Mastery1-04-el-Torn-Velum-Strip-transcript

Digital Scrapbooking Mastery, No. 1
Lesson 4: Torn Velum Strip for PSE
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A strip of Velum is a friend when all other friends have checked out for the day. It's versatile, it doesn't hijack your design, and it has a boatload of applications. In this lesson we'll use torn Velum to matte are journaling and add flow to our scrapbook page. I'm starting here in expert mode of Photoshop Elements with the scrapbook page as I left it after the end of the last lesson. So in the layers panel, the very top group is the active group. To begin creating the Velum first, click on the create a new layer icon in the layers panel. Then get the Rectangular Marquee tool. In the Tool Options. Click on the new selection icon. The feather should be set to 0 px, and the aspect should be set to normal. Then on the scrapbook page, if you can't see the top and the bottom edges of your page, press Ctrl - , that's Cmd - ,on a Mac, then click and drag a rectangular selection from the top of the page to the bottom. My selection is approximately 3 inches wide by 12 inches tall. Then I'll fit that page back to my screen by pressing Ctrl 0, Cmd 0 on a Mac, next press the letter D to reset the color chips to the default of black over white. Then press Ctrl Backspace in Windows, or Cmd Delete on a Mac, to fill the selection with white. Then press Ctrl D, Cmd D on a Mac, to deselect. The next step is to add a drop shadow. To do that in the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer style > Style settings. In the style settings dialog box we'll set the lighting angle to around 120 degrees, and then click on drop shadow to twirl it open. These settings can always be changed later, but for right now, let's go with a size of 7, a distance of 3 and an Opacity of 35 %. Then click OK.

Next , we'll want to lower the Opacity of this Velum layer down so that you can see through it. That's the whole point of Velum. I'm going to move this down to probably about 65 or 70 percent. Now, if you're feeling that your Velum is just a little bit too white for your page, we can change the color super quick. To do that, click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker. Then, using the eyedropper tool sample of color of your background paper. Then in the Color Picker, make that color just a little bit closer to white and then click OK. Now with the Velum layer as the active layer press Shift > Alt > Backspace in Windows or Shift > Opt > Delete on a Mac, to fill the Velum with that new color. Okay. The next step is to add the tear in the Velum, but before we can do that, we need to move the Velum up just a little bit so that we can see the bottom edge, so make sure you have the Move tool and then click and drag straight up so that you can see the bottom.

Next, get the Brush tool. In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, then open the dropdown menu and choose Dry Media brushes. If you don't see the name of the brushes, click on the fly out menu and choose large list. Now scroll near the bottom of the list of brushes until you see the heavy smear wax crayon. Click on that brush and then close the Brush Picker. Set the size of this brush to 50 px and the Opacity should be 100%. The Mode should be Normal. Close the Tool Options. Then I'm going to zoom in to the bottom half of this page by pressing Ctrl + , that's Cmd + on a Mac, several times. To reposition the zoom press and hold the Space bar and click and drag. And finally one more thing before we brush. In the Layers panel, make sure that the Velum layer is the active layer, then click on the Add Layer Mask icon. The layer mask should now be active. You know that it's active if it has a blue line around it. Also the foreground color chip should be black. If it's not, press the letter X. Then on the scrapbook page, click and drag a line across the Velum to erase part of it. If you want to have another, go at it, press Ctrl Z, Cmd Z on a Mac, to undo and then try it again. Next, we need to remove the rest of this Velum, so go back into the Tool Options of the Brush tool and open the Brush Picker once again, open the dropdown menu, choose default brushes, and get a hard round brush and set the size of the brush to around 200 px. Again, the Opacity should be 100 %. Then on the scrapbook page, click and drag to remove the rest of the Velum.

At this point, you may want to adjust your drop shadow. To do that in the layers panel, simply double click on the effects icon that will open the Style Settings dialog box, and then you can adjust the shadow until it looks good to you. When you're finished, click OK, and then it's time to add a stroke outline. First. We'll need a selection outline around the Velum. To do that, we're going to have to do a little bit of fancy selecting. In the layers panel. The Velum layer should be the active layer. Press Ctrl J, Cmd J on a Mac, to duplicate that layer, then click and drag the effects icon of that new layer to the trash. Next, Right click in Windows or Ctrl click on a Mac, on the thumbnail of the Layer mask and choose apply Layer mask. Next, hold down the Ctrl key in Windows or the Cmd key on Mac, and click on the thumbnail of that duplicate layer to get a selection outline. Then click and drag that duplicate layer to the trash, but then create another new layer by clicking on the create a new layer icon.

I'm going to rename this layer, and then in the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Stroke Outline Selection. In the dialog box, set the Width to 3 px, the color, I'm going to click on the Color Chip and just make sure that it's white. I'll set the Location to Inside and then click OK. Now I'll press Ctrl D, Cmd D on a Mac, to deselect. That simple stroke outline really did a lot to make this Velum look a lot more realistic, but now we have another problem. I'm going to scroll up to the top of the image and since I added that stroke outline, the stroke outline is actually forming a thin white line at the top of the document. Just to make things look a little

more realistic, I'm going to go ahead and get rid of that by going into the layers panel. The stroke outline layer is still active. I'm going to press and hold the Shift key and click on the Velum layer. Now they're both active. Then I'll get the Move tool and I'm just going to nudge this paper up just a little bit so that the top of that stroke outline is now above the scrapbook page. If you're not quite sure, if it's above the scrapbook page, press Ctrl T, Cmd T on a Mac, to get the transform options. And then you can see the bounding box and sure enough it's way up there, but let's make sure that it's not too far up there. I'm going to zoom back out by pressing Ctrl 0, Cmd 0 on a Mac, and now I can see that the bottom of my Velum is probably just a little bit too high for me. So I'm going to click and drag it back down, but still making sure that the top of that bounding box is off the edge of the paper. When you're satisfied, click the check mark to commit and then I'm going to rename this layer just because I want to be thorough.

The last thing that we're going to do to this piece of Velum is to give it a little bit of character and make it look a little bit more realistic. With the Velum layer as the active layer, click on the create a new layer icon. Then press the letter D to reset the color chips to the default of black over white. Next in the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Render > Clouds. Back in the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping mask. Then in the layers panel, change the Blend Mode of the clouds layer to overlay or soft light. That's going to make the Velum look a little bit crinkly if it's a little bit to crinkly for you though, you can lower the Opacity of the clouds layer until it just gives a little bit of character. Here it was before and here it is now. Now before we go, let's make sure to do our organization routine. In the layers panel, click on the top layer to activate it, then holding down the Shift key. Click on the bottom Velum layer. Now three Velum layers are active in the layers panel. Click on the group layers icon. And then I'll rename this group. So I mentioned earlier that the Strip of Velum would do two things. First of all, it's adding flow to our scrapbook page. Notice how when you're looking at the scrapbook page, your eye immediately wants to start at the top and then travel down the page because of that strip of white. The second thing that it's going to do is to, matte are journaling, but we're not quite ready for that step will be taking care of that in the last lesson of this class. So that's how you create a realistic torn piece of Velum. This has been Jen White with Digital Scrapbooking Mastery.