

Stories From the Road

by Jen White

Lesson Manuals

(Stories-1-1)

Before You Go | Introduction

- Memories fade, that's why we create photo books.
- This module can also be called "I'm Back."
- Download the Worksheet from the Downloads page.

(Stories-1-2)

Before You Go | Three Essential Parts of a Travel Album

- Photos and Videos
 - Photos can be flat or fanciful.
 - Let me help you make them fanciful.
- Journaling
 - Please don't skip this part!
 - Let me help you simplify the process.
- Paper Memories
 - Traveling racks up a paper trail.
 - Let me show you what your options are.

(Stories-1-3)

Before You Go | Consider Your Destination and Do the Research

Destination

Why did you choose your destination?

On your worksheet jot down some reasons for this destination.

If your album is for others, ask them the same question.

Research

Devour information about your destination.

Jot down a list of important and interesting things to photograph, places to go, or things to do.

(Stories-1-4)

Before You Go | Taking Notes

Analog or Digital

The second-most important part of a travel album is journaling.

Are you analog or digital? Decide how you'll take notes and then get it ready before it's time to go.

Analog people should take notes in a notebook. Recommendation: [Moleskin Notebook](#)

Digital people should take notes on their devices. Recommendation: Apple Notes, Google Keep, Evernote, Jouni

First Impressions

If pre-vacation, then plan to take notes of first impressions while on your vacation.

If post-vacation, then take notes of first impressions now.

If for a friend, ask them about their first impressions.

Keep Lists

If pre-vacation, then plan to list your itinerary with the correct spelling of things, people and places.

If post-vacation, then take time to recreate an itinerary as soon as possible.

Family Sharing

Note taking doesn't all have to weigh on the shoulders of a single notetaker.

If you're analog, then get a notebook for each member of your traveling party.

If you're digital, then collaborate with apps.

(Stories-1-5)

Before You Go | Get Out There, Get Lost, and Get Weathered

Get Out There

To avoid the crowds, get up early and stay out late.

The ideal time to take photos is the magic hour.

Get Lost

Observe the locals by eating where they eat and going where they go.

Wander down paths, around bends, and over rises.

Get Weathered

Waterfalls are the best thing to photograph in the rain.

Woodlands are best photographed during overcast skies.

Gardens and closeups of nature look great in overcast light or wet conditions.

Rainy days are also a great time to head indoors to photograph things like cathedrals or museums.

List of things you should plan to photograph during rain or overcast skies.

(Stories-1-6)

Before You Go | Be Camera Ready

The best camera to use is the one you have on you.

Be Camera Ready

Keep your camera with you at all times.

Know how to use your camera(s) before you go.

Quick Camera Checklist

Know my camera(s)

Pack and charge extra batteries

Make a plan to offload and/or backup

Make Time to Photograph

Don't procrastinate.

Practice patience.

Constantly Consider Different Viewpoints

Change your distance or angle.

Get creative with your composition.

(Stories-1-7)

Before You Go | Capturing People

Use members of your family and/or your friends to make your other photographs more effective.

Strike a Balance

Get far enough away to keep some sense of where the person is.

But, get close enough that the person is recognizable.

Take Candid Photos

Capture action.

To get yourself in the photo, set your camera's timer and run into the frame.

Photograph Strangers

It's always best to ask permission before taking a close photo.

If it feels inappropriate to take a photo, then consider journaling about the scene instead.

(Stories-1-8)

Before You Go | Photography Tips for Maximum Flexibility

Take Multiples

Extra images reduces the chance of having to display closed eyes, awkward expressions, background distractions, sun glares, and sun flares.

Use a Tripod

This can make a huge difference for landscape photos and especially photos taken in low light situations.

Crop in Photoshop

Resist the temptation to crop images in your viewfinder as you make them.

Images should be flexible enough to be clipped to a landscape clipping mask or a portrait clipping mask.

(Stories-2-1)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Gathering the Essential Parts

Create a Main Folder

The folder should be easy to find and named appropriately.

Add Photos and Videos

Gather and add all photos and videos from the trip.

Use Google Drive for transferring large files between people.

Use stock images to replace bad photos.

Add Journaling

If analog, then convert all notes into a digital format.

