Lesson 1: Basic Patterns Intro Transcript © Syndee Rogers

In the next few lessons we will be creating dots, stripes, and chevron patterns. These are a great basic set of patterns to have in your paper making arsenal. We will be creating overlays with transparent backgrounds that can then be layered over all types of backgrounds. I usually create most of my basic patterns as black overlays so they can be blended into a background with blend modes or a color overlay added. I like to think of it as building components to help create papers that can be reused over and over.

Throughout the class I will be referring to patterns as well as patterned papers and overlays. This can sometimes be confusing so I wanted to try and clarify the difference as best I can. Patterns can be described in two ways. The first is Patterns in Photoshop and Photoshop Elements which are all-over designs and elements that are saved as a native Photoshop .pat files and can be applied to pretty much any document, paper, layer, or embellishment that you can dream up. These patterns are usually seamless. This is a fantastic tool that I use extensively in my design process and we will be creating and using them in this class.

Patterns can also refer to anything that has a all-over design, for example fabric, wallpaper, and the like. There are many 'pattern' surface designers who make a living creating patterns that are used in home decor and fashion design.

So how does that translate in digital paper design? Well, we have two basic types of paper: solid and patterned. And the important thing to remember is that not all patterned papers a person creates will utilize a Photoshop Pattern file. It might be helpful to remember that the Pattern tool in Photoshop works well when creating an image that is repeated, or tiled, when you use it to fill a layer. These types of patterns make great seamless patterns. For example: dots and stripes. But, you can create a patterned paper that uses, say brushes and other items to create a 'pattern' that

does not use the pattern tool. These types of papers do not make a good seamless design therefore you would probably not want to create a Photoshop .pat file using it.

Join me in the next lesson where we jump into pattern making with dots.

This is Syndee Rogers with Passion for Paper.