse button and check that you have the correct selection, if not, grab one of the little tabs on the sides of the selection and move the line in or out until you get what you want. When that happens, click on the check mark along the top menu.

To clone out the 'feet', create a new layer. Select Layer, New, Layer then OK. Select the clone (rubber stamp) tool, make sure that 'Align' and 'Use all layers' is selected in the top menu. Alt-click on an area to be your 'source' then move to your destination and click. You can back up 20 clicks if you go to the History palette on the right side tool box. We work on the New Layer to make sure that we DO NOT MESS with the original image in case we change our minds!

Photo #9 of the fog at Morro Bay. To set the Levels (contrast) of this image, select the half black half white circle in the layers palette then select levels. (Or, at the top select Layers > New Adjustment Layer > Levels and click OK.) Move your black level slider triangle to the right until

it is under the start of 'information' in the Histogram. Do the same for the White slider as you move its triangle in from the right. If you want to see where you are setting your level, hold the ALT key as you move the slider and you will see the part of the image that will go black or white as you move the relative slider. If you goof it up, you can hold the ALT key and the Cancel key turns to a Reset key to clear your changes (like a DO OVER key).

Photo #3 the water lily in the pond.

We want to reduce the color of this image in all of the areas EXCEPT the actual flower, which we want bright and full of color.

Open the image, adjust the levels (see above) then, go to the Layers Palette and select the Adjustment layer button (half black, half white) and select Channel Mixer. When it comes up, select the monochrome check box in the lower left corner which turns your image from color to B&W. You can now move the Red Green Blue sliders to adjust the look of the image. (Photoshop suggests that whatever you select, it should add up to 100%...) When you get a good looking B&W, hit OK. Now, move the Opacity slider to bring back the color to the level you'd like for "the rest of the image".

Now, check that there is a small line around the little square to the right of the thumbnail image (This is the Layer Mask Thumbnail, and if you position your cursor over it, eventually, that title will come up) in the Channel mixer layer in the Layer's Palette. This indicates it is selected. If not, click once on it and the line indicating that it is selected will appear. Now, select the paint brush from the left tool bar and click the two tiny overlapping squares to reset the foreground/background colors to B&W. (Teeny tiny squares, not the larger two, we'll do those later) Once the two larger squares are B&W ensure that the Black square is on top. If not, click the arrows just up and to the right of the squares.

Now, using the brush tool (set the brush size with the [smaller and] larger keys) paint over the flower and you will see the color return as you mask out the filter effect from the area that you paint. If you make a mistake, click the tiny arrows to make White the top color and repaint the area you would like to be masked. (Black blocks the mask effect and White allows the effect to work) It may help to keep the Opacity at 100% so you can see where you are working then reduce the Opacity to see the final effect.

Photo #4 girl and healing tool and Gaussian blur (with masking). Open the image and click on the new layer button in the layers palette. Make sure that the new layer is selected, then select the healing brush (Band-Aid) from the tool bar. Once selected, make sure that the Brush has a sharp edge, not soft and that the Aligned and Use all Layers check boxes are checked (at the top tool bar). Now, move your brush into the black, texture less background and alt-click to select the source for the healing brush. Move the brush over the model's forehead and brush out her blemishes. Not to worry that you've just painted her forehead black, we're painting texture here, not color. Once you are finished, you may find that you have too much correction. In the layer's palette, reduce the Opacity of the 'new' layer so that the healing looks more natural to you. For the Gaussian Blur, drag the background layer to the 'Create a new layer' tab in the layer's palette. With the background copy selected, do a 'Filter Blur, Gaussian blur. Set the Radius between 20 and 25, not to worry that it is Too Much! Now, drag the opacity down until the portrait starts to look 'right'. Now to clear the eyes, mouth and hair (basically everything but the skin) select the 'Add Layer Mask' in the Layer's Palette, then select the paint brush and make sure that the foreground/background colors are reset to black and white with black on top. Set the brush size to 'clear' the eyes, eyebrows and lips (some like to clear the nostrils too). Then make the brush larger to clear the hair. If you make a mistake, you can move the white to the top and undo the clear. Make your final adjustments to the opacity of the two top layers and you're done.

Photo #9 to be matted. Open the image to be matted. Finish all 'work' on the image.

1. Isolate the image that will get an inner shadow.
(pass 1 will be the image and pass 2 will be the inner matt)
 - Select the Background image in the layers palette.
 - Press Command - A (PC Ctrl - A) to select entire image.
 - Press Shift - Command - J (PC Shift -ctrl-A) to cut the photo off the background and put it onto its own layer.
2. To make the matt
 - Make sure that 'Background' is selected.
 - Image > Canvas size
 - 0.1 H & V Relative (centered)

-white

-OK

The above will put a 0.05" white strip all around the image which, with a colored matt section will look like the cut edge of the colored matt.

-Image > Canvas size

-H - 2 V - 2 [Second pass, H - 4 and V - 6]

-Color - other and select a light color of your choice. You can use the color picker to select a color in the image BUT this technique relies on a lighter color to look right.

3. Do #1 and #2 again (for #2, use the 4" and 6" as shown)

4. Inner shadow

-Select the picture layer then click the F in the lower tray of the layers palette to pull up the 'add a layer style' menu.

-select inner shadow

-select global light

-set blend to multiply

-color to black

-opacity about 75%

-angle 125 deg.

-distance 20

-choke 0

-size 10

5. inner shadow on the inner matt

-select the inner matt and repeat #3

6. to make the matt 'optically centered'

-make sure 'View' Rulers is checked on

-make sure the background is selected

-Select the crop tool

-click at the bottom right corner and drag up to the top left, stop 1 inch short of the top of the top matt, check the ruler.