

Lesson 9: All Grunged Up Transcript © Syndee Rogers

Grungy or shabby looking papers have always been popular and it's actually a fairly easy look to achieve with the help of a trusty friend, brushes. I love this method of creating grungy or shabby papers because it's nondestructive. You don't have to worry about ruining anything, and we can modify it to our hearts content. So instead of creating a patterned or textured layer, and then erasing or delete parts of it to create a grunged up look. We're going to actually paint the grunge on the layer above our design, and modify that layer to achieve the look we want. And our original paper design stays intact.

As you can see, I have already opened the Starburst overlay we created in our Starburst Lesson, and made a duplicate copy, and closed the original. Now, first off, I want to change the Background color to cream. So activate the Background layer in the Layers panel, and then click on the Lock icon on the right side of the Background layer to unlock it. Now click on the Foreground Color Chip and in the Color Picker inter fff9f1, then click OK. Get the Paint Bucket tool, and then click anywhere on the document to fill the layer with the new color. Next, activate the Starburst layer, and then click on the Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer button and choose Solid Color. And inter the number ebda5b, then click OK. Now press Ctrl alt G or Cmd Option G on a Mac to clip your Color Fill layer to your Starburst layer. And we'll need to create a new layer so click on the Create a New Layer icon.

So, we're not going to modify the Brush Settings and we'll just use the brushes as they come. So, we'll need to reset the Brush tool. To do that get the Brush tool, and in the Tool Options, on the far right click on the Menu icon and choose Reset Tool. If you're using Photoshop, you shouldn't need to reset the brush since we didn't save it with the new settings.

Now, let's open the Brush Preset Picker and choose our class brush, Grunge2. If you don't see it click on the fly-out menu and choose Load Brushes. Navigate to your class downloads folder and select paper-brushes-SyndeeR.abr file then click Open. In Photoshop click on the fly-out menu and choose Import Brushes. Now, set the size to 2000 pixels, the Opacity should be 100% and I our Blend Mode should be normal. Now, on our page making sure we're on our blank layer, click and paint random areas on your document. I know it seems like we're covering up our design, but we'll fix that in the next step. So, I think this is a good amount of paint.

Let's get the Eraser tool, and open the Brush Preset Picker and choose our paint2 class brush. In the tool options set the size to 2000 pixels, and let's lower the Opacity to 76%. So now, we want to start clicking with our eraser brush on the areas of paint we want to remove or fade. By lowering the opacity we can softly grunge up the paint layer without it being too stark of an eraser edge. It gives it a scuffed up appearance. And that's all there is to it!

The best part is you can reuse this layer on other papers and textures and change the color to match. I gave you several brushes in your class downloads that will work well for this technique. And here's the Starburst grunged up overlay, layered with some of the textures from our Brushes part 3 and Gradient Blends lessons. And this paper I added a grunge paint layer to our Diagonal Stripes Overlay. And finally, in this paper I added the grunge paint layer to our Dots overlay. So this shows how we can really transform the papers and textures that we've already created in this class. By layering the patterns, textures, and the painted grunge layers together you can create a whole bunch of new and fun papers.

Join me in the next video for a final class assignment. This is been Syndee Rogers with Passion for Paper.