Add the journaling files to the main folder.

Rename the journaling files in your chosen format.

I recommend using this format: YYYYMMDD.

Keep an eye out for spelling and grammar errors.

Add Paper Memories

Add digital memories and rename.

Scan or photograph paper memories and rename and add them as well.

(Stories-2-2-EL)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Renaming Photos in Elements Organizer

From Photoshop Elements Editor, click on Organizer.

In Organizer, click on Import > From Files and Folders.

Navigate to the folder on your desktop and click Get Media.

In the Menu Bar, choose View and place a checkmark next to Details and File Names.

If you cannot see the exact date of the files, make the images larger in the Zoom slider.

To select a group of images, click on the first one, then hold down the Shift key and click on the last one.

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Rename.

Enter a new name and click OK.

(Stories-2-2-PS)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Renaming Photos in Adobe Bridge

Recommended: [Download Adobe Bridge](#)

In the Folders panel, navigate to and click on the folder you created for your album.

Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select all the photos in the folder.

In the Menu Bar, choose Tools > Batch Rename.

In the dialog box, set the Destination Folder to Rename in Same Folder.

For New Filenames, in the first field choose Date Time, then Date Created, then YYYYMMDD.

Click on the + icon to add another filename adjustment.

Set the first field to Text.

In the next field, add a dash, the overall topic of the photos, and then another dash.

Check the preview.

Click on the + icon to add another filename adjustment.

Set the first field to Current Filename.

Set the next field to Number Suffix.

Check the preview.

Click Rename.

(Stories-2-3)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Tips for Weening Photos

The goal is to create a photo book that represents an event in time through a series of photos.

The higher number of photos in your book translates to a higher cost.

Tip #1 - Remove Duplicate Photo

Chose one photo from bursts and remove the rest.

Chose one photo from a group with different perspectives and remove the rest.

Chose one photo taken multiple times and remove the rest.

Tip #2 - Remove Unnecessary Photos

Remove photos that do not help tell the vacation story.

Remove uninspiring photos.

Remove unrelated photos.

Tip #3 - Remove Bad Photos

Exclude photos that are out of focus, too dark, or too blown out.

Consider using stock images instead.

(Stories-2-4-EL)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Fixing Perspective in Photoshop Elements

[Learn more about Fix Photos Fast for Photoshop Elements.](#)

Save \$16 with Coupon Code ROAD16

Expires 12/31/2020

Open and Crop an Image

In Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements, open a photo (File > Open) that can use a perspective fix.

Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.

In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon, set the Feather to 0 pixels, and the Aspect to Normal.

On the image, click and drag a selection outline that completely encompasses the parts of the sign you want to keep.

To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.

In the Menu bar choose Image > Crop.

Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to Deselect.

To turn on the grid, in the Menu Bar choose View > Grid.

Fix the Perspective

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

Holding down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) click and drag on corner handles of the bounding box until the corner of the sign is in the corner of the image.

Repeat on all four corners.

If you need to zoom in, press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +).

To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document.

When all four corners of the sign are in place, click the checkmark to commit.

Zoom Out and Crop

Press Ctrl - (Mac: Cmd -) to zoom out.

Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select all.

In the Menu bar choose Image > Crop.

Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

Use the Liquify Filter to Straighten the Edge of the Sign

In the Menu bar, choose Filter > Distort > Liquify.

In the dialog box, get the Nudge tool. Set the Size to 826 and the Pressure to 50.

Position the + sign at the bottom of the image and slightly click and drag downward.

Repeat as necessary.

Click OK.

(Stories-2-4-PS)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Fixing Perspective in Adobe Photoshop

[Learn more about Fix Photos Fast for Adobe Photoshop.](#)

Save \$16 with Coupon Code ROAD16

Expires 12/31/2020

Open and Crop an Image

In Adobe Photoshop open a photo (File > Open) that contains a subject that needs a prospective fix.

Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.

In the Tool Options click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 pixels and the Style to Normal.

On the document click and drag a selection outline that completely encompasses the part of the sign that you want to keep.

To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar. In the Menu Bar choose Image > Crop.

Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

To turn on the Grid, in the Menu Bar and choose View > Show > Grid.

Fix the Perspective

Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the background layer.

