



Make It Match

Colorize Photo – Transcript – Photoshop Elements Only

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In this lesson we're going to look at a neat little menu from within the enhance options of Photoshop elements. It's another recoloring method you can try when the color blend mode method won't work. For this video, we're going to jump on in and look at how it works and then afterwards we'll discuss what's good and not so good about it.

So here we are in Photoshop elements. In the downloads or this lesson there is a paper you will need to download, unzip and open. Then in the menu bar, choose file, duplicate to create a copy. Click okay and then close the original paper file. Then in the menu bar, choose window, images, consolidate all to tabs. This paper is a difficult one to recolor. It has various colors that are hard to select due to the texture of the background. Because of that, using the color blend mode method isn't the best option. So I'm going to show you a trick you can try in Photoshop elements.

So in the menu bar, choose enhance, colorize photo. When the colorized photo menu first pulls up, it will always pull up in auto mode as you can see up here. On the right hand side, it will give you four predone recoloring options. If you like the look of one of those, you can always select one and then click okay. But in this case I want more control over how it's recolored, so I'm going to click on the manual side of the slider to get the manual options.

Okay, so let's start at the top and work our way down the menu options. First we have to select a portion of the document to recolor. In this case we want to recolor the entire paper, so we're going to select the entire thing. To do that, click on the quick selection tool icon and then set the size all the way up to 250. Then inside the paper, click and drag all the way around to select the entire paper.

And this brings up another good point. This recoloring method works as an alternative method for recoloring papers because all we have to do is select the whole thing. While it is possible to use this to recolor things like flowers or things with easy to select parts. It's much better to use the color blend mode method from section one of this class to do that because you have so much more control over the recoloring process. So while you can try to use this for elements, I have found this works best with papers that are difficult to recolor. So the next step is to add a droplet to the paper. This tells the

program which part of the paper to recolor. So click on the droplet tool icon. Now on the paper, click once approximately in the center of the paper. So about there.

So once you do that, the bottom portion of this menu opens up to us. As you can see, the major drawback to this recoloring method is that you don't have total control about which color you can recolor this paper to. But it's also not as limited as you think. The color chips and the color ranges I'm given are directly related to the color I placed the droplet on. So if I'm wanting a specific color, I want to place the droplet on the part of that paper that most closely has the same level of saturation and lightness or darkness. In this case, I want to change this to a subdued teal color, so I'm going to drag this right color slider down until I come across a color range that gives me that.

So once I find it, I'm going to click on the one I want and we will watch the computer do its work. As you can see, now the paper has been recolored. It's not a perfect recoloring. There's still a little bit of some tan colors peeking through, but it actually doesn't look too bad. This actually looks pretty good, but there are some spots that need some help. So to do that, let's click on the droplet tool again and then on the paper click on one of the problem spots to place a droplet. Then on the right hand side, click on the subdued teal color chip again, that's right here above the dropper, and then you can keep repeating that for any problem areas you might have. I think that actually looks fairly good. It's not perfect, but it doesn't look terrible. So then once you've finished recoloring the paper, you can click okay to close this menu.

Now that you can see the layers panel, you'll see that this process was non-destructive. It created the changes on a new layer so that the original paper is still underneath. So now that you have seen how the colorized photo option works, let's do a quick review before we move on to the next lesson.

So in this lesson we saw that the colorize photo method is non-destructive. However, it's not as fast as other recoloring methods, and it's lacking total control when it comes to the colors we can recolor to. But this method is a great option to try when all others fail. Due to the lack of control you have when using this menu, we're going to skip doing a project for this. It's too difficult to replicate exact results, but I wanted to show Photoshop elements users this option because it's something you should know about just in case it's the one thing that works when other methods don't. In the next lesson, we'll take a look at the match color menu found in Photoshop. This is Jenifer Juris with make it match.