



Make It Match

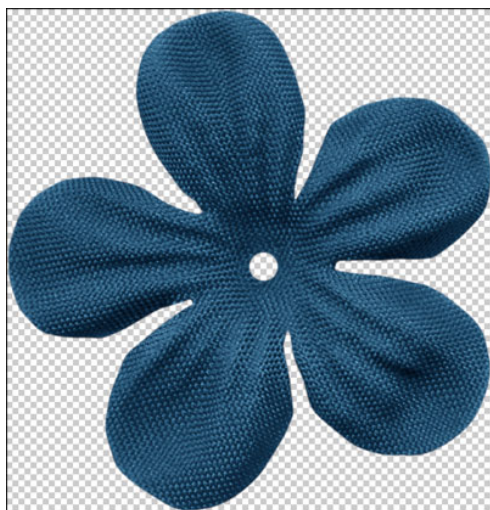
Color Blend Mode Method: Basic Flower – Manual – Photoshop Elements

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Most everything we do in this class is going to build on the previous lessons. Because of this, you will see some repetition but that's a good thing because it helps us to remember what we learn. You'll see in this lesson that using the Color Blend Mode to recolor a basic element is **almost** the exact same as for recoloring a solid paper.

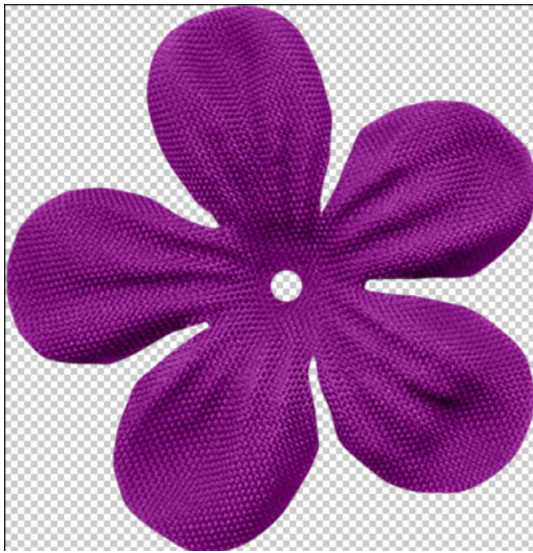
Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- In the downloads for this lesson, there are two files you'll need to download and unzip. Open the Layered Cluster file and the basic flower file now.
- Go to the basic flower document.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate. Click OK.
- Close the original flower file.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Window > Images > Consolidate All to Tabs.



Step Two: Recolor the Flower

- I want to use this flower for the layered cluster, but the color of the flower won't work. So go to the layered cluster document to see what color we'll want to recolor the flower to.
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and sample the purple color from one of the dots. Click OK.
- Go back to the flower copy document.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Solid Color. Click OK.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- In the Layers panel, change the blend mode of this layer to Color.



Step Three: Move the Flower to the Cluster

- Press Ctrl A (Mac: Cmd A) to Select All.
- Press Shift Ctrl C (Mac: Shift Cmd C) to create a merged copy.
- Go to the layered cluster document.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Flower Placeholder layer to activate it.
- Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) to Paste.
- Get the Move tool.
- Click and drag from a corner handle to resize the flower smaller. Use the Flower Placeholder layer as your guide.
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of the Flower Placeholder layer and choose Copy Layer Style.
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of the Purple Flower layer and choose Paste Layer Style.
- Delete the Flower Placeholder layer.



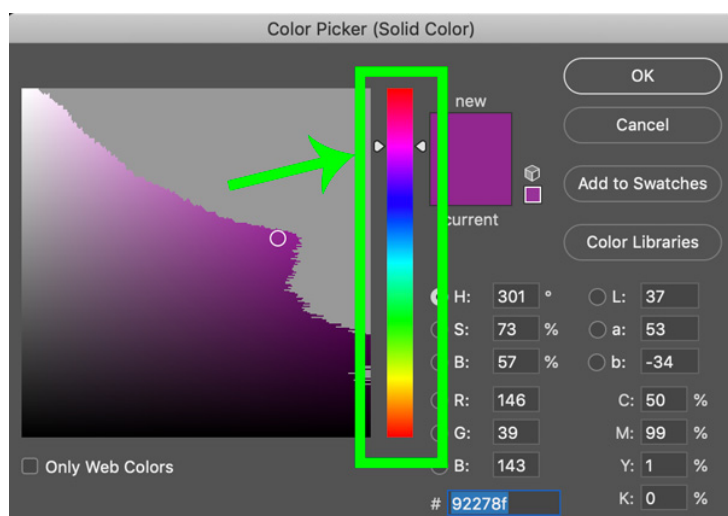
Step Four: Save As

- Now we can save this layered cluster file for use in a project. Save it as a layered PSD file.
- Then, go to the Flower document and save this as a layered PSD file in the Recoloring Templates folder. Use the name Basic-Flower-flower1-Stories365-KristinCroninBarrow.psd. Saving this flower as a recoloring template will allow you to use it repeatedly whenever you have recoloring needs.

Step Five: A Recoloring Tip

Before we finish this lesson, I want to show you a neat tip when using this recoloring method. You see, in the last lesson, we learned that the Color Blend Mode Recoloring Method works best when you're changing it to a color of a similar shade or tint. Because of that, let me show you a quick time saver.

- In the Layers panel, double click on the Solid Color Fill Layer Thumbnail to pull up the Solid Color Fill Color Picker.
- Instead of clicking anywhere in the large box, go to the right of it where you see the column of rainbow colors.



Do you see the two white arrows on each side of the column? The trick here is that you can click and drag these white arrows up and down to change the color of the flower while keeping the same amount of tint or shade or saturation. This can allow you to quickly recolor this flower without having to hunt for the perfect shade or tint of a different color. And while you aren't limited to using only the colors in this column, these colors are the ones that will work best with the Color Blend Mode unless extra steps are taken and as I've already mentioned, we'll cover those extra steps in a later lesson.

Now for a quick review.

1. In the last video, we learned that the Color Blend Mode keeps the texture but changes the color.
2. And we also learned that this method works best when starting with an element that is already the same tint, shade, or saturation of the new color you will need.
3. In this video, we learned that we have to clip the Solid Color Fill layer to the layer below when we are recoloring elements.
4. And we also learned to use the small column from within the Solid Color Fill Color Picker to find the best colors for recoloring.

Cluster Credits:

Layered Cluster: Jenifer Juris

Kit: New Years Celebration by Just Jaimee

Flower: Stories365 by Kristin Cronin-Barrow