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

Holding down Shift Ctrl (Mac: Shift Cmd), click and drag on corner handles of the bounding box until the corner of the sign is in the corner of the image.

Repeat on all four corners.

If you need to zoom in, press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +).

To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document.

When all four corners of the sign are in place, click the checkmark to commit.

Use the Warp Option to Straighten the Edge of the Sign

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

In the Tool Options click on the Warp icon.

On the document, use the pivot points in the warp box to slightly adjust the edges of the sign.

When finished with the checkmark to commit.

(Stories-2-5-EL)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Travel Photo Action in Photoshop Elements

Install and Run the Action

Install the Travel Photo Action included in the downloads for this class.

Installation Instructions: [Enroll in The Fundamental Five Free Class](#)

Open an image (File > Open) from your travels.

In the Layers panel, make sure the image layer is the active layer.

In the Actions panel, click on the name of the action and then press Play.

Press Stop.

Adjust the Image Without Layer Masks

If the image is too light, in the Layers panel click on the LIGHTNESS layer to activate it, then lower the Opacity.

If the image is too sharp, in the Layers panel click on the SHARPNESS layer to activate it, then lower the Opacity.

If the image is too saturated, in the Layers panel click on the SATURATION layer to activate it, then lower the Opacity.

When satisfied, in the Actions panel click Play.

Adjust the Image with Layer Masks

Use the layer masks if only part of the image needs to be adjusted.

In the Layers panel, click on one of the layer masks to activate it.

Get the Brush tool.

In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose a Soft Round Brush. Set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 50%. If black is not the Foreground Color Chip, press the letter D to reset the Color Chips and then press the letter X to switch the Color Chips.

In the Layers panel, click on the layer mask of one of the layers.

On the image, brush over the over-saturated subject.

To make your brush larger, press the Right Bracket key.

To make your brush smaller, press the Left Bracket key.

When satisfied, in the Actions panel click Play.

(Stories-2-5-PS)

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When satisfied, in the Actions panel click Play.

Adjust the Image with Layer Masks

Use the layer masks if only part of the image needs to be adjusted.

In the Layers panel, click on one of the layer masks to activate it.

Get the Brush tool.

In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose a Soft Round Brush. Set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 50%. Flow can be 100% and Smoothing will be 0%. If black is not the Foreground Color Chip, press the letter D to reset the Color Chips and then press the letter X to switch the Color Chips.

In the Layers panel, click on the layer mask of one of the layers.

On the image, brush over the over-saturated subject.

To make your brush larger, press the Right Bracket key.

To make your brush smaller, press the Left Bracket key.

When satisfied, in the Actions panel click Play.

(Stories-2-6-EL)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Straightening Horizons in Photoshop Elements

Straighten with the Straighten Tool

Open an image (File > Open) with a horizon problem.

Get the Straighten tool.

In the Tool Options, click on the Remove Background icon.

On the image, click and drag a line across the horizon, or where you perceive the horizon to be.

Save the image (File > Save As) as a high quality JPG with a unique name.

Straighten with the Crop Tool

Get the Crop tool.

In the Tool Options, set the Ratio to No Restriction.

Click on the third grid option.

On the image, hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box until you see that curve double headed arrow.

Then click and drag until the image looks like it is lining up with the lines on the grid.

Click the checkmark to commit.

(Stories-2-6-PS)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Straightening Horizons in Adobe Photoshop

Open an image (File > Open) with a horizon problem.

Get the Crop tool.

In the Tool Options, click on the Straighten icon.

On the image, click and drag a line across the horizon, or where you perceive the horizon to be.

To adjust the tilt further, rotate the bounding box.

Click the checkmark to commit.

(Stories-2-Bonus-1)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Gleaning Still Images from Videos

3 Benefits of Capturing Videos

Videos are great for capturing images of people who are camera shy and seem to avoid cameras like the plague.

Videos are great for getting a smiling photo of someone who rarely smiles.

Videos are great for when you don't really have time to decide on the perfect shot.

TIP: When taking a video recording, pan your phone slowly to give it time to focus.

In Windows

Find a Frame

Open Movies & TV, a native app of a Win10 computer.

Click on the Personal tab and then navigate to the video you want to open.

On the video, click and drag the frame indicator to a frame you want to save.

