

Brushability Masks - Vintage Mask

Lesson 2: Worn Away Manual (Photoshop Elements) © Syndee Rogers

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In this lesson we'll transform a sheet of vintage music into a worn and grungy brush and then use it to add the perfect finishing touch to our vintage mask.

Step One: Prepare Your Workspace

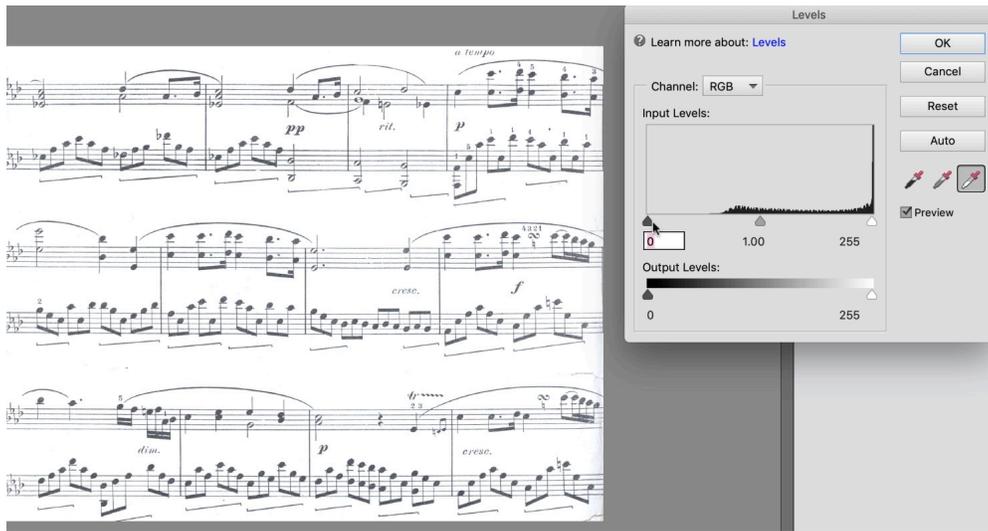
- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements by opening up the BRM-VintageMusic-SyndeeRogers.png from the class downloads.
- Make a duplicate copy (File > Duplicate).
- Close the original.



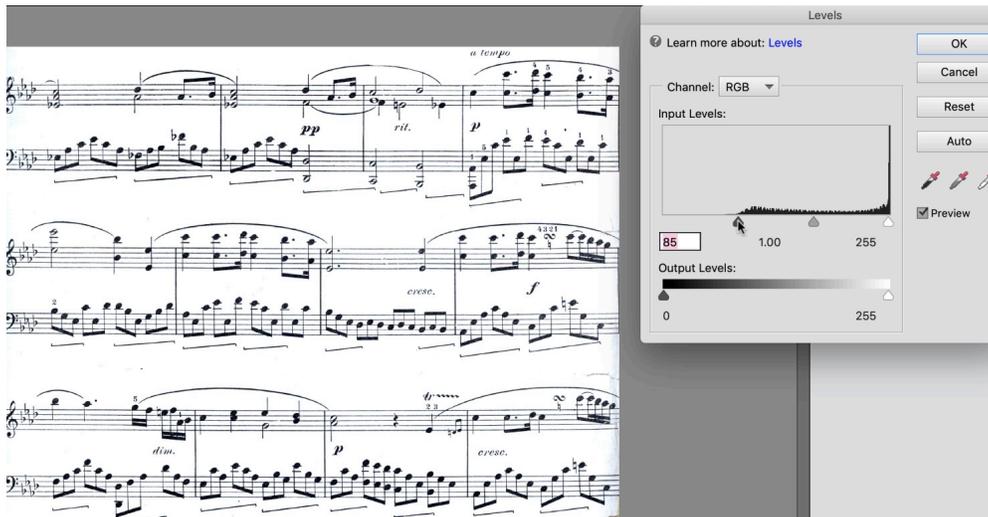
Step Two: Lighten the Background

Notice that the background is very aged. To make it usable for brush making we need to make the background as white as possible.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Enhance > Adjust Lighting > Levels. Or you can use the shortcut Ctrl L (Mac: Cmd L).
- In the dialog box, click on the white eye dropper icon and then on your music document, click anywhere on the aged background.
- If your background still has a lot of color to it, move the right Input slider to the left until the background turns white but the black areas are still dark.



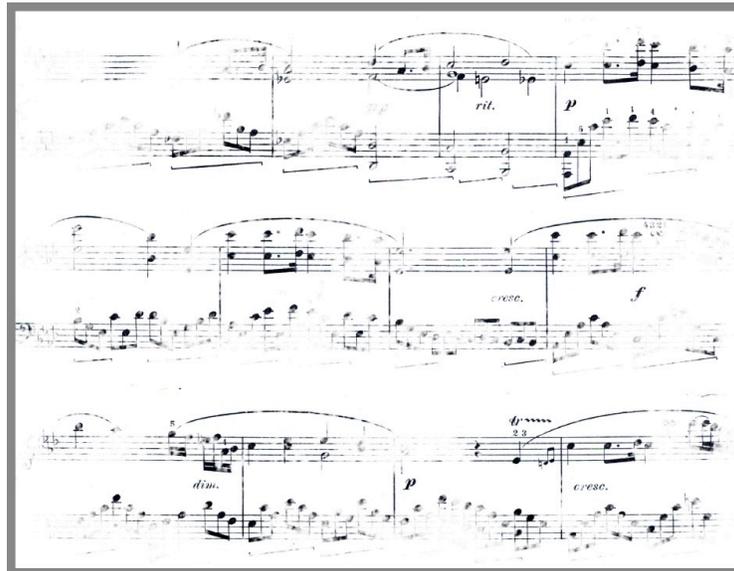
- In the dialog box, move the left Input slider to the right, until the music is really black but the white areas remain white. Click OK.



