# FSP-S2-C3-2-el-photo-howto-manual

Scrapping with Filters, Stamp & Paint
Challenge 3: Busy Photo Challenge (Part 2) (Photoshop Elements)

After you've completed challenge 3, I welcome you as I go through the steps I took to obtain my results.

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Prepare Your Workspace

- Create a new 12x12" 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 and white.
- Open the photo-flowers-ManfredRichter.jpg file (File > Open) from the Lesson Challenge Downloads folder.
- Get the Move tool.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the photo onto the new document.
- If the **photo** is much larger than the page:
    - Press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to fit the bounding box to the viewing area.
    - Click and drag the bounding box handles to the edge of the document.
    - Click the checkmark to commit.
    - Press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to fit the bounding box to the viewing area.
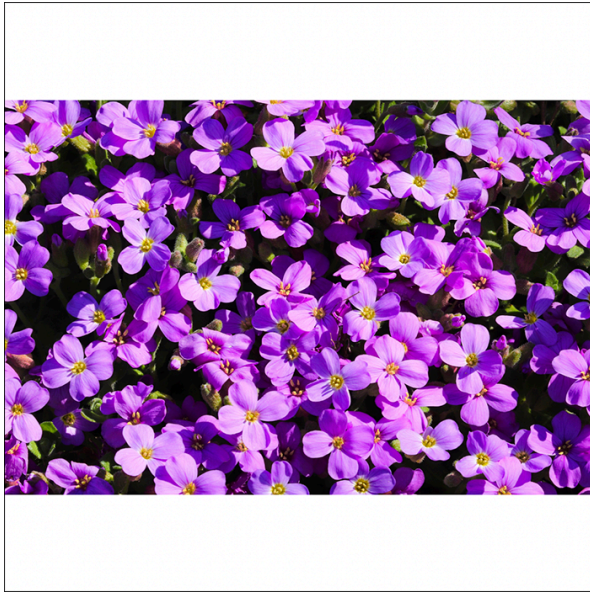
Apply the Stamp Filter to the Photo

- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the photo layer. Rename the layer "original" and press Enter or Return.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to create a duplicate of the original photo.
- Rename the new layer "stamp."
- Click on the Visibility icon of the original layer to hide it.
- Make sure the stamp layer is still the active layer.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Filter Gallery.
- In the dialog box, adjust the zoom and position of the photo so that you can clearly see the entire photo. Choose Stamp from the Sketch Filters. Adjust the settings to include a medium amount of detail. My settings are: Light/Dark Balance 3, Smoothness 5. Click OK.
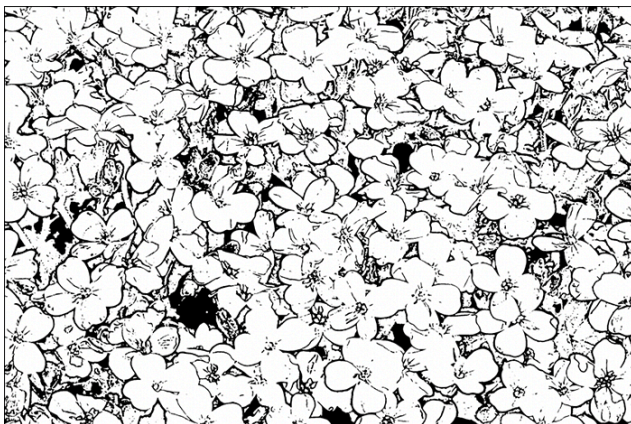
Remove the White Pixels from the Image

- Get the Magic Wand tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Tolerance to 100. Check Anit-alias. Uncheck Contiguous and Sample All Layers.
- On the document, click anywhere on a white area of the photo to select all the white pixels. Do not click on the white area outside the area of the image.
- Press the Backspace key (Mac: Delete key) to remove the white pixels.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

Note: If you click on the Visibility icon of the Background layer to hide it, you should see that only black line pixels remain.

Remove Big Black Areas Without Loosing Lines

- In the Layers panel, the Background layer (all white layer) should be visible. If it's not, click on its Visibility icon to reveal it.
- The stamp layer should be the active layer.
- Holding down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) click on the thumbnail of the stamp layer to select all the black pixels in the image.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Select > Modify > Contract.
- In the dialog box, set the Contract By to 2 and click OK.
- Press the Backspace key (Mac: Delete key) to delete the extra black pixels.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
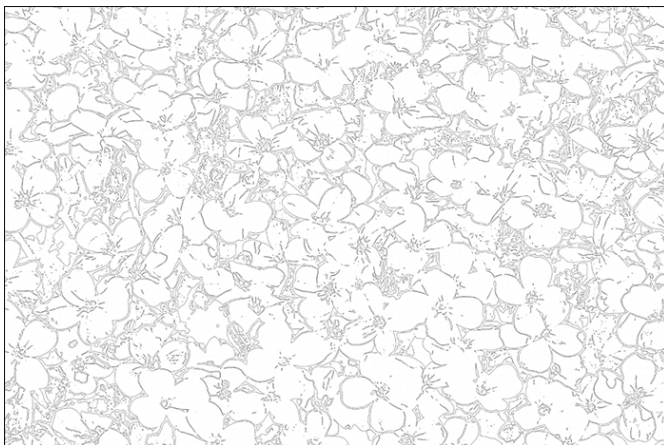
Add the Palette Knife Filter

- In the Layers panel, click on the original layer to activate it. It should still be hidden.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the original layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the duplicate layer and

rename it "palette knife."