Save the Frame

On the video, click on the Edit icon and choose Save Photo from Video.

In the dialog box, click on Save a Photo.

Enter a unique name.

On a Mac

Find a Frame

Open iMovie, a native app of a Mac computer.

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Import Media.

In the dialog box, navigate to a video and choose Import Selected.

Click and drag across the video thumbnail to move the timeline to a frame you want to save.

Save the Frame

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Share > Image.

In the dialog box, enter a unique name for the image and a location. Click Save.

A notification should appear on your desktop saying the process was successful.

(Stories-2-Bonus-2)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Scan Codes from Videos

Upload a Video

Upload a video to YouTube.

Click on the video camera icon and choose Upload Video.

Set the view to Public or Unlisted.

Then click on the upload icon, navigate to a video, and upload.

Drag your mouse over the video URL to highlight it, then Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the highlighted text and click Copy.

Create a Scan Code

Open a QR code generator.

Paste in the URL from your youtube video into the appropriate box.

Choose Static over Dynamic.

Download the QR code image.

Use the QR Code Image

Rename the image to coincide with the naming convention you are using.

Use the image just as you would a photo.

To find an app for scanning QR codes such as this, search your App Store for "barcode scanner."

(Stories-2-Bonus-3)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Finding Stock Images

Consider using free stock photography to replace images that are missing or unfit to use.

Read the [Tricky Transparency 2 blogpost](#) for step by step instructions and settings.

CAUTION: Many Google images are only intended for web use, not for print.

CAUTION: You cannot take any image you find on web. Stick with stock photos that intended for sharing.

(Stories-2-Bonus-4)

Gathering, Organizing, and Repairing | Capturing the Paper Trail

Saving Digital Memories

Open a digital memory on your phone or your computer.

Create a screenshot from your phone or computer.

Save the screenshot and rename it in the naming convention you've committed to.

Scanning Paper Memories

Align paper memories on your scanner so that the edges of each document do not touch or travel of the edge of the scanner window.

Photographing Paper Memories

Place each paper memory on a plain white sheet of paper.

Position the paper near a window with natural light.

Avoid any glares or reflections.

Photograph the papers directly above the object to avoid perspective problems. Transfer the images to your computer and save and rename them.

Extracting the Memories

Open an image (File > Open) containing a paper or digital memory.

Get the Polygonal Lasso tool.

In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon and set the Feather to 0 pixels. Anti-aliasing can be checked.

On the image, click to place the beginning of the first segment in the corner of the document.

Continue clicking to create additional segments that outline the document.
Make sure that the segments lie just inside the edge of the paper memory.
Click on the beginning of the first segment to close the selection.
Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to copy the selected pixels to a new Layer.
In the Layers panel, click and drag the Background layer to the trash.
Save the image (File > Save As) as a PNG file with a unique name using the naming convention that you've committed to.

(Stories-3-1)

Working with the Travel Templates | About the Travel Templates

40 double page grayscale templates are included for this class.

No Order

Template 01 is intended to be the first page of the album.

Template 40 is intended to be the cover of the album.

The rest of the templates can be used in any order.

Color and Page Coding

Each photo clipping mask is color coded in red.

NOTE: Older versions for PS and PSE do not offer the ability to view color coding or apply it.

Each layer is labeled and contains a layer style.

There are extra layers to indicate which photo masks are on the left side of the two page spread and which are on the right side.

The photo masks are in order in the layers panel as they appear on their respective pages.

Keep the Guide in Mind

Each template contains a guide to indicate the center of the double page spread.

This line will not appear on a JPG version of the page and it will not appear on a printout of the page.

Made to Mingle

You do not have to plan for the gutter.

This template set was designed to utilize the benefits of a lay flat album.

Many of the clipping masks travel across the grid.

Clipping Masks

All photo clipping masks in the templates are vector shapes.

They do not loose quality when resized or stretched.

Every clipping mask includes a layer style that contains a small inside stroke outline in black.

Some clipping masks are intended to travel off the page.

When saving the templates as JPEGs, flatten the image first.

Journaling Lines

Journaling lines are included on most every template.

Watch the journaling video for additional details.

