Mastery1-04-ps-Shadowed-Torn-Velum-Strip-transcript

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Shadowing Lesson 4: Torn Velum Strip for PS
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Welcome to the first of the customs shadowing lessons. We're going to start with the torn Velum strip group, so you need to click on that group to make it active and then twirl it open so that you can see all the layers that are contained inside. Now this Velum layer already has a shadow applied, so if I open the dropdown, I'll see that there's a stroke and a shadow. The method that I'm going to use will only work if there's one style applied to a layer. So in times when there's more than one style, I'll just quickly grab and drag the extra style over to a new layer just temporarily, and now that Velum layer only has one style applied and it's the drop shadow. Now, Right click in Windows, or Ctrl click on a Mac, on the word drop shadow and choose Create layer. Notice how the Create Layer command added a drop shadow layer below the Velum layer. Now I'm going to click and drag that stroke style back onto the Velum layer, and then I'm going to close this style drop down. Now when I'm ready to edit the shadow, I'll need to activate that shadow layer and then get the Smudge tool. In the Tool Options, you need to have a really soft round brush. The mode should be normal and the strength should be around 50%. So the first thing I'm going to do is I'm noticing that this torn Velum is pointing down here and that part of the Velum would probably be touching the paper a little bit more than the edges it tends to curl a little bit. So I'm going to push that shadow up just a little bit so that it looks like the Velum is much closer to the paper in that particular area. Now here on the sides, I'm going to click and drag down a little bit because when the point is

pushing down, the sides are naturally going to push up just a little bit, so I'm going to drag those down. That right there is enough to get the Velum I look of reality, but if you want to keep going, a couple more good places to pull out the shadow would be maybe up here at the top where it might buckle because it's going over the edge of the page. You could also do it right around here. Now you may have noticed that when we put that custom shadow on its own layer, it now looks a lot darker under the Velum, so with that Custom Shadow layer still active in the layers panel, I'm going to lower the fill just a little bit more and see how it looks. Another thing that you can do is to keep the fill raised a little bit higher, but then to activate the Velum layer and make it a little brighter. Right now I have the Fill set to 65%, but if I raise that up, it's going to look nice and creamy.

And finally, here's one more super cool thing you can do to make the shadow of your velum look even more realistic. What this tip is going to do is to remove the darkness behind this velum. Here's how to do that. First, make sure that that Torn Velum Strip group is active in the Layers panel. Then press Ctrl J, Cmd J on a Mac. This new group is just for selecting. In the selecting group I'm going to click and drag the drop shadow to the trash and then I'm going to merge that group by Right clicking in Windows, or Ctrl clicking on a Mac, and choosing Merge Group.

Now, just like the name says, I'm using this just for selecting, so hold down the Ctrl key in Windows, or the Cmd key on a Mac, and click on the thumbnail of the selecting layer. Now I'm going to go ahead and turn that layer off. Now go back to the torn Velum group and Click on the custom shadow layer to activate it. Then holding down the Alt key in Windows, or the Option key on Mac, click on the add layer mask icon here. It was before we made that edit, and here it is now. So just in case I decide I need that selecting layer later, I'm going to go ahead and click and drag it back into the group from which it came, but I'm still going to keep it turned off so that you can't see it. And now when I close my group, my layers panel looks all nice and tidy again. So that's how you add a custom shadow using create layer to the torn Velum strip. In this class, this has been Jen White with Digital Scrapbooking Mastery.