Mastery1-03-2-ps-Complex-Clipping-Mask-manual



Digital Scrapbooking Mastery, No. 1 Lesson 3: Complex Clipping Mask, Part 2 for PS Manual © 2019 Jen White

- Begin in Adobe Photoshop.
- Open the scrapbook page (File > Open) that you ended with in Lesson 3, Part 1.

Invert and Select the Image

• In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Adjustments > Invert.

NOTE: The inside of the image should be dark and the outside of the image should be light. If it's not, repeat the last bullet.

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to create a duplicate layer.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Adjustments > Threshold.
- In the dialog box, move the slider until the black grunge no longer touches the edges of the white background. Click OK.



- Get the Magic Wand tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Sample Size to Point Sample and the Tolerance to 32. Uncheck Sample All Layers and Contiguous. Check Anti aliasing.
- On the image, click on the black pixels.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the threshold layer to hide it.
- Click on the original image layer to activate it.



- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to copy the dark pixels of the original image layer to a new layer.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the original image layer to hide it.

Darken the Mask

- In the Layers panel, the duplicate mask layer should be active.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Adjustments > Brightness/Contrast.
- In the dialog box, adjust the sliders to make the mask as dark as possible without losing details or adding pure black into the mask. Click OK.

NOTE: The darker the grays, the more opaque the final mask will be.



Define a Brush

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click on the Visibility icon of the mask layer. Now only the mask layer should be visible on the document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Define Brush Preset.
- In the dialog box, name the brush Mastery 1 and click OK.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click on the Visibility icon of the mask layer again. Now the document should have been returned to the previous state.
- Click on the Visibility icon of the mask layer to hide it. Now all mask layers should be hidden.

Stamp the Brush

- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer to activate it.
- Click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker. The new brush should be active at the bottom. Set the Opacity to 100% and the Flow to 100%.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips.
- On the document, hover your cursor over the document so that the entire boundaries of the brush are within the boundaries of the document. Click once. Do not click and drag.

Transform the Stamped Brush

- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag directly on the brush to reposition it.

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- Click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box to resize the stamped brush.
- Hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved double-headed arrow. Click and drag in a circular motion.
- Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) inside the bounding box and choose Flip Horizontally or Flip Vertically.



- Click the checkmark to commit.
- If desired, in the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the stamped layer.

Add Additional Stamped Layers

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Press the Left Bracket key to make the brush smaller.
- On the document, click to stamp again.
- Transform as desired.
- Repeat adding additional stamps on new layers.

Group Layers

- In the Layers panel, click on the top stamp layer to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the bottom stamp layer. Now all stamped layers should be active.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Group Layers icon.

OPTION 1: Clip a Photo to the Group

- Open a photo (File > Open) that relates well to your first photo.
 - Most of this photo will be hidden.
 - In our design it will be used to support the subject photo only.
 - A landscape-orientated photo will work best.
 - A color-fill layer could be used in replacement of photo.
- Get the Move tool.
- Click and drag the photo onto your scrapbook page.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping mask.
- Click and drag on the image to reposition it.
- Transform as desired.



OPTION 2: Clip a Color Fill Layer to the Group

- The stamp group should be active in the Layers panel.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and

choose Solid Color.

- Choose a color from the Color Picker or from your swatches in the Swatches panel. Click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Organize the Layers & Save

- In the Layers panel, activate the photo or color fill layer.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the group. Now the group and photo layer should be active.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Group Layers icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it Complex Clipping Mask.
- Save the scrapbook page (File > Save) as a layered PSD document.