(Stories-3-2)

Working with the Travel Templates | Adding Photos to the Templates

Create a Duplicate

Open template 01 (File > Open) from the downloads.

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate (PS: Choose Image > Duplicate).
Close the original template without saving.

Add a Photo

In the Layers panel, click on the shape layer you want to clip a photo to.
Open an image you want to clip to the shape.
Get the Move tool.
Click and drag the photo onto the document and overtop of the clipping mask.
In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
Press the Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
To reposition the image, click and drag inside the bounding box.
To resize the image, click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box.
Click the checkmark to commit the change.

(Stories-3-3)

Working with the Travel Templates | Pairing Photos to Templates

Start at the beginning of your files.
Your travel album should be a chronological account of the traveling that took place.
Consider how many photos are you working with in a group.
If the event is not important, be flexible with removing more images.
If the event is important, try and use all the photos.
Consider if any of the photos are spectacular.
Plan to look for templates that will feature the spectacular photos.
Consider if there is any journaling about this event.
If there is, choose a template that has a designated place for journaling.
Consider if there are any paper memories for the event.
Will you include them on the layout or save them till the end?

(Stories-3-4-EL)

Working with the Travel Templates | Journaling and Journaling Lines for Photoshop Elements

Hide the Journaling Lines

Open a template (File > Open) with journaling lines.
In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the journaling lines layer to hide it.

Hide Only Some of the Journaling Lines

In the Layers panel, turn on the visibility of the journaling lines layer.
Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
In the Tool Options click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 px and the Aspect to Normal.
On the document, click and drag a selection outline around the part of the journaling lines that you want to keep.
To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.
In the Layers panel click on the Add Layer Mask icon.

Make the Journaling Lines Darker

In the Layers panel, make sure the journaling lines layer is active layer.
Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
Duplicate additional times to darken further.

Make the Journaling Lines Lighter

Press Ctrl Z (Mac: Cmd Z) the amount of time it takes to revert back to the beginning.

In the Layers panel, make sure the journaling lines layer is active layer.
Lower the Opacity of the lines layers.

Add Type Without Journaling Lines

In the Layers panel, click on the journaling lines layer to make it active.
Click on the Visibility icon of the journaling lines layer to hide it.
Get the Type tool.

On the document, click and drag to create a text box.

To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.

In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a journaling font. Set the Size to 12 pt, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to 0. The Color Chip should be black. If it's not, press the letter D. Set the Alignment to Left Alignment.

Type in journaling or paste in journaling (Ctrl/Cmd V) from one of the documents in your folder.

Click the checkmark to commit the type.

Justify the Type Box

In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer containing the journaling.

Press Shift Ctrl J (Mac: Shift Cmd J) to justify the type.

Add Type With Journaling Lines

In the Layers panel, turn on the Visibility icon of the journaling lines layer.

Click on the journaling lines layer to activate it.

Get the Move tool.

Use the Arrow keys to nudge the top line of journaling to line up with the first journaling line.

Get the Type tool.

In the Tool Options, adjust the Leading until the lines up type line up with the journaling lines.

Making Journaling Fit in the Box and on the Lines

Option 1: Reword the paragraph or remove words.

Option 2: Change the size of the font.

Adjusting the Text Box

In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer containing the journaling.

On the document, click and drag on the side handles of the bounding box.

Click the checkmark to commit.

Get the Type tool.

On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click and drag the text box to a new location.

(Stories-3-4-PS)

Working with the Travel Templates | Journaling and Journaling Lines for Adobe Photoshop

Hide the Journaling Lines

Open a template (File > Open) with journaling lines.

In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the journaling lines layer to hide it.

Hide Only Some of the Journaling Lines

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On the document, click and drag a selection outline around the part of the journaling lines that you want to keep.

To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.

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Add Type Without Journaling Lines

In the Layers panel, click on the journaling lines layer to make it active.

Click on the Visibility icon of the journaling lines layer to hide it.

Get the Type tool.

On the document, click and drag to create a text box.

To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.

In the Character panel, open the Font Picker and choose a journaling font. Set the Size to 12 pt, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to 0. The Color Chip should be black. If it's not, press the letter D.

In the Paragraph panel, set the Justification to Left Justify and uncheck Hyphenation.

