

Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 5 Lesson 3, Cluster Recipe 1

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Lesson 3, Cluster Recipe 1 (Photoshop Elements)

by Jen White

Use an easy-to-follow cluster recipe to create a single-sided frame cluster.

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NOTE: Please complete the lessons in the order they are provided.

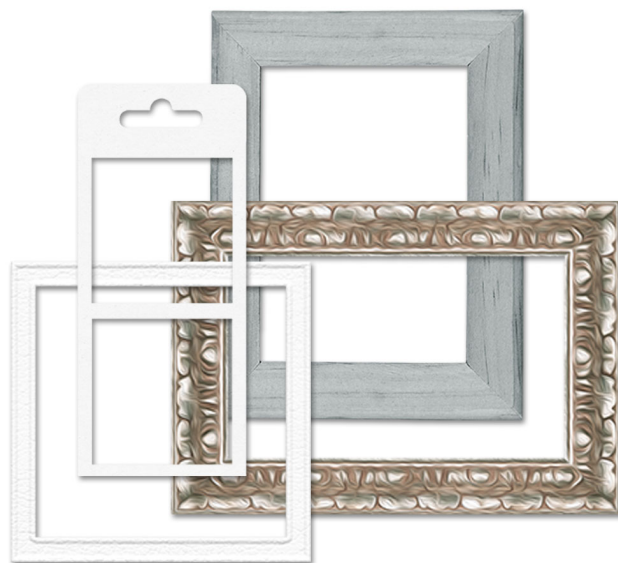
For this lesson you will need:

- the OutOfBounds document from Lesson 2.
- border1 from the Class-Files folder.
- border2 from the Class-Files folder.
- leaves1 from the Class-Files folder.
- staple1 from the Class-Files folder.
- tag1 from the Class-Files folder.
- tag2 from the Class-Files folder.
- the twig from the Class-Files folder.



Cluster Recipe 1 - Single-Sided Frame Cluster

- **Frame (or frame cluster)**
 - Rectangular or circular
 - Shadowed frames are best
 - Examples: paper, wooden, or plastic
- **2-4 elements (large, long, thin)**
 - Unshadowed overlays go behind the frame
 - Shadowed elements go in front of the frame
 - Examples: paper strips, leaves, twigs, scatters, or curling ribbons
- **1-2 elements (small, circular or square)**
 - Must be shadowed
 - No overlays
 - Examples: tags, alpha, flowers, hearts, or small berries



Credits: Frames from Anita Designs, large elements from Simple Pleasure Designs, small elements from Kristin Cronin-Barrow.

Additional Guidelines for Recipe 1

- Keep all elements on one side of the frame. This could be the top, bottom, left, or right side.
- Keep all elements linear in design (going the same direction).
- All elements should overlap behind or in front of the frame.
- All elements should overlap each other.
- Use elements from the same kit.

Quick Steps for Lesson 3, Cluster Recipe 1

Step-by-step instructions are below.

- Add a frame.
- Place 1-2 large, long, thin elements behind one side of the frame.
- Place 1-2 large, long, thin elements in front of the same side of the frame.
- Place 1-2 small, circular (or square) elements in front of the same side of the frame.



Credits: Left cluster from Tiramisu Designs, middle cluster from KimB Designs, right cluster from Bellisae Designs.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 3, Cluster Recipe 1

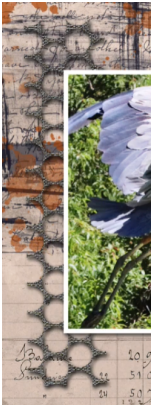
Prepare Your Workspace

- Open the OutOfBounds document (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder that you saved at the end of Lesson 2.
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck both Auto Select Layer and Show Bounding Box.
- In the Layers panel, click on the FOURSQUARE GRUNGE group to activate it.



Add Border 2

- Open border2 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the border onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the border to the left side of the frame so that it's slightly peeking out on the left, top, and bottom.



Add a Drop Shadow to Border 2

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.
- In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120. Click on Drop Shadow to activate it and reveal the settings. Set the Size to 30, the Distance to 15, and the Opacity to 80. Click OK.

Add Border 1

- Open border1 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the border onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the border to the left side of the frame so that it's slightly peeking out on the left, top, and bottom.
- To reposition the bottom border layer, activate that layer in the Layers panel, then click and drag on the document.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) click and drag a duplicate layer style from the bottom border layer to the top border layer.
- Double click on the layer style of the top border layer to open the Style Settings dialog box.
- In the dialog box, set the Opacity to 45 and click OK.



Add Leaves 1

- In the Layers panel, click on the OUT-OF-BOUNDS PHOTO group to activate it.
- Open leaves1 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the leaves onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the leaves to the left side of the frame so that they are slightly overlapping.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) click and drag a duplicate layer style from the top border layer to the leaves layer.

Add the Twig

- Open the twig from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the twig onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the twig to the left side of the frame so that it's slightly overlapping.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) click and drag a duplicate layer style from the leaves layer to the twig layer.



Add the Tags

- Open tag1 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the tag onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the tag to the left side of the frame so that it's slightly overlapping. See the screenshot.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) click and drag a duplicate layer style from the twig layer to the tag layer.
- Open tag2 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the tag onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the tag to the left side of the frame so that it's slightly overlapping. See the screenshot.
- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) click and drag a duplicate layer style from the bottom tag layer to the top tag layer.



Add a Photo Clipping Mask

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the top tag layer.
- Click on the Background Color Chip to open the Color Picker.
- In the Color Picker, choose a medium gray color and click OK.
- Press Shift Ctrl Backspace (Mac: Shift Cmd Delete) to fill the tag with the background color.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new layer, rename it PHOTO CLIPPING MASK, and press Enter/Return to commit the change.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- On the document, hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved, double-headed arrow. Click and slightly drag counter-clockwise to slightly rotate the tag.
- Click and drag inside the bounding box to move the tag up slightly. See the screenshot.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.



Add a Staple

- Open staple1 from the Class-Files folder.
- Click and drag the staple onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the staple over the top of the tags so that they look stapled down. See the screenshot.
- Do not add a drop shadow.



Save the Document

- Save the document (File > Save). You'll be using it again in Lesson 4.