MA2-L06-el-Tucked-Tabs-manual
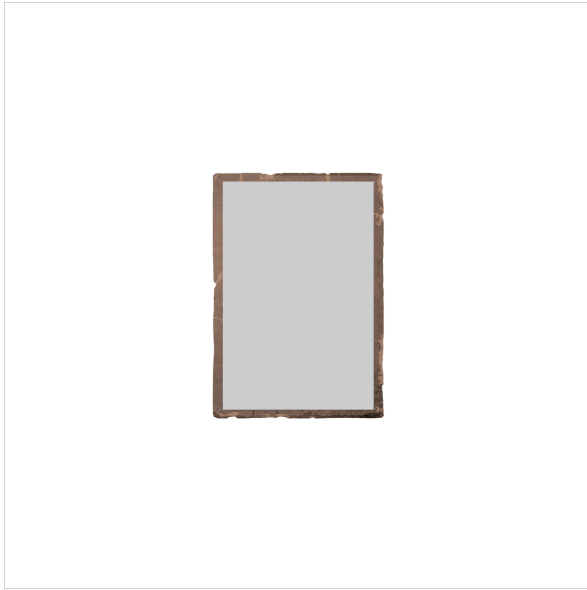

Digital Scrapbooking Mastery, No. 2
Lesson 6: Tucked In Tabs for Photoshop Elements
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Tucked in? Or, tucked out? Let's do both! In lesson six you'll learn the secret to creating the realistic look of photo and frame corners being slipped inside a cleverly cut background paper. No scissors need here. This lesson is all done with gradients and layer masks.

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.
- Open the document (File > Open) you ended with in Lesson 5.
- Press Ctrl K (Mac: Cmd K) to open Preferences.
- In the dialog box, click on Guides & Grid. In the Grid section, set Gridline Every to 1 Inches and Subdivisions to 12. Click OK.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.
- In the Layers panel, hide all groups except for the Tattered Photo Frame group. To do that, click on the Visibility icon to hide them.
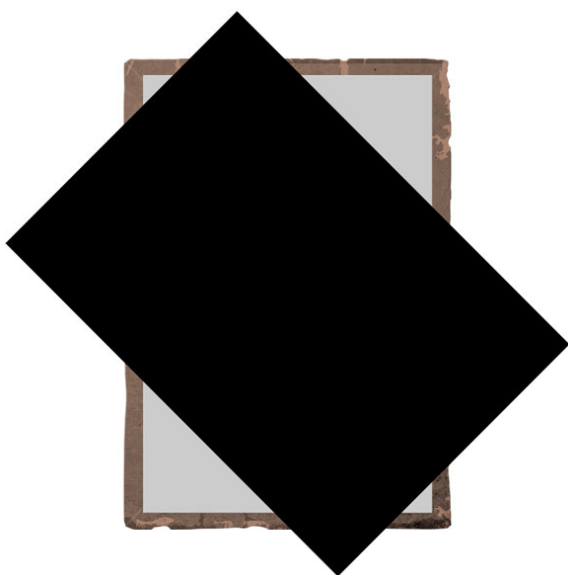
Create Two Temporary Layers for Selecting