- Click on the Visibility icon of the palette knife layer to reveal it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Filter Gallery. If there are two choices for Filter Gallery in the menu, choose the bottom one.
- In the dialog box, adjust the zoom and position so that you can clearly see the entire photo. Choose Palette Knife from the Artistic filters. Set the Stroke Detail to 1 and the Softness to 3. Adjust the Stroke Size to include a medium amount of detail. My Stroke Size is 17. Click OK.

Paint in a Focal Point

- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open the dropdown menu, and choose Wet Media Brushes. Choose the Watercolor Light Opacity brush. If you don't see the names of the brushes, click on the flyout menu and place a checkmark next to Large List. Set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100%.
- In the Layers panel, the palette knife layer should be the active layer.
- Hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click on the Add Layer Mask icon. Your flowers will disappear because they're being concealed by a black layer mask.
- The Foreground Color Chip needs to be white, if it's not, press the letter X.
- On the document, brush or click to reveal colors from the flowers. To deepen the colors, brush over an area more than once.
- To change the size of the brush on the fly, press the Left and Right Bracket keys.
- To conceal color, press the letter X to make black the Foreground Color Chip and continue brushing.
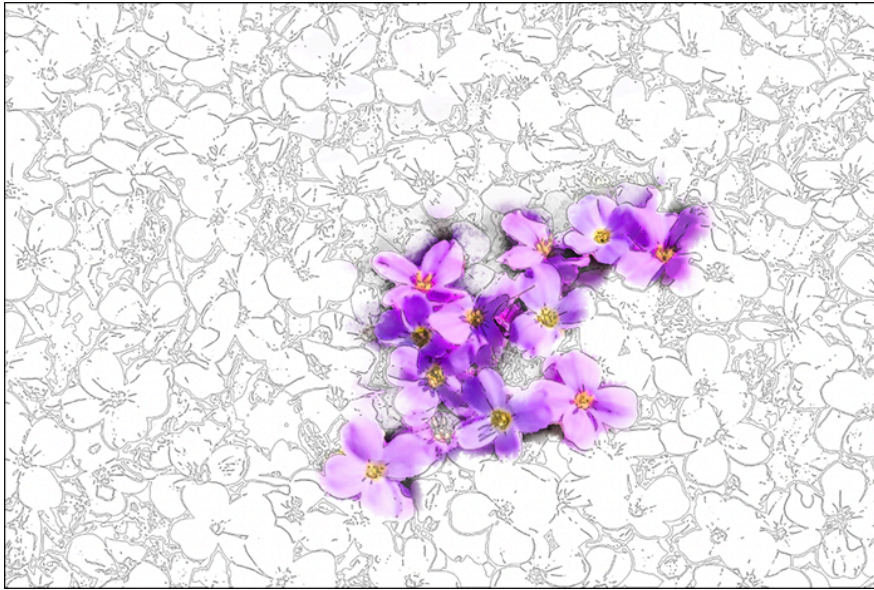
Mask Away Unwanted Details

- Press the letter D to set the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker, open the dropdown menu, and choose Default Brushes. Choose the Hard Round brush. Set the Size to 400 px, the Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%. Click on Brush Settings and set the Spacing to 25%.
- In the Layers panel, the stamp layer should be active.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- Black needs to be the Foreground Color Chip, if it's not, press the letter X.
- On the document, brush or click to remove unwanted borderlines.
- To change the size of the brush on the fly, press the Left and Right Bracket keys.
- To add parts of the image back in, press the letter X to make white the Foreground Color Chip and brush or click again.
- To zoom in, press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +). To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document.

Tips for Masking:

- Try to remove any noticeably straight boundaries of the stamping.
- Make sure to leave a nice amount of lines around the painted area of the image.
- Brush with the grain of the lines.

Adjust the Lightness of the Watercolors

- In the Layers panel, click on the palette knife layer to activate it.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the layer.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it "screen."
- Set the Blend Mode of this layer to Screen.
- Reduce the Opacity of the screen layer if needed.


Create a Group

- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer (stamp layer) to activate it.
- Hold down the Shift key and click on the bottom photo layer (original layer). Now all

layers associated with the photo treatment should be active. The Background layer should not be active.
- Click on the Group Layers icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it "stamped flowers."
- Save the document (File > Save As) a PSD file with a unique name in an easy to find location.

