

FSP-S1-L3-el-focus-masking-manual



Scraping with Filters, Stamp & Paint

Step-by-step, Lesson 3: Focused Masking (Photoshop Elements)

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Finish up your stamp and paint design by strategically masking away all unnecessary border lines.

Prepare Your Document

- Begin by opening the document (File > Open) that you ended with in Section 1, Lesson 2.
- Press the letter D to set the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- In the Layers panel, click on the stamp layer to activate it.

Mask Away Unwanted Details

- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose the Hard Round brush from the Default Brushes. If you don't see the names of the brushes, open the flyout menu and choose Large List.
- Set the Size to 400, the Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%.
- Open Brush Settings. Set the Fade to 0, the Hue Jitter to 0, the Scatter to 0, and the Spacing to 25.
- In the Layers panel, the stamp layer should be active.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- Black needs to be the Foreground Color Chip, if it's not, press the letter X.
- On the document, brush or click to remove unwanted borderlines.
- To change the size of the brush on the fly, press the Left and Right Bracket keys.
- To add parts of the photo back in, press the letter X to make white the Foreground Color Chip and brush or click again.
- To zoom in, press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +). To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space

bar and click and drag on the document.

Tips for Masking:

- Try to remove any noticeably straight boundaries of the stamping.
- Make sure to leave a nice amount of lines around the focal point (subject) of the image.
- Brush with the grain of the lines.



(optional) Adjust the Contrast of the Stamp Lines

- In the Layers panel, click on the stamp layer to activate it.
- Set the Opacity to 50%.

Tip: The opacity of the stamp lines will often need to be altered depending on what background paper you use for your scrapbook page.



(optional) Adjust the Lightness of the Watercolors

- In the Layers panel, click on the palette knife layer to activate it.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it "screen."
- Set the Blend Mode of this layer to Screen.
- Reduce the Opacity of the screen layer if needed.



Create a Group

- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer (stamp layer) to activate it.
- Hold down the Shift key and click on the bottom photo layer (original layer). Now all layers associated with the photo treatment should be active. The Background layer should not be active.
- Click on the Group Layers icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it "stamped photo."
- Save the document (File > Save).