- In the Layers panel, click on the Tattered Photo Frame group to activate it.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the group.
- In the Layers panel, double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it Frame Shape 1.
- In the Layers panel, click on the arrow of the Frame Shape 1 group to open it.
- Click and drag the effect from the Tattered Frame group to the Trash icon.
- Click on the arrow of the Tattered Frame group to open it.
- Click and drag the layer mask of the Rectangle Frame group to the Trash icon. If asked to confirm, click Delete.
- Click on the arrow of the Frame Shape 1 group to close it.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Simplify Layer.
- Press Shift Alt Backspace (Mac: Shift Opt Delete) to fill the pixels of the Frame Shape 1 layer with black.
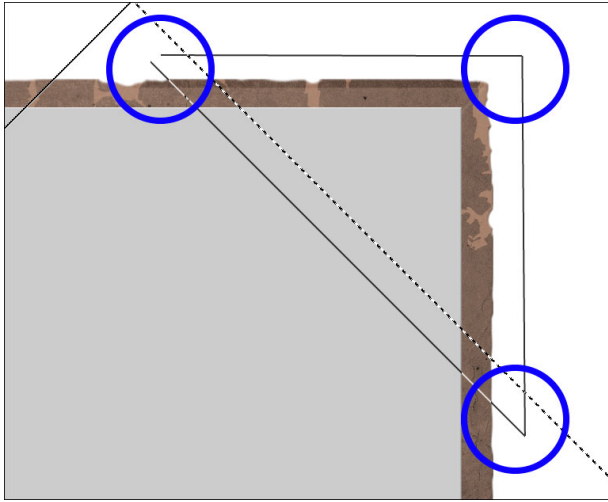
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the Frame Shape 1 layer.
- Double click directly on the name of the duplicate layer and rename it Frame Shape 2.
- Click on the Visibility icon of the Frame Shape 1 layer to hide it.
- The Frame Shape 2 layer should be visible and active in the Layers panel.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
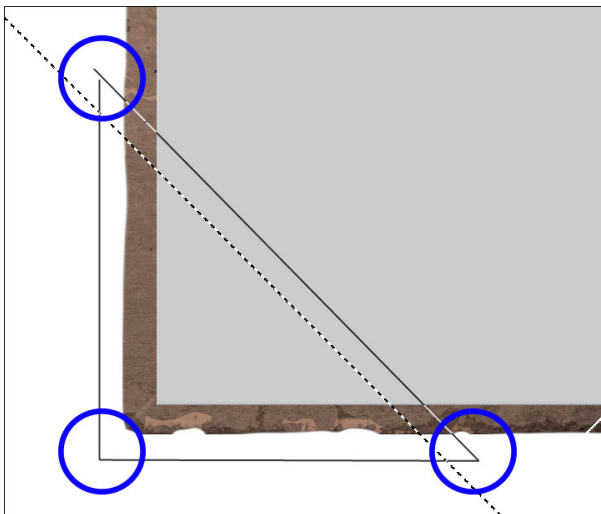- In the Tool Options, set the Angle to -45 and click the checkmark to commit.

- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the Frame Shape 2 layer to hide it.
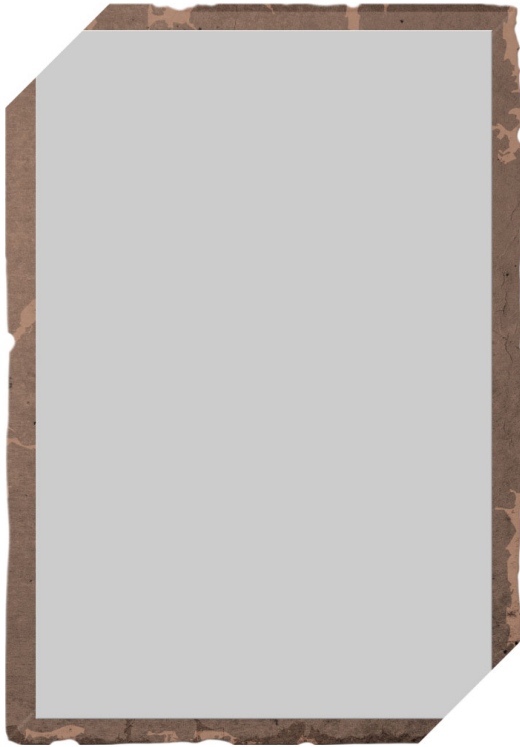
Mask the Photo Corners

- In the Layers panel, Ctrl click (Mac: Cmd click) on the thumbnail of the hidden Frame Shape 2 layer to get a selection outline.
- Get the Polygonal Lasso tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and check Anti-aliasing.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click to include the one of the large corners of the tattered frame. To close the selection, click back at the beginning of the first segment.

- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click to include the other large corner of the tattered frame.
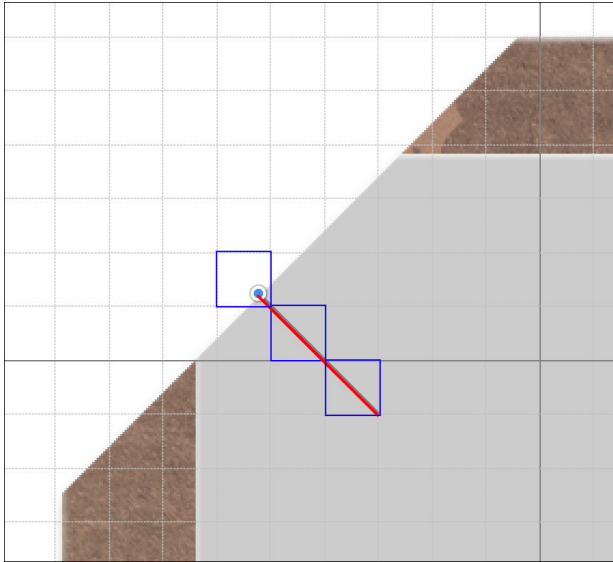

- In the Layers panel, click on the Tattered Photo Frame group to activate it.
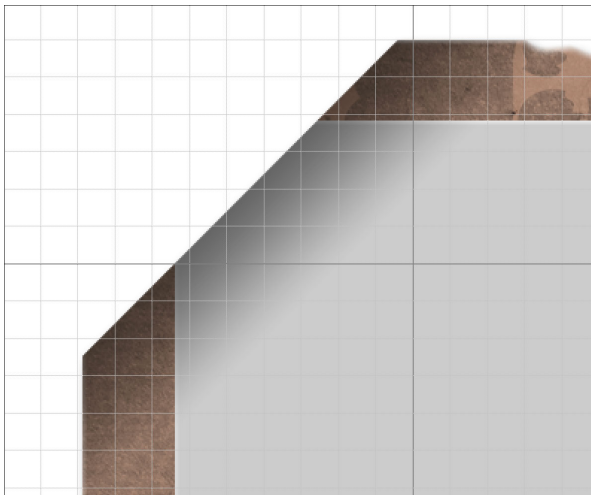- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.

Bend the Top Photo & Frame Corner

- In the Menu Bar, choose View and place a checkmark next to Grid.
- Choose View > Snap To and Uncheck Grid.
- Press Ctrl + (Mac: Cmd +) to zoom into the top left corner of the photo. To reposition the zoom, hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document.
- 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 Top Photo Bend.
- Get the Gradient tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Gradient Picker. Choose the Foreground to Transparent gradient from the Default set of gradients. If you don't see names of the gradients, open the flyout menu and choose Large List.
- In the Tool Options, set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100%. Uncheck Reverse, but check Transparency and Dither. Click on the Linear Gradient icon.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag from the edge of the clipped corner inward through approximately 2 grid squares.

