

## MA2-L01-el-Grid-Paper-manual



### Digital Scrapbooking Mastery, No. 2

#### Lesson 1: Grungy Grid Paper for Photoshop Elements

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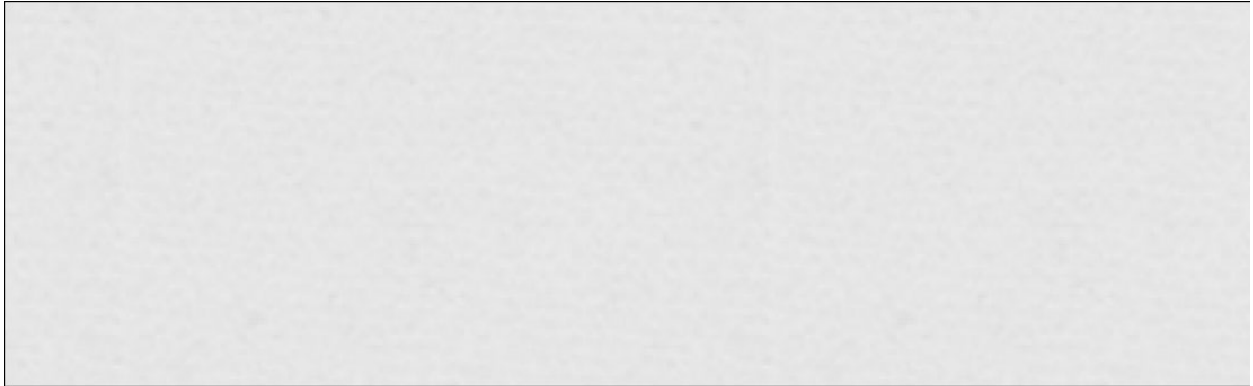
It's hip to be square. You know that, right? Since you and I will be building our Mastery 2 scrapbook page from the ground up, we'll start by grooving through the steps to create a grungy grid-style background paper. Believe it or not, this lesson will start you on the right track to thinking outside the box.

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.

#### Create a Base Paper

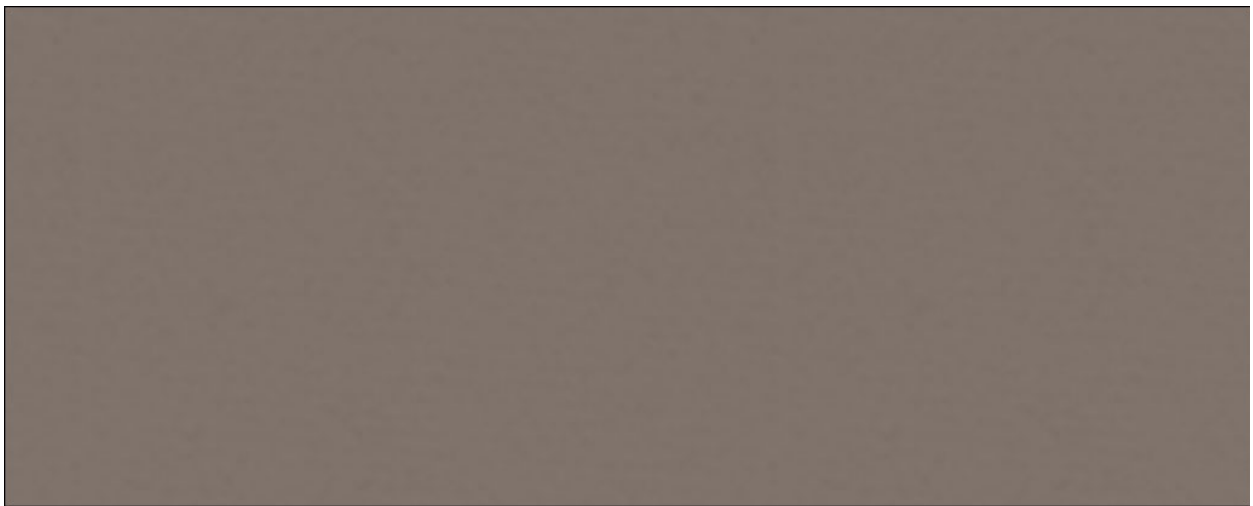
- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Pattern.
- In the Pattern Fill dialog box, open the Pattern Picker, open the drop down menu, and

choose Grayscale Paper. Click on Pebbled. If you don't see the names of the patterns, open the flyout menu and choose Large List. Set the Scale to 150% and click OK.



### **Add Color**

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Solid Color.
- In the Color Swatches panel, choose a medium-dark color from the swatches you loaded earlier in this class. I'm using Hex #8d7f77. Click OK.
- In the Layers panel, change the Blend Mode of the Color Fill layer to Multiply.