Step Three: Add a Grunge Layer

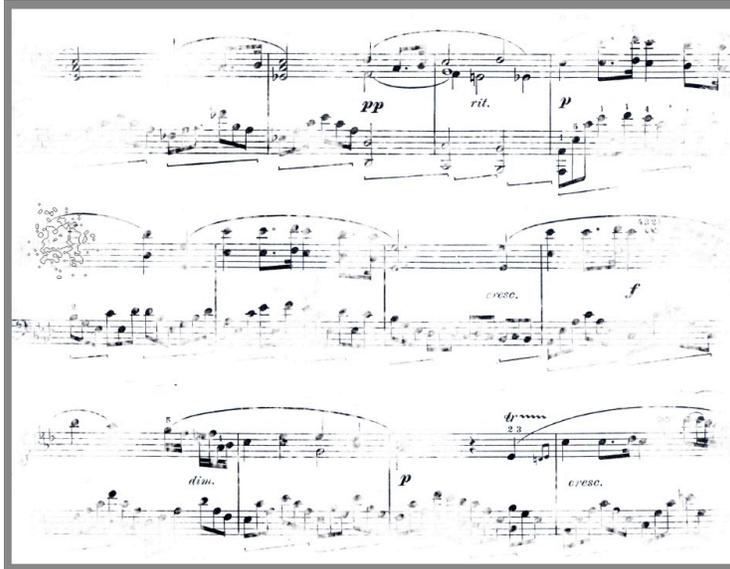
Notice that the Foreground color chip is now a tan color, and that's because the eyedropper tool sampled the background color when we were using the Levels adjustment. But we need our color to be white.

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open up the Color Picker and choose white. Click OK.
- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose the Texture Brush (BRM-02-01-Texture) we created in Lesson 1 of our Heart Mask Brush (BRM-02-01-el-HeartBase). Set the size to 286 px, the Opacity to 100% and the Mode to Normal.
- On the blank layer above the music layer, click and drag on the edges and random areas of the document to hide parts of the music. This gives the illusion that areas are worn away, but leaves our music layer intact.



If you feel like you've covered up too much of the music follow these steps:

- Get the Eraser tool.
- In Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose the same Texture brush from Lesson 1 of our Heart Mask and set the Size to 286 px, the Opacity to 100% and the Mode to Normal.
- On the document, on the brush layer click and drag to erase some of the white brushed areas until you're happy with how looks.



Step Four: Define the Brush

- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Define Brush. Give it a name, I've named mine BRM-04-02-WornMusic. Then Click OK.

Step Five: Save the Music Document

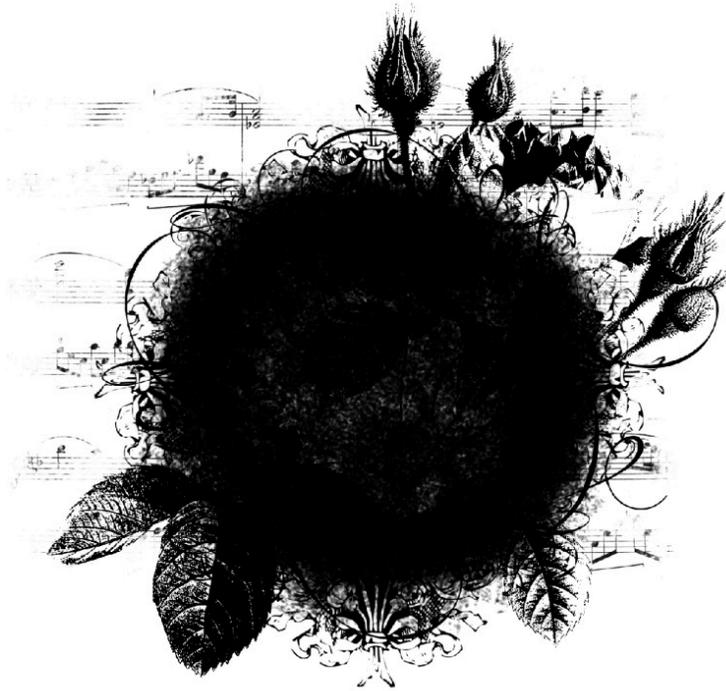
- Save the document (File > Save As). Give it a name, I've named mine BRM-04-WornMusic. Click Save.
- Close the document.

Step Six: Add Music to the Vintage Mask

- Open the Vintage Mask document (File > Open) that you ended with in our last lesson.



- In the Layers panel, activate the Background layer.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose your new Worn Music brush. Set the Size to 2500 px, the Opacity is 100%, and the Mode to Normal.
- On the document, click and stamp the brush on the blank layer, to add music.



Step Seven: Define the Vintage Mask Brush

- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Define Brush. Give it a name, I've named mine BRM-04-VintageMask. Click OK.

Step Eight: Save the Document

- Save (File > Save) your Vintage Mask document as a psd.