Brushability Masks - Heart Mask
Lesson 3: Heart Mask Grungy Text Transcript (Photoshop Elements) © Syndee Rogers
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In this lesson we'll complete the heart mask by creating a grungy text brush using the Brush and Type Tools.

Here in expert mode of Photoshop Elements, I've already opened the heart mask document from our last lesson, and the placeholder text document from the class downloads. And I've also created a 5 x 7 inch document at 300 pixels per inch with a white background with the blank document active. Then press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over White.

Now in the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon, then get the Horizontal Type tool. And in the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a grungy old typewriter style font. I'm using 1942 Report. Set the Size to 16 points. leading 216 points, and the Tracking to 0%. Then click on Center Align Text. Now activate the placeholder text document that you opened earlier. In the Layers panel, double-click on the thumbnail of the type layer to select it all. Then press Ctrl C or (Mac: Cmd C) to copy the text. Activate your blank document, and with the Type tool still active, click and drag out a text box over the entire document. Press Ctrl V or (Mac: Cmd V) to paste the copied text. Then click the checkmark to commit. Swap out the text with a poem, journaling, song lyrics, or anything else you would like. But for demonstration purposes I'll just use the placeholder text. Let's activate the placeholder text document, and then close it (File > Close).

Now making sure that our new text document is active, in the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon. Press the letter X to swap the Color Chips so that white is now our Foreground Color. Get the Brush tool, and in the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose the Dry Brush from the Default Brushes. If you don't see it, click on the menu and choose Default Brushes. Set the

Size to 500 pixels, the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100%. Now open the Brush Settings and set the Hue Jitter to 0%, the Scatter to 14%, and the spacing to 37%.

Now let's go ahead and Save this grungy texture brush incase it disappears from our Brush panel. So open the Brush Picker, then open the flyout menu and choose save Brushes. Now I'm going to name my brush BRM which stands for Brushability Masks, 02 for the Section, and 03 for the lesson, and then grunge texture. Then let's navigate to our class folder for this lesson and then click Save .

Now with the blank layer active in the Layers panel, click and drag the brush over areas of the text to grunge it up. This method makes it appear as though areas of the text are erased, but we know better. Since it's non-destructive you can change the font size, color, and edit the text to create more brushes. I like to concentrate on edges of my brush first so that the edges are not so stark and it blends in the much easier that way.

Let's go ahead and Save this document as a PSD. So go to File > Save As. Let's name it BRM, 02 for the Section, and 03 for the lesson, Grungy Text. And navigate to your class folder for this lesson and click Save.

Now we want to go ahead and Define it as a Brush. Go to edit Define brush and since you've already named it we can click OK, unless you want to name it something different. And we can now go ahead and close the grungy text document (File > Close).

Next, activate the heart mask document with the top layer active. Then in the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon. With our Brush tool still active, open the Tool Options, and set the Size to 2500 pixels, the Opacity to 100%, and the Mode to Normal. Now on the document, right on top and on the left side of the heart, click and drag slightly to add the grungy text. Then in the Layers panel, drag the grungy text layer down below the cracked layer to automatically clip it to the heart layer. So all that's left is to Define our layered heart mask as a brush.

So in the Menu Bar go to Edit > Define > Brush. And we can just leave the name as is, just take PSD off and then click OK. Make sure to Save your heart mask document (File > Save).

Before you go let's test the brush out. As you can see here, I've created a new 12 x 12 inch blank document at 300 pixels per inch with a white background. I've also reset my Color Chips to the default of black over white by pressing the letter D. And with the Brush tool still active, open the Tool Options, make sure that the heart mask brush is still selected, set the Size to 2500 pixels, the Opacity to 100%, and the Mode to Normal. And in the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon. Now on the document, let's click and drag slightly to add the mask brush. We did it! We've successfully created our first custom mask brush and learned a few fun techniques a long way. And the great news is that you can use the brushes we created to build them on their own to create other fabulous elements! I'll see you in the next lesson. This is been Syndee Rogers with Brushability Masks.