TIP: If you cannot see the grid lines clearly, open Preferences again (Ctrl/Cmd K). In Guides & Grid, click on the Grid Color Chip. Choose black and click OK to close the Color Picker. Click OK to close Preferences.
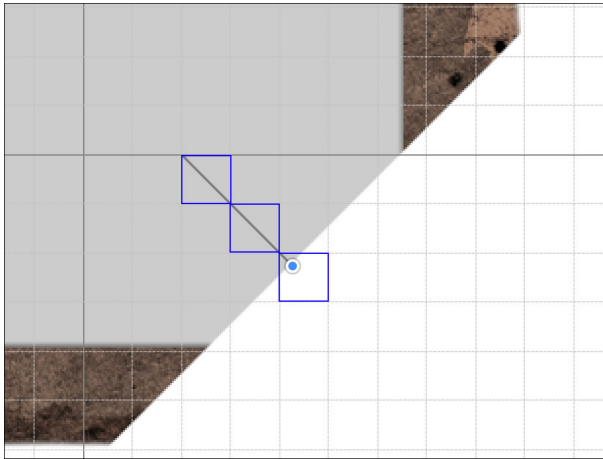
- In the Layers panel, set the Opacity of the Top Photo Bend layer to 50%.
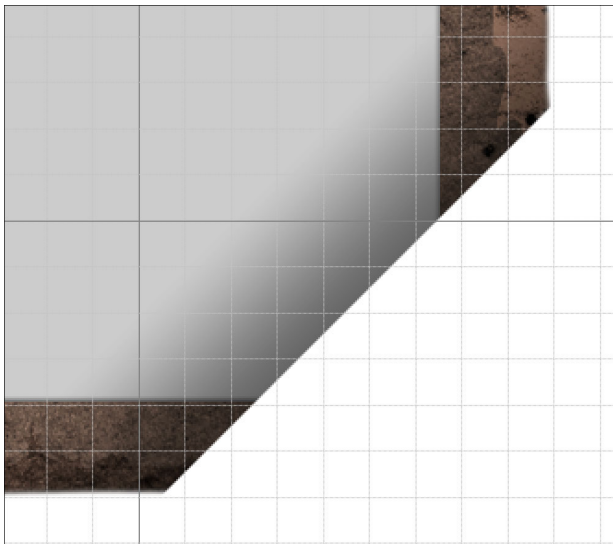- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Bend the Bottom Photo & Frame Corner

- 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 Bottom Photo Bend.
- On the document, hold down the Space Bar and click and drag to reposition the zoom to the bottom tucked corner.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag from the edge of the

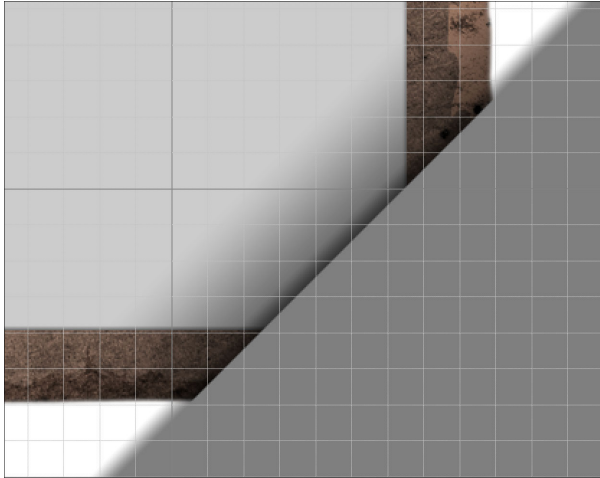clipped corner inward through approximately 2 grid squares.

- In the Layers panel, set the Opacity to 50%.
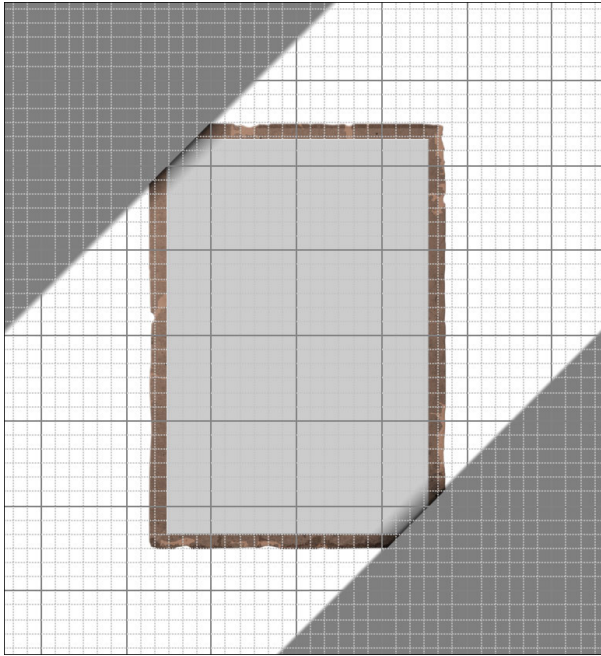- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.

