

Creating Outlines of a Photograph in Adobe Photoshop
to Use as a Tracing Template
by Kathleen Alexander

Open photo in Photoshop
Resize to desired size of painting

Image

Image Size

Enter size in inches

To Create Outlines:

Filter

Stylize

Find Edges

To change to Black and White image (saves colored ink):

Image

Mode

Grayscale

To Darken the lines:

Image

Adjust

Brightness & Contrast

Decrease brightness and increase contrast

To change to Mirror Image (to save one step in tracing)

Image

Rotate Canvas

Flip Canvas Horizontal

Print in pieces by doing the following in Photoshop:

Drag guides across outline image that will fit onto your printer paper, such as 8x10.5: (fits 8.5x11 paper) Use guides to select each separate tile. Copy and paste each tile onto a new document, making sure the new document has the same resolution. Print and repeat for each tile. Cut and tape each tile until you have the full mirror image tracing. Cover with tracing paper and trace all lines with a 3B pencil. Flip tracing onto watercolor paper, graphite side down. Use a red pencil to scribble over the pencil lines to press the tracing onto the watercolor paper.