SN3-HOW7-CropStrokedPhotos-transcript

Scrap It Now
How To Crop Stroked Photos
Transcript

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As mentioned earlier in this class, the photo and mask groupings can be moved around on your scrapbook page to suit your layout. They can even be moved off the edge of the page for a more artistic look. But doing this, presents a problem. After your page is completed, you will want to crop the page to remove excess pixels on the outside of the document. Doing this has the potential to nearly cut the file size of your document in half. Here's how I recommend cropping stroked photos that travel off the edge of your scrapbook page. This video is being filmed in Photoshop Elements, but the instructions are exactly the same for Adobe Photoshop, except where noted.

Begin by opening a scrapbook page where one of the stroked photos is traveling off the edge of the page. The first thing we'll need is the rulers turned on. So, go into the Menu Bar and choose View and place a checkmark next to Rulers. Next, click and drag from inside the Vertical Ruler and drag a guide out to the edge of the photo that's going to be cropped away. If you have more than one stroked photo that's going to be cropped off, you'll want to drag another guide to the edge of that photo. If your stroked photo is traveling off the top or the bottom edge of the document, you'll want to click and drag a guide from the Horizontal Ruler. You'll find extra instructions and specific images in the manual.

The next step is to move the photo or photos that are going to be cropped, so it would be this photo right here. But before I do that, I want to show you what's going to happen if we do not complete this next step. Very quickly I'm going to select the entire document and then in the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop. See how the left edge of that stroke outline is now showing on the document? That's not what I'm wanting at all. Which is why we're going to do this next step. I'm going to undo those things that I just completed, and now I'm back to the place where I just got done dragging the guide out from the Vertical Ruler. Remember, I said the next step is to move the photo. One quick way to find the photo that you're looking for in a busy Layers panel is to hold down the Ctrl key in Windows, or the Cmd key on a Mac, and click on the photo that you're looking for. Over here in the Layers panel, I was quickly transported to the photo that I clicked on and directly below that you can see the photo mask that I'm using and you can see the effect applied. Now that I know which photo and photo mask needs altered, in the Layers panel click on the photo mask that represents the photo

that's about to be cropped. With the photo mask active, get the Move tool and then hold down the Shift key and drag to the center of the document. Holding down the Shift key is very important for this step to make sure that you get the photo back in the same spot where it came from.

Now let's crop. Press Ctrl A, Cmd A on a Mac, to select all. Then in the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop. Press Ctrl D, Cmd D on a Mac, to deselect and now let's put that photo clipping mask back into place. The photo clipping mask should still be active in the Layers panel and once again with the Move Tool, hold down the Shift key and click and drag back in the opposite direction to place the photo mask back into place. You'll want to align the edge of that mask up with the guideline. Yes, there is still a little bit of pixels on the outside edge of the document, but it's not nearly as many as there were before. Before cropping the document, the file size of my scrapbook page was 209 MB. After cropping I'm sitting pretty at 132 MB. Using this method of cropping a stroked photo will preserve the layer style so that you can go in and edit it at anytime. So to finish up, in the Menu Bar choose View > Clear Guides and then you can also turn the rulers off to get them out of your way. So that's how and why to crop a stroked photo on your scrapbook page. This has been Jen White for Scrap It Now.