Add a Shadow to the Tucks

- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the duplicate layer and rename it Tuck Shadows.
- Set the Opacity to 50%.
- On the document, holding down the Shift key click and drag a very small gradient from the edge of the clipped corner inward through approximately 1/2 of a grid square.

NOTE: If you don't click and drag at a 45° angle, then you shadow will not be even all the way across. If you're having trouble, one thing you can try is to zoom way in and use the grid as a guide. Holding down the Shift key will help maintain the direction. If you click and drag from one corner of a grid square to another, then you'll have an exact 45°. Practice makes perfect.

- Hold down the Space bar and click and drag on the document to reposition the zoom to the top clipped corner.
- On the document, holding down the Shift key click and drag a very small gradient from the edge of the clipped corner inward through approximately 1/2 of a grid square.
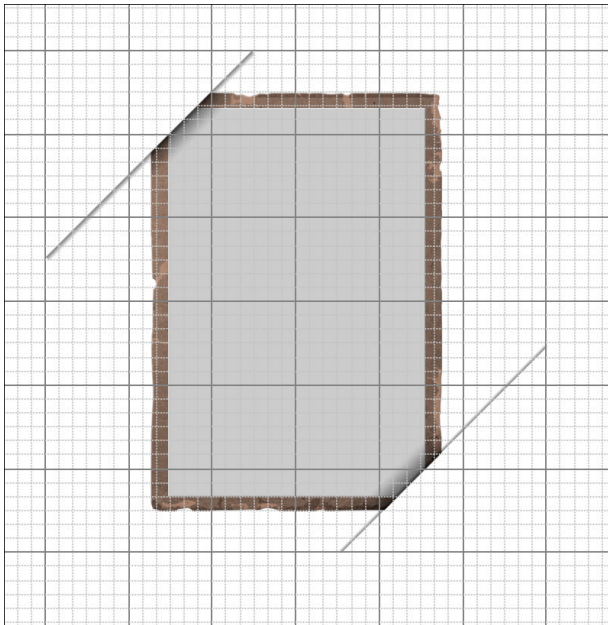- Press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0) to zoom out on the document.

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the layer mask of the Tattered Photo Frame group to get a selection outline.
- The Tuck Shadows layer should still be active.
- Click on the Add Layer Mask icon.

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the thumbnail of the Frame Shape 1 layer to get a selection outline.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Select > Modify > Expand.
- In the dialog box, Expand By 20 px and click OK.
- Choose Select > Feather.
- In the dialog box, set the Feather Radius to 5 px and click OK.
- Choose Select > Inverse.
- In the Layers panel, click on the layer mask of the Tuck Shadows layer to activate it.
- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to mask the selected pixels.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.
- In the Menu Bar, choose View and uncheck Grid.

Create a Final Group

- In the Layers panel, click and drag the Frame Shape 2 layer to the Trash icon.
- Click and drag the Frame Shape 1 layer to the Trash icon.
- Click on the Tuck Shadows layer to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the Tattered Photo Frame group. Now all parts of the frame and tucks should be active.
- Click on the Create a New Group icon.
- Double click directly on the name of the new group and rename it Tattered Photo

Frame with Tucked Tabs.

Save the Document

- Save the document (File > Save).

Archiving This Lesson

- To archive this lesson for later use on another digital project, watch the coordinating lesson in the Archiving & Using section of this class.

Altering This Lesson

- To see tips and tricks for altering this lesson, watch the coordinating lesson in the Alterations section of this class.

Custom Shadowing

- To see tips for custom shadowing this less, watch the coordinating lesson in the Custom Shadowing section of this class after completing your entire scrapbook page.