Create a Card Document

- Create a new 7x5 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.
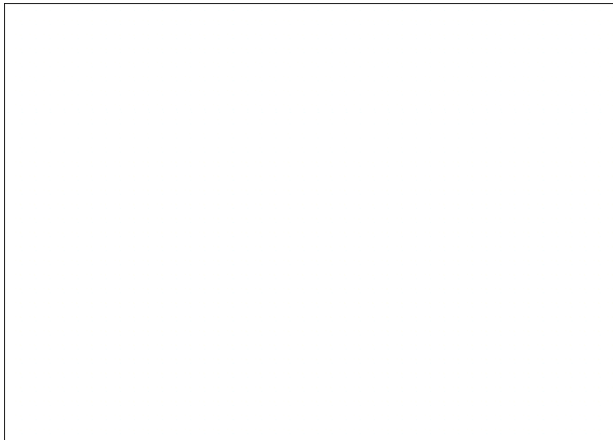
Add a Background Paper

- Open the paper04-BlankCanvas-SusieRoberts.jpg file (File > Open) from the Lesson-Challenge-Downloads.
- Get the Move tool.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto the card document.
- To resize the paper to fit the document, click and drag on the bounding box handles until the paper fills the document, then click the checkmark to commit. If you cannot see the bounding box handles, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0).
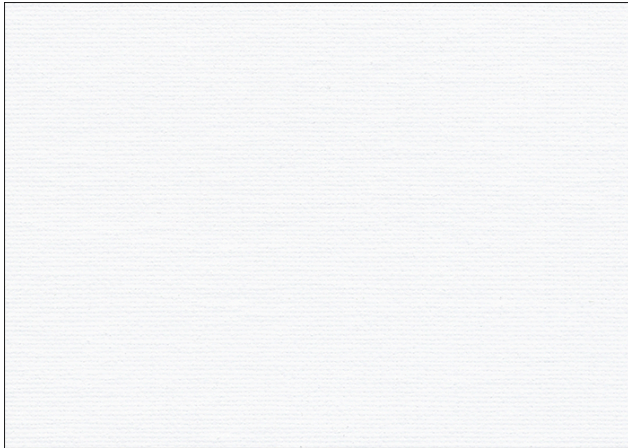
Add the Stamp & Paint Flowers

- Activate the flower document.
- The stamped flower group should be closed and active.
- Get the Move tool. In the Tool Options, Auto Select should be unchecked.
- On the document, click and drag the flowers onto the card document.
- Click and drag inside the bounding box to reposition the flowers as shown in the image below. If necessary, use the Transform options to resize.
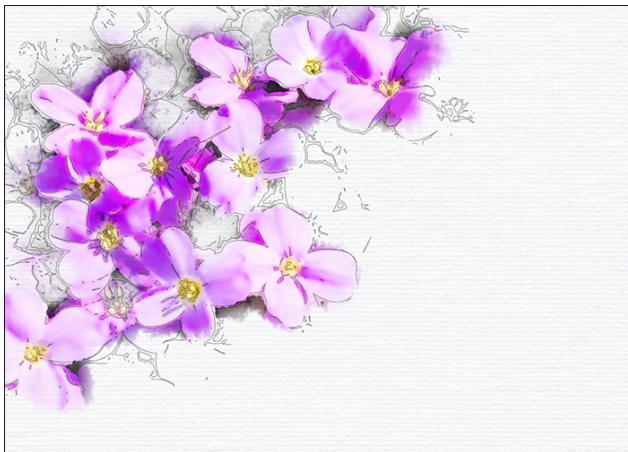
Add the Thank You Word Art

- Open the wordart-thankyou-Fairybells.png file (File > Open) from the Lesson-Challenge-Downloads.
- Get the Move tool.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the word art onto the card document. Position as shown in the image below.
- To resize the word art, click and drag on the bounding box handles.

- To reposition the word art, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- Click the checkmark to commit.
- In the Layers panel, set the Opacity of the word art layer to 70%.

Add a 2px Stroke Outline

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new layer and rename it "stroke."
- Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and the Aspect to Normal.
- On the document, click and drag a selection outline around the border of the card, about 1/2 inch inside the edge. To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar.

- In the Menu Bar, choose Edit > Stroke.
- In the dialog box, set the Width to 2. Click on the Color Chip, choose black, and click OK to close the Color Picker. Set the Location to Inside. Click OK.
- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to select the entire document.
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Align Horizontal Centers icon and click on the Align Vertical Centers icon.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

Mask Away Overlapping Stroke Lines

- Get the Brush tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Brush Picker and choose a Hard Round brush from the Default Brushes. Set the Size to 100, the Mode to Normal, and the Opacity to 100%.
- In the Layers panel, the stroke layer should be active.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- The Foreground Color Chip needs to be black, if it's not, press the letter X.
- On the document, brush or click to hide the stroke line from on top of the word art and the flowers.
- In the Layers panel, set the Opacity of the stroke layer to 50%.

Crop and Save

- 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 card (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file with a unique name.

- For easy online sharing of greeting cards, check out our [FREE Tent Card Template & Tutorial](#)

Credits:
Card: Jen White
Photo: Manfred Richter from Pixabay
Paper: Susie Roberts
Word Art Font: Axellaria