### **Add Additional Texture**

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Double click on the name of that layer and rename it Clouds.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Render > Clouds.

Every cloud render you create will be different, so yours should never look the same as mine.

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- In the Tool Options, set the Width to 300% and click the checkmark to commit.
- In the Layers panel, set the Opacity of the clouds layer to 50%.

Later in this less we'll reduce the opacity even lower, but for now I want to use the random pattern for a visual reference.



### **Add White Grid Lines**

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Pattern.
- In the Pattern Fill dialog box, open the Pattern Picker, open the drop down menu, and choose Patterns. Click on Tiles-Smooth. Set the Scale to 175%. Check Link with Layer. Click OK.

What does Link Layers do?

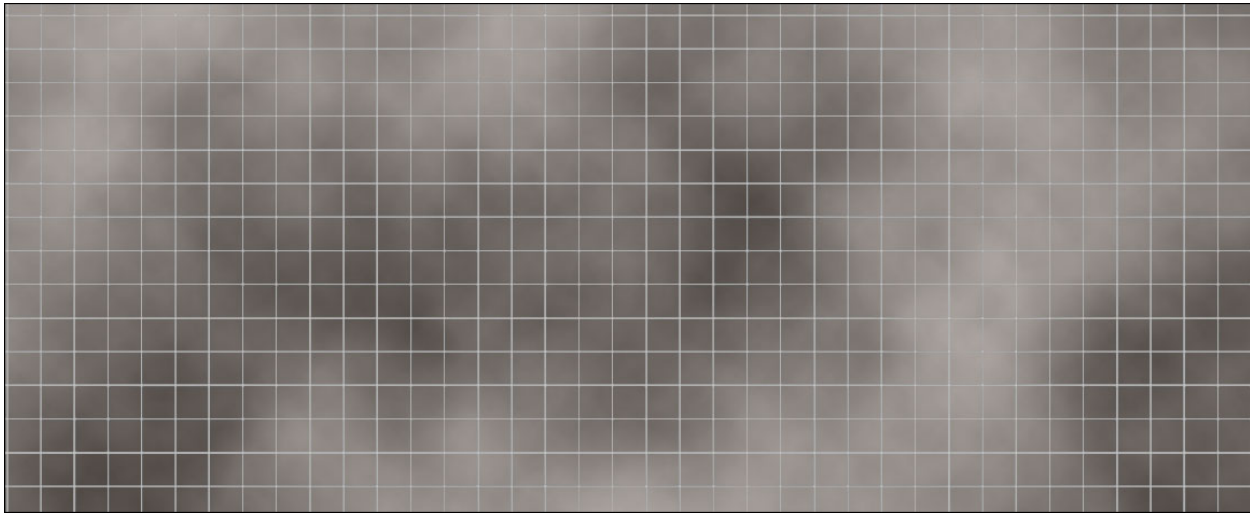
Check it and you can move the pattern around.

- Get the Move tool.
- Press the Arrow keys to move the pattern and center it.
- In the Layers panel, set the Blend Mode of the grid pattern to Lighten.

You shouldn't see much of a change because the Lighten Blend Mode blends the dark pixels and leaves the light ones alone.

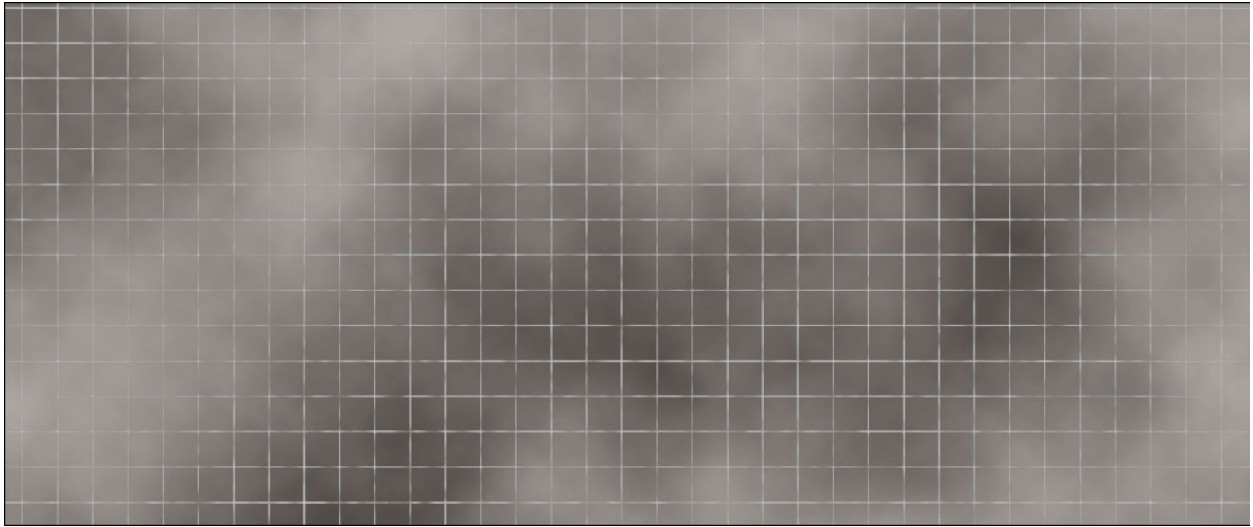
- Click on the Create New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Invert.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Or you could also click on the clipping mask icon in the Invert panel.



