



Make It Match

Color Blend Mode Method: Extra Steps 2 – Manual – Adobe Photoshop

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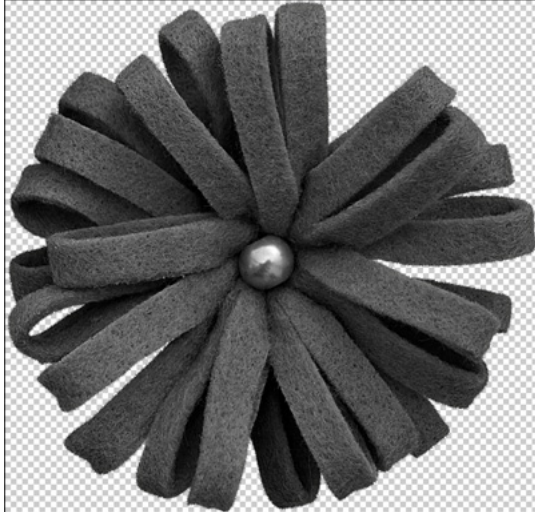
In the last lesson, we looked at using levels to lighten the color of a flower using the Color Blend Mode Recoloring Method. In this lesson, we're going to use the exact same technique to make the same flower darker.

Step One: Prepare the Workspace

- You should have the flower file open and where we left it at the end of the previous lesson.
- At this point, click on the Visibility icon of the "Lighten" levels adjustment layer now to hide it.
- You also need to download, unzip, and open the layered cluster file that is in the downloads for this lesson.

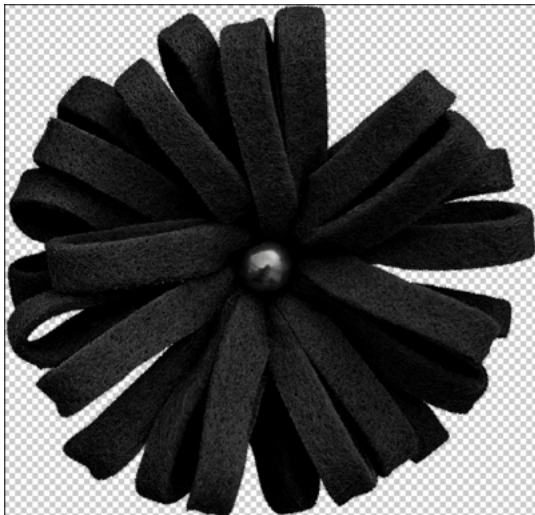
Step Two: Recolor the Flower

- Go to the layered cluster document.
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker and sample one of the black paint spots.
- Click OK to close the Color Picker.
- Go to the flower document.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the Solid Color Fill layer to bring up the Color Picker.
- Sample the Foreground Color Chip.
- Click OK.



Step Three: Darken the Flower

- At this point, the flower is more gray than black so we need to darken it. To do that, in the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Fill or Adjustment Layer icon and choose Levels.
- In the dialog box, drag the upper black slider to the right until it's at about 32. Drag the upper gray slider to the right until it's at 0.77. Drag the lower white slider to the left until it's at 204. The reason I used these numbers is because if I went any higher or smaller, we start to lose the detail in the flower and we don't want that.
- Close the Levels dialog box.
- In the Layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to Darken. Press Enter to commit the name change.



Step Four: 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.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

- 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.
- On the document, click and drag the flower into place.
- Also click and drag from a corner handle to make the flower smaller. Use the Flower Placeholder layer as your guide for both size and position.
- Once you're done resizing, click the checkmark to commit.
- 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 black flower layer and choose Paste Layer Style.
- In the Layers panel, drag the Flower Placeholder layer to the Trash.



Step Five: Save As

- At this point, you can save this layered cluster file. I think using this to make a post card or scrapbook page would be wonderful!
- Go to the Flower document.
- Save this document as a Layered PSD file called Light-Med-Dark-flower9-Stories365-KristinCroninBarrow.PSD in the Recoloring Templates folder.

When you open this file later to recolor it for a different project, you can either hide both of the levels adjustment layers when you need a medium color, or you can unhide the lighten or darken layers depending on the new color you need. Just keep in mind that you may have to make adjustments to the lighten or darken levels in order to get the right new color. You just have to double click on the thumbnail of the levels adjustment layer you want to change and that will bring up the levels dialog box.

Credits:

Layered Cluster: Jenifer Juris

Kit: APP My Camera by Anna Aspnes

Flower: Stories365 by Kristin Cronin-Barrow