Type in journaling or paste in journaling (Ctrl/Cmd V) from one of the documents in your folder.

Click the checkmark to commit the type.

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Adjusting the Text Box

In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer containing the journaling.

On the document, click and drag on the side handles of the bounding box.

Click the checkmark to commit.

Get the Type tool.

On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click and drag the text box to a new location.

(Stories-3-5)

Working with the Travel Templates | Modifying the Templates

Alter the Stroke Outlines

Open a template (File > Open).

Get the Move tool.

On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click directly on the clipping mask you'd like to alter.

In the Layers panel, double click on the fx icon of the active layer to open the Style Settings dialog box. (PS: Open the Layer Styles dialog box.)

Edit the Size and Color of the stroke and then click OK.

Apply the New Effect to the Other Layers

In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the layer whose effect you want to copy and choose Copy Layer Style.

Holding down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key), click on the other clipping mask layers.

Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on one of the active layers and choose Paste Layer Style.

Watch for Traveling Clipping Mask Edges

Some clipping masks are meant to travel off the edge of the template.

Doing this keeps the stroke outline from showing on the edge of the template.

Remove Clipping Masks

Get the Move tool.

On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click directly on the clipping mask you'd like to remove.

In the Layers panel, click on the Trash icon.

Resize a Clipping Masks

Get the Move tool.

On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click directly on the clipping mask you'd like to alter.

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

On the document, click and drag on the handles of the bounding box to resize the shape.

To reposition the shape, click and drag inside the bounding box.

Click the checkmark to commit.

Resize Journaling Lines

Get the Move tool.

In the Layers panel, click on the journaling lines layer.

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

On the document, click and drag on the side handles of the bounding box to resize the lines.

Do not stretch the lines vertically.

Click the checkmark to commit.

(Stories-3-6)

Working with the Travel Templates | Resizing the Templates

Create a New Document

Open a template (File > Open) from the downloads.

Press Ctrl N (Mac: Cmd N) to create a new document.

In the dialog box, name the document using the same naming convention but with a different size reference. Set the size of the new document (doubling the width) and click OK.

Set a Guide

In the Menu Bar choose View > New Guide.

In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Vertical and the Position to half of the document width.

Click OK.

Transfer the Layers

Activate the original template.

In the Layers panel, click on the layer directly above the Background layer to activate it.

Holding down the Shift key, click on the top layer in the Layers panel.

All layer should be active except the Background layer.

Get the Move tool.

On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the clipping masks and journaling lines to the new document.

In the Layers panel, click on one of the layers to activate it all by itself.

Edit the individual layers using the instructions from the last video.
If you can't see the edges of a bounding box, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0).

(Stories-4-1)

Working with the Travel Word Art | Preserving Unity and Simplicity

Is the thing you are adding a distraction? If so, don't add it.
To determine if something is distracting, see where your eyes naturally levitate.
Is the photo book you are creating for yourself or someone else? Do your best to match the style of the recipient.
Keep the book as unified and simplified as possible.

(Stories-4-2)

Working with the Travel Word Art | 7 Ways to Add Word Art

Add Word Art to a Template

Open a template (File > New).
Open a word art.
Get the Move tool.
Click and drag the word art onto the template.
In the Layers panel, click and drag the word art layer to the top of the layers.

Rotate the Word Art

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
On the document, hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box and click and drag with the Shift key held down.
To reposition the word art, click and drag inside the bounding box.

Make the Word Art Smaller

Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
Click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box.
To reposition the word art, click and drag inside the bounding box.
With the Move tool active, use your keyboard arrow keys to fine-tune the position.

Recolor the Word Art

Click on the Foreground Color chip to open the Color Picker.
In the dialog box, choose a color and click OK.
In the Layers panel, click on the word art layer to make sure it's the active layer.
Press Shift Alt Backspace (Mac: Shift Opt Delete) to fill the word art with the new color.

Add Words to the Word Art

Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips.
Get the Type tool.
In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a coordinating font.
Set the Size to 10 pt, the Leading to Auto, the Tracking to 0, and the Alignment to Left.
On the document, hold down the Shift key and click to place the cursor.
Type a word and click the checkmark to commit.
In the Tool Options, adjust the Size and Tracking as needed.
Using the Move tool, click and drag directly on the word to reposition it.
Holding down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key), click and drag directly on the word to duplicate it.

