Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 5

Lesson 1, Foursquare Grunge Design (Photoshop Elements)
by Jen White

Immerse yourself into the world of design by compiling different types of overlays to create a grungy foursquare background.
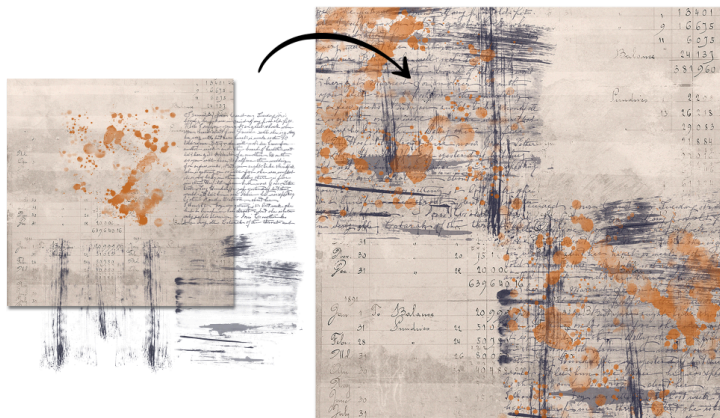
This manual includes Part A and Part B of Lesson 1.

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

For this lesson you will need:
- paper1 from the Class-Files folder.
- overlay1 from the Class-Files folder.
- overlay2 from the Class-Files folder.
- overlay3 from the Class-Files folder.
- overlay4 from the Class-Files folder.

Quick Steps for Lesson 1, Foursquare Grunge Design
Step-by-step instructions are below.

Foursquare Guide Template
• Create a 12x12 inch document.
• Add horizontal guides 0.25, 6, and 11.75.
• Add vertical guides at 0.25, 6, and 11.75.
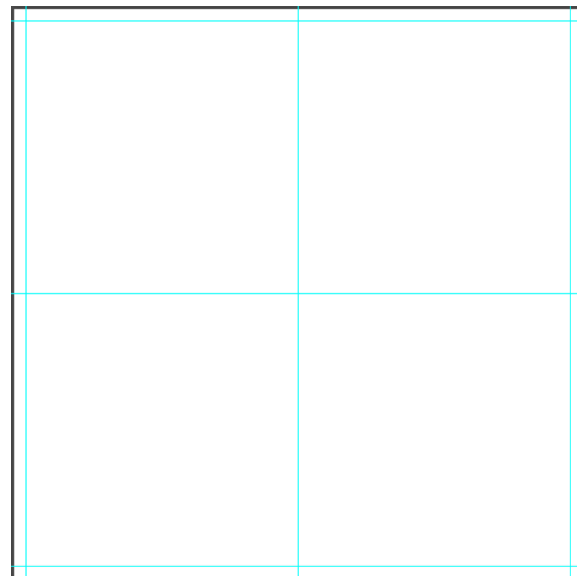• Save the document as DSP23-V5-Foursquare-Template.psd in the Class-Files.

Foursquare Grunge Design
• Open the Foursquare-Template, duplicate it, and close the original.
• Add paper1 from the Class-Files folder.
• Add overlay4 from the Class-Files folder to the top-left quadrant.
• Duplicate overlay4 to the bottom-right quadrant.
• Add overlay3 from the Class-Files folder to the top-left quadrant.
• Duplicate overlay3 to the bottom-right quadrant.
• Add overlay2 from the Class-Files folder to the top-left quadrant.
• Duplicate overlay2 to the bottom-right quadrant.
• Add overlay1 from the Class-Files folder to the top-left quadrant.
• Duplicate overlay1 to the bottom-right quadrant.
• Transform, recolor, and lower the opacity of the overlays as needed.
• Save the document as DSP23-V5-OutOfBounds.psd in the Class-Files folder.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 1, Foursquare Grunge Design

Create the Foursquare Guide Template
• Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New) at 300 ppi with a white background.
NOTE: A letter-sized document (LTR) will also work for this tutorial.
• In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
• In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Horizontal, the Position to 6 (5.5 for LTR), and click OK.
• In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
• In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Vertical, the Position to 6 (4.25 for LTR), and click OK.
• In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
• In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Horizontal, the Position to 0.25, and click OK.
• In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
• In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Horizontal, the Position to 11.75 (10.75 for LTR), and click OK.
• In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
• In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Vertical, the Position to 0.25, and click OK.

- In the Menu Bar, choose View > New Guide.
- In the dialog box, set the Orientation to Vertical, the Position to 11.75 (8.25 for LTR), and click OK.

NOTE: Adjust the Margins, if needed.

