

BMC-S2-L5-2-el-Finishing-Elements-manual



A Beautiful Mess Simplicity Challenge
Section 2, Lesson 5, Part 2 - Finishing Simple - Elements, Title & Journaling
Manual for Photoshop Elements

Finishing simple is much more simple when you have a plan. Here in part 2 of lesson 5 we'll finish the elements, title, and journaling.

For this lesson, you will need:

- 2 thin paper frames
- 1 plain white flower, 1 staple, 1 threaded tag
- See the [Design Cuts mini bundle](#) used in this class.

For this tutorial I'm using Framed Masks No. 2 by Anna Aspnes and the mini cluster from the class downloads.



Prepare Your Workspace

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.
- Open the document (File > Open) that you ended with in Lesson 5, Part 1.
- Open the elements you plan to use on your page.

Tips for Adding a Frame Cluster

- Place a frame cluster over the main photo of your page.
- The main photo is the one that stands out or is more important than the rest.
- The frame cluster should be at the top of the Layers panel.

Add the Frames to the Page

- Activate a frame element.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag the frame onto the page.
- Click and drag the frame overtop of the main photo.
- To resize the frame, click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box.
- To rotate the frame, hover your cursor over a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved double-headed arrow, then click and drag in a circular direction.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- Add a second frame in the same way, or duplicate the first frame (Ctrl/Cmd J) and then offset the duplicate.



Add the Remaining Elements to the Page

- Activate the flower element.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag the flower onto the page.
- Click and drag the flower overtop the frame set.
- Repeat for the tag element.
- Repeat for the staple element.



Add a Shadow to the Flower

- In the Layers panel, click on the white flower layer to activate it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.

- In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120 and click Drop Shadow. Set the Size to 30, the Distance to 20, and the Opacity to 50. Click OK.



Add a Shadow to the Tag and Staple

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a copy of the flower's layer style up to the tag.
- Double click on the Effects icon of the tag layer to open the Style Settings dialog box. Set the Size to 13 and the Distance to 8. Click OK.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a copy of the tag's layer style up to the staple.



Move the Title

- In the Layers panel, click in the top title type layer to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the bottom title type layer. Now both title layers should be active.
- Get the Move tool.
- Press your keyboard Arrow keys to nudge the title until it's being overlapped by the frames.



Recolor the Title

- With both title layers still active, get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Color Chip, then click on the Color Wheel in the lower right corner to open the Color Picker.
- On the document, click to sample a dark color from your page.
- Click OK to close the Color Picker.

Replace the Journaling

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the journaling layer to highlight the entire text box, including the type that is hidden outside the text box.
- Opt 1: Type out your journaling and click the checkmark to commit.
- Opt 2: Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to paste journaling in from another source. Then, click the checkmark to commit.
- To add additional space or less space between the lines of your type, adjust the Leading of the type in the Tool Options of the Horizontal Type tool.

Options for Journaling

- Use your own thoughts. (Best method!)
- Use quotes from the subject, like words of wisdom or odd/silly sayings.

- Use text from the internet, like poetry, literature, song lyrics, or movie quotes.

Crop the Page

- 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 page (File > Save).