



10 Timeless Titles, Vol. 1

Title In Mask

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Title In Mask (Photoshop Elements)

by Jen White

Group a title with a complex mask to create a one-of-a-kind clipping mask for your photo.

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Prepare the Workspace

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.
- 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.

Add a Complex Mask

- Open a complex mask (File > Open) with varying opacity.
I'll use mask2 from the class downloads.

How To Choose a Good Mask

- Masks with varying degrees of opacity will work best for this tutorial.
- Watercolor-style masks will work especially nicely.
- Masks with solid groups of pixels that are 100% opaque are not going to work well.



- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck Auto Select Layer, but check Show Bounding Box.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the mask onto the new document.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while dragging assures that the object lands in the center of the document.

Resize the Mask to Fit Inside the Document

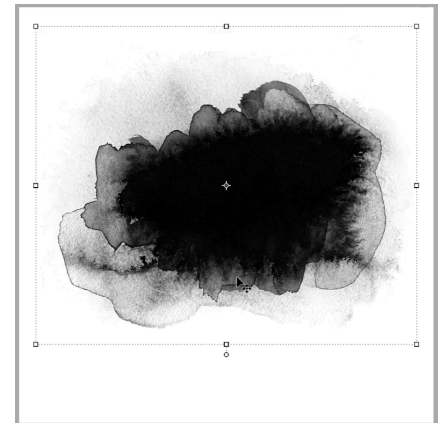
- On the document, click and drag inward on the corner handles of the bounding box until the boundaries of the mask fit fully inside the boundaries of the document. If you cannot see the bounding box, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0). To reposition the mask, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.

Fill the Mask with Black

- If the mask you're using is not black, press Shift Alt Backspace (Mac: Shift Opt Delete) to fill it with black.

Add the Mask to a Group

- In the Layers panel, click and drag the mask layer to the Create a New Group icon. The mask should now be inside the group.
- Double click directly on the name of the group and rename it TITLE IN MASK. Press Enter or Return to commit the change.



Add a Title

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose Times New Roman Regular. Set the Size to 150, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to 0. The Color Chip should already be black. If it's not, click on it and choose black. Click on the Center Align icon.
- On the document, click once at the bottom of the mask to place the cursor.
- Type "page title" and click the checkmark to commit the change.
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, click and drag to reposition the title so that it's partly overlapping the mask.
- In the Layers panel, if the type layer is not inside the group, click and drag it to the group.



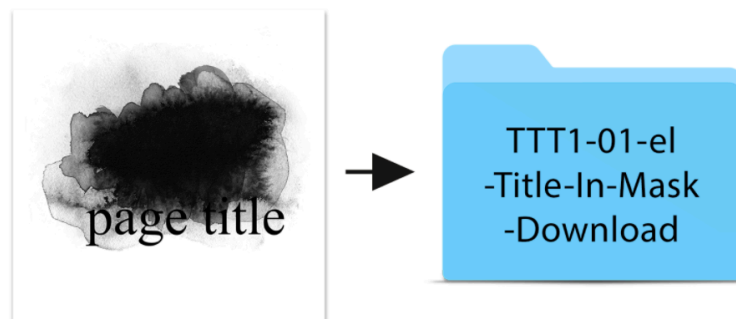
Add a Photo Place Holder

- In the Layers panel, click on the group to activate it.
- Click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- If the new layer lands inside the group, click and drag it above the group.
- Double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it, CLIP PHOTO TO GROUP. Press Enter or Return to commit the change.

NOTE: When we clip a photo to the group, this placeholder layer will keep the photo from landing inside the group.

Save the Layered Document

- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD document in the TTT1-01-el-Title-In-Mask-Download folder. Name the document "TTT1-01-Title-In-Mask.psd".



TTT1-01-Title-In-Mask.psd

Add the Title Layers to a Project

- Open the TTT1-01-Layered-Quick-Page.psd file (File > Open) from the class download folder.
- NOTE: If you get a warning dialog box about text layers, place a checkmark next to Don't Show Again and click Update.
- In the Layers panel, click on the top paper layer to activate it.
 - Activate the TTT1-01-Title-In-Mask.psd document that you saved in the last step.
 - In the Layers panel, click on the top layer to activate it.
 - Holding down the Shift key, click on the Title In Mask group (or the bottom layer inside the group). The Background layer should not be active.
 - Get the Move tool. In the Tool Options, Auto Select Layer needs to be unchecked.
 - On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the layers onto the layered quick page. All layers should still be active.
 - On the document, click and drag the layers to reposition them. If needed, you can transform the layers as a group by clicking and dragging on the corner handles of the bounding box.



How To Clip a Photo To the Mask Group

- In the Layers panel, click on the CLIP PHOTO TO GROUP layer to activate it all by itself.
- Open a photo (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- Click and drag the photo onto the layered quick page.
- In the Layers panel, click and drag the CLIP PHOTO TO GROUP layer to the Trash icon. The photo layer should still be active.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- To resize the clipped photo so that it fills the clipping mask, click and drag on the corner handles of the bounding box. Then, click the checkmark to commit the change.



NOTE: The boundaries of the photo need to stay outside the boundaries of the clipping mask.

How To Change the Title

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the title type layer to highlight the title.
- Type a new title and click the checkmark to commit the change.



- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a different font. I'm using Aichella.
- To reposition the title, get the Move tool and click and drag on the document.

NOTE: Make sure the boundaries of the title remain inside the boundaries of the photo.

- (Optional) To make the title softer, in the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the title type layer.



How To Replace the Photo Mask

- In the Layers panel, click on the mask layer inside the group to activate it.
- Open a different complex mask (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- Click and drag the new mask onto the layered quick page.
- To resize the mask so that it fits inside the boundaries of the document, click and drag on the corner handles of the bounding box. Then, click the checkmark to commit the change.
- To reposition the mask, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- In the Layers panel, click and drag the original mask layer to the Trash icon.

NOTE: You can have as many mask and type layers as you want, but make sure they all stay inside the group.

How To Replace the Journaling of the Layered Quick Page

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the journaling layer to highlight all the type.
- Type in your journaling and click the checkmark to commit the change.
- To change the font, in the Character panel, open the Font Picker and choose a different font.

Save the Page

- Save the page (File > Save As) as a PSD file with a unique name.



Page & Photo: No Longer on the Mound by Jen White

Class: 10 Timeless Titles V1

Quick Page: Digital Scrapper

Fonts: Aleo, Aichella, Caroni



Page & Photos: Beating the Blackhawks by Jen White

Class: 10 Timeless Titles V1

Kit: On the Road Again by Kristin Cronin-Barrow

Fonts: Aleo, DIN Condensed, Caroni



Card: Thank You by Jen White

Class: 10 Timeless Titles V1

Kit: Only You by KimB Designs

Fonts: Chainprinter, Bellagio