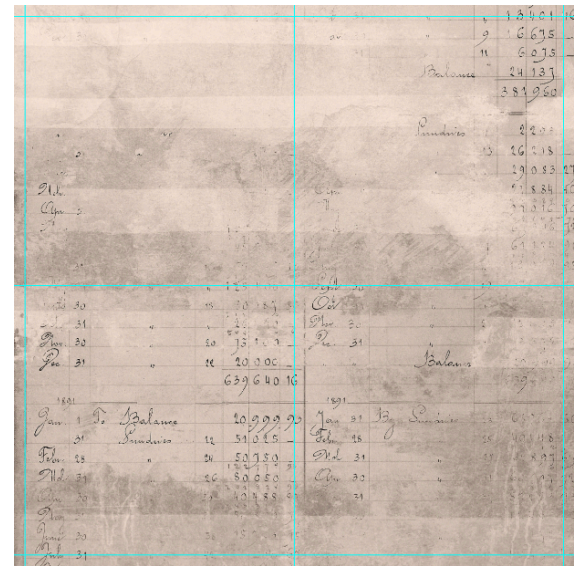- **Save the document** as DSP23-V5-Foursquare-Template.psd in the Class-Files folder.

How To Use the Foursquare Template

- (Skip this step if you already have the template open.) Open the Foursquare-Template document (File > Open) that you saved in the last step.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate. Click OK.
- Close the original template without saving.

Add a Background Paper

- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck both Auto Select Layer and Show Bounding Box.
- Open paper1 (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the paper onto the document.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key assures that the paper will land in the center of the document.

For a Grungy Foursquare Design, What Is a Good Background Paper?

- Plain papers with a light pattern or texture.
- Avoid papers with bold or busy patterns.
- Avoid papers with borders.
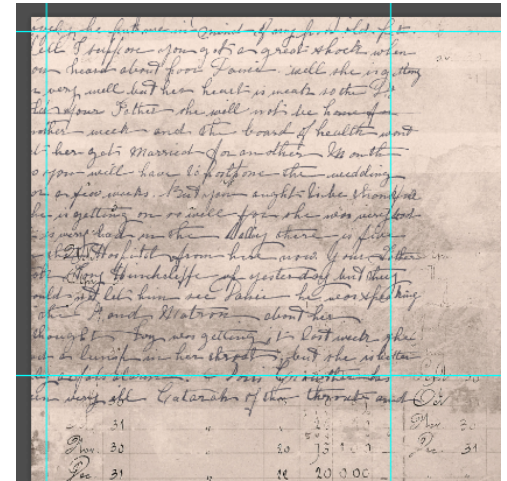
good ^   ^ bad

Add Overlay4

- Open overlay4 (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Using the Move tool, click and drag the overlay onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the overlay into the top-left quadrant.

NOTE: Use the guides loosely. The overlay can and should randomly overlap the guides and extend past the boundaries of the document.
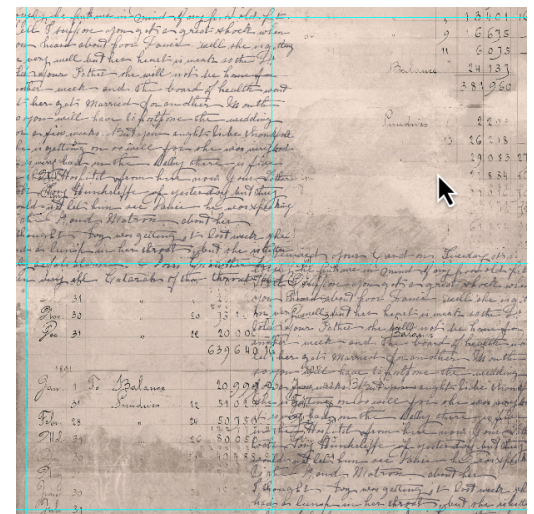
NOTE: Using Blend Modes with the overlays is not recommended.

- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity to 70%.

How To Change the Color of an Overlay

- In the Layers panel, click to activate an overlay layer.
- Click on the Background Color Chip to open the Color Picker.
- Sample a color from the document, or choose a color in the Color Picker. Click OK.
- Press Shift Ctrl Backspace (Mac: Shift Cmd Delete) to fill the overlay with the new color.
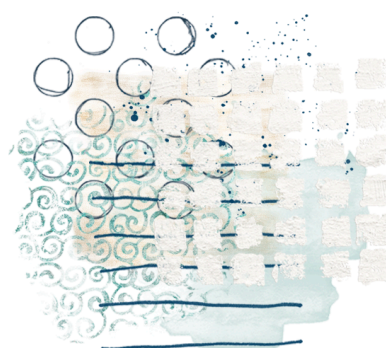
Duplicate Overlay4 to the Opposite Quadrant

- On the document, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a duplicate overlay to the bottom-right quadrant.