### **Grunge Up the Grid Lines**

- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open the drop down menu, and choose Natural Brushes. Choose the Stipple 54 px brush. If you don't see the names of the brushes, click on the flyout menu and choose Large List. Set the Size to 775, the Opacity to 50%, and the Mode to Normal.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Shift key and click on the grid pattern layer. Now two layers should be active.
- Click on the Create a New Group icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it White Grid.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- The Foreground Color Chip should now be black. If it's not, press the letter X.
- On the document, click to stamp the brush in areas where the clouds are lightest.
  - Do not click where the clouds are dark.
  - Do not click and drag.
  - The more times you click in a single area, the more of the grid that will be masked away.
  - To add grid lines back in, press the letter X to switch the Foreground Color Chip and paint with white instead of black.

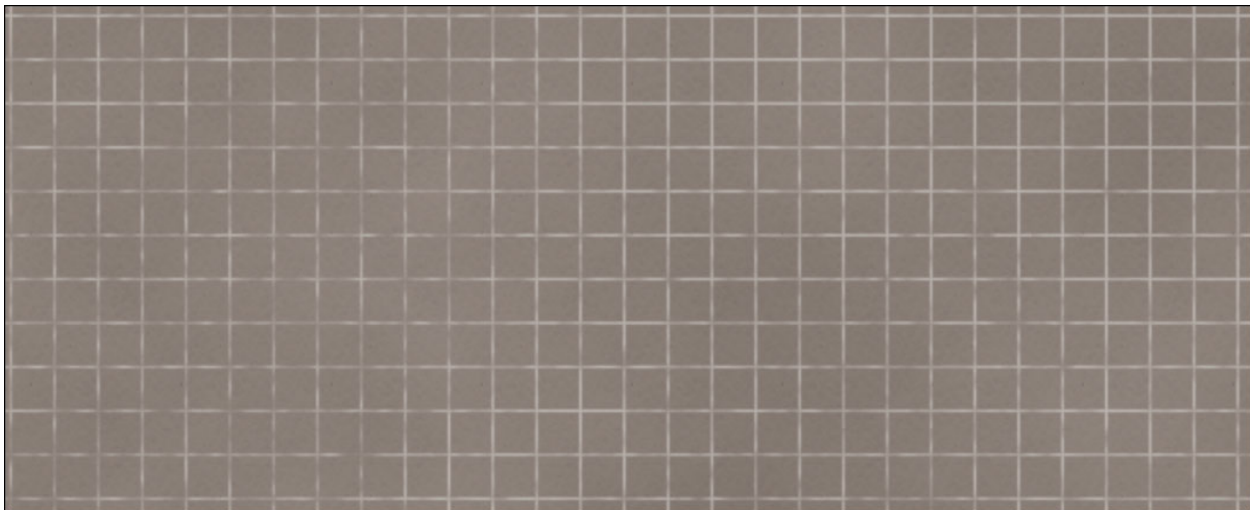


### **Soften the Effect**

- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the white grid group to 60%.
- Click on the cloud layer to activate it.
- Lower the Opacity of the cloud layer to 10% and set the Blend Mode to Soft Light.

### **(Optional) Strengthen the Grid Lines**

- In the Layers panel, click on the arrow to open the White Grid group.
- Click on the Pattern Fill layer within that group to activate it.
- Change the Blend Mode to Screen.
- Click on the arrow to close the White Grid group.



### **Group the Paper Layers**

- In the Layers panel, click on the white grid group to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the bottom pattern fill layer. Now four layers should be active.
- Click on the Create a New Group icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and name it Grungy Grid Paper.

### **Crop and Save the Document**

- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select the entire document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Crop.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file with a unique name in an easy to find location.

### **Archiving This Lesson**

- To archive this lesson for later use on another digital project, watch the coordinating lesson in the Archiving & Using section of this class.

### **Altering This Lesson**

- To see tips and tricks for altering this lesson, watch the coordinating lesson in the Alterations section of this class.

### **Custom Shadowing**

- There is no custom shadowing video for this lesson.