In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer to highlight the word.
Type a new word and click the checkmark to commit.

Disassemble the Word Art

In the Layers panel, click on the word art layer to make sure it's the active layer.

Get the Lasso tool.

In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon and set the Feather to 0 px. Anti-aliasing can be checked.

On the document, click and drag a selection outline around the part of the word art that you would like to remove.

To delete the selected pixels, press the Backspace key (Mac: Delete key).

To hide the selected pixels, in the Layers panel hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click on the Add Layer Mask icon.

Blend Word Art with a Photo

In the Layers panel, click on the word art layer to make sure it's the active layer.

Get the Move tool.

On the document, click directly on the word art and drag it ovetop of a photo.

In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the word art layer.

To fill the word art with the Background Color Chip, press Shift Ctrl Backspace (Mac: Shift Cmd Delete).

Clip Word Art to a Photo

In the Layers panel, position the word art layer directly above a clipped photo layer.

In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Combine Word Art

In the Layers panel, click on the word art layer to make sure it's the active layer.

Fill the word art with black and set the Opacity to 100%.

Open another word art.

Get the Move tool.

Click and drag the new word art ovetop the first one.

Resize and reposition as needed.

In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the new word art layer.

(Stories-5-1)

Preparing Your Pages for Printing | Sitting and Unseeing

Pat yourself on the back for a job well done.

Next, grab yourself by the earlobe.

Then, make a frowny face and say to yourself, "Self, let it lie."

For a minimum of 24 hours, don't think about it, don't look at it, and don't touch it!

Trust me.

(Stories-5-2)

Preparing Your Pages for Printing | Making the Final Check

Check Spelling in Photoshop Elements

Open a completed template (File > Open).

In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the type layer to highlight the text of that layer.

Press Ctrl C (Mac: Cmd C) to copy the text.

Open a program that has automatic spellcheck enabled.

Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to paste the text.

If there are errors, choose to change them or ignore them.

When finished paste the altered text in replacement of the original text, or click Esc if there were no errors.

Repeat with each additional type layer in the document.

Check Spelling in Adobe Photoshop

Open a completed template (File > Open).

In the Menu bar, choose Edit > Check Spelling.

Photoshop will prompt you if it thinks something is misspelled.

You can Change or Ignore any abnormalities.

When finished, click OK.

Check for Grammatical Errors

Open a completed template (File > Open).

On the document, read all the sentences out loud.

Consider having a trusted friend read the sentences.

Check for Missing Effects

Open a completed template (File > Open).

On the document, search for missing or mis-colored stroke outlines.

In the Layers panel, check for any missing effects icons. All the clipping masks should have an effect.

If you've placed any shadowed objects on your pages, this would be a great time to check those as well.

Check for Skewed Photos

Open a completed template (File > Open).

On the document, check the clipping masks and make sure all the masks are covered completely with photos.

Check for Glaring Errors

Open a completed template (File > Open).

Zoom out (Ctrl/Cmd 0) so you can see the entire layout.

Check the photos again for any that need straightened, lightened or desaturated.

Don't over fuss, but make sure to spend some time with this task.

(Stories-5-3-EL)

Preparing Your Pages for Printing | Processing and Saving Doubles for Photoshop Elements

Gather Your PSD Documents

Create a folder on your desktop for the PSD documents.

Drag all the PSD document for your photo book into that folder.

Batch Process the PSD Documents

Open Photoshop Elements Editor.

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Process Multiple Files.

In the dialog box, set Process Files From to Folder.

For Source, click on the Browse button.

Navigate to the folder you just created on your desktop, then click Choose.

For Destination, click on the Browse button.

Navigate to the folder you just created on your desktop.

Create a new folder inside that folder named PRINTS and click Choose.

For File Type, check Convert Files To and then choose JPEG Max Quality.

Click OK.

TIP: If your computer's memory cannot handle the batch process of all the PSD files, try breaking the files up into smaller amounts within individual folders.

The Slow Processing Route

Open a finished template (File > Open).

In the Menu bar, choose Layer > Flatten Image.

In the Menu bar, choose File > Save As.

In the dialog box, navigate to the folder containing the PSD documents.