For a Grungy Foursquare Design, What Are Good Overlays?

- Square-shaped overlays or shaped overlays that would look good in a square space.
- Avoid circular or long, skinny shapes.
- Overlays with lots of transparency.
- Avoid overlays that will essentially hide whatever is below them.

NOTE: The color of the overlays you choose doesn't matter, since you can always recolor them.
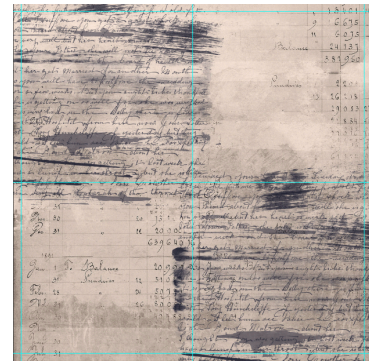
good ^   ^ bad

Add Overlay3 to Both Quadrants
- Open overlay3 (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Using the Move tool, click and drag the overlay onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the overlay into the top-left quadrant.
- On the document, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a duplicate overlay to the bottom-right quadrant.

TIP: Position the overlays differently in the quadrants.

Add Overlay2 to Both Quadrants
- Open overlay2 (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Using the Move tool, click and drag the overlay onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the overlay into the top-left quadrant.
- On the document, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a duplicate overlay to the bottom-right quadrant.
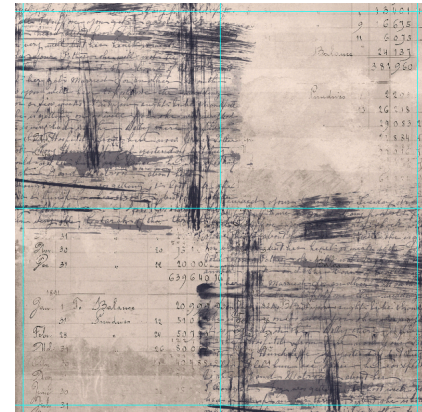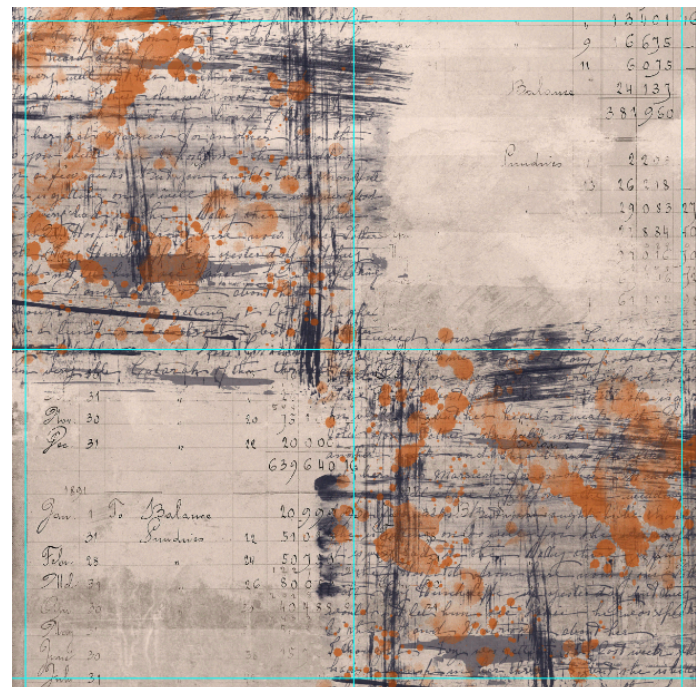
TIP: Position the overlays differently in the quadrants.

Add Overlay1 to Both Quadrants
- Open overlay1 (File > Open) from the Class-Files folder.
- Using the Move tool, click and drag the overlay onto the document.
- On the document, click and drag the overlay into the top-left quadrant.
- (Optional) Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options. To resize the overlay, click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box. To rotate the overlay, hover your cursor near a corner handle of the bounding box until you see a curved, double-headed arrow, then click and drag. To reposition the overlay, click and drag inside the bounding box. Click the checkmark to commit the change.
- In the Layers panel, lower the Opacity of the overlay to 70%.
- On the document, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag a duplicate overlay to the bottom-right quadrant.
- Rotate and reposition as needed.

TIP: Position the overlays differently in the quadrants.

Additional Design Tips
- Use only one or two colors in your pile of overlays to avoid over-stressing your page design.
- Try changing the order of the layers in the Layers panel to achieve different looks.

Save the Document in the Class-Files Folder
- Save the document (File > Save As) as DSP23-V5-OutOfBounds.psd in the Class-Files Folder.