If you've not done so, create a folder inside that folder named PRINTS. Enter the new folder.

Set the Format to JPG and click OK.

In the dialog box, set the Quality to 12 and the Format Options to Baseline. Click OK.

Close the template without saving.

Repeat with each finished template.

(Stories-5-3-PS)

Preparing Your Pages for Printing | Processing and Saving Doubles for Adobe Photoshop

Gather Your PSD Documents

Create a folder on your desktop for the PSD documents.

Drag all the PSD document for your photo book into that folder.

Batch Process the PSD Documents

Open Adobe Photoshop.

In the Menu Bar, choose File > Scripts > Image Processor.

In the dialog box, in step one click on Select Folder.

Navigate to the folder you just created on your desktop, then click Open.

In step two activate the Save in Same Location button.

In step three, put a checkmark next to save as JPG. Set the Quality to 12 and uncheck Resize to Fit.

In step four, make sure that Run Action is unchecked.

Click Run.

TIP: If your computer's memory cannot handle the batch process of all the PSD files, try breaking the files up into smaller amounts within individual folders.

The Slow Processing Route

Open a finished template (File > Open).

In the Menu bar, choose Layer > Flatten Image.

In the Menu bar, choose File > Save As.

In the dialog box, navigate to the folder containing the PSD documents.

If you've not done so, create a folder inside that folder named PRINTS. Enter the new folder.

Set the Format to JPEG and click OK.

In the dialog box, set the Quality to 12 and the Format Options to Baseline. Click OK.

Close the template without saving.

Repeat with each finished template.

(Stories-5-4)

Preparing Your Pages for Printing | Slicing and Saving Singles

If you are using a printing service that does not work with full double-wide layouts, in this video I'll show you how to cut your pages in half and save them individually.

Save Side A

Open a double-page JPEG file (File > Open) from following the last video.

Zoom out (Ctrl/Cmd -) to see the edges of the image.

Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.

In the Tool Options click on the New Selection icon. The Feather should be 0 and the Aspect should be Normal. (PS: The Style should be normal.)

On the document, click at the top left corner outside of the image boundaries and drag down until the selection outline fills the left side of the image.

In the Menu bar choose Image > Crop.

Choose File > Save As.

In the dialog box, navigate to the same folder that contains the original image.

In Save As, click right after the number and put an A for side one. Choose JPEG for the Format and click Save.

In the dialog box, set the Quality to 12 and the Format to Baseline. Click OK.

Save Side B

Press Ctrl Z (Mac: Cmd Z) to undo the crop.

On the document, click and drag outside the right corner of the image down until the whole right side of the image is selected.

Repeat the save process above except rename with a B.

Close the document without saving.

Repeat for each double-sided JPEG file.

(Stories-6-1)

Printing Your Photo Book | Uploading and Printing at AdoramaPix

Get the Right Book

Go to [AdoramaPix.com](https://www.adorama.com) and click on Photo Books.

Click on Create Your Own Photo Book, then click on Customize and Create Your Book.

For the Style, choose Build My Own and then choose Select and Continue.

Choose a cover for your book and a size. The size you chose should be the size of one side of your album, not the double-page spread.

Choose your paper type and then choose Upload Photos.

Choose My Computer then Upload Photos.

Navigate to the folder containing your JPEG files.

Inside the folder, click on one of the images to activate it.

Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select all of the images, then choose Open.

Choose Build my Book.

Adding Images to the Template

In the software, click on the cover template to activate it.

Click and drag your cover image to the center of the template.

Click Fit or Fill and then Fill the Spread.

In the menu, click on Hide Used and sort the images Name A-Z.

Skip the End Page.

Click on page 1-2 to activate it.

Click and drag your first double-page spread to the center of the template.

Click Fit or Fill and then Fill the Spread.

Continue adding pages to the template in order.

To add additional templates one at a time, click on Add Spread.

To add a set amount of templates, enter an amount and then click Add Spread.

To remove templates, click on a blank template and click the Delete icon.

Reviewing and Printing Your Book

Once finished, click on Order.

Flip through the preview to review your order.

Check the Warnings, but disregard any telling you there are elements in the trim area.

Click Add to Cart and then you can checkout.

