

Blending Photos Together : Photoshop Layer Masks Tutorial

COLIN SMITH'S RESOURCES

Collaging – Merging 2 images with a layer mask. You will learn how to seamlessly blend 2 images together, using the layer masks.

Step	Details	I understand
1	<p data-bbox="252 689 1109 723">First thing you will need is 2 images that will blend together nicely.</p> <p data-bbox="252 757 1129 857">Make sure they are both in the same resolution (72 dpi for the web) and color-space (RGB in this case). Open both these documents in Photoshop.</p>  <p data-bbox="906 1317 1072 1350">blend_01.jpg</p>  <p data-bbox="866 1742 1032 1776">blend_02.jpg</p>	<input data-bbox="1310 689 1353 734" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1310 902 1353 947" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1310 1350 1353 1395" type="checkbox"/>

Step	Details	I understand
2	<p>We will want to combine both images into 1 document. Now select the move tool “V” key.</p> <p>Drag one image into the other window and a new layer will be created automatically. If you have the application frame on (shown), drag into the tab at the top for the second window, drag and release in the middle to combine the two images into one document.</p>  <p>Tip: To center the new image in the window hold down the Shift key while dragging.</p>	<input data-bbox="1305 181 1358 232" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1305 277 1358 329" type="checkbox"/>
3	 <p>We will now have 2 layers in the same document</p> <p>We will add the Layer Mask</p> <p>Click on the add layer mask button</p> <p>This will create a new layer mask. A layer mask is transparent. When you paint black into the mask it allows the image underneath to show through. Where it is white, the underlying layer will be hidden.</p>	<input data-bbox="1305 1167 1358 1218" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1305 1229 1358 1281" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1305 1292 1358 1344" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1305 1355 1358 1406" type="checkbox"/>

Step

Details

I understand

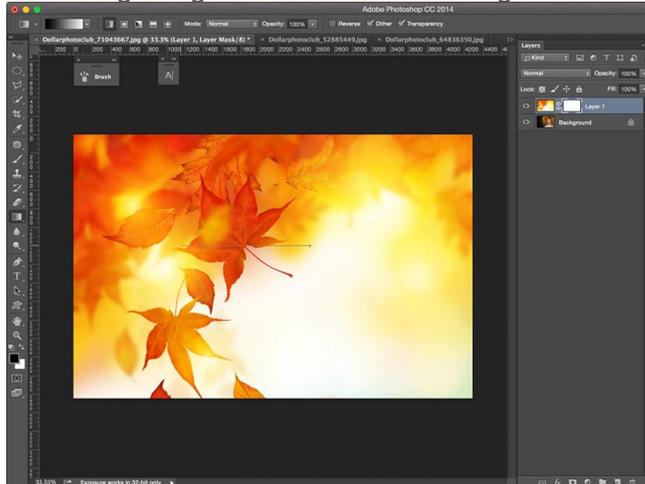
4 Press the “G” key to select the gradient tool.

Make sure the foreground and backgrounds are set to black and white.
“D” key.

Select linear gradient and foreground to background.



Now drag the gradient across the image.



images after dragging

Step**Details****I understand**

- 5 You will now see the two images blend together and the mask will have a gradient in it as shown



Step

Details

I understand

6 You can see the gradient in the layer thumbnail and the result on the image.



Where it is white, the top image shows and where it is darker the back shows through.

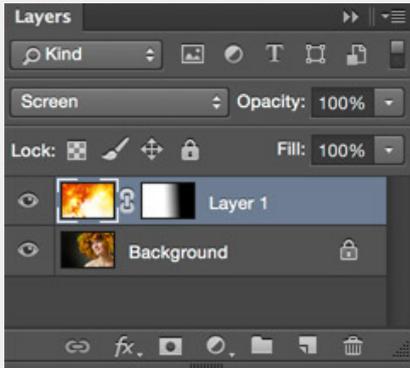
Experiment with different angles and start and end positions.

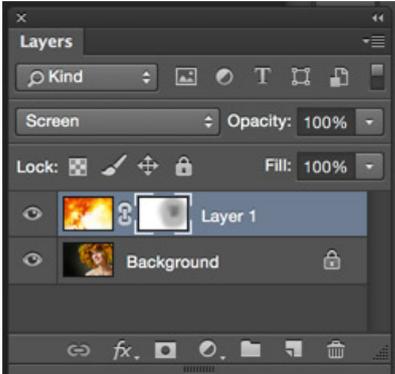
Because a mask is non-destructive, you can experiment as much as you like with different gradients in the mask,



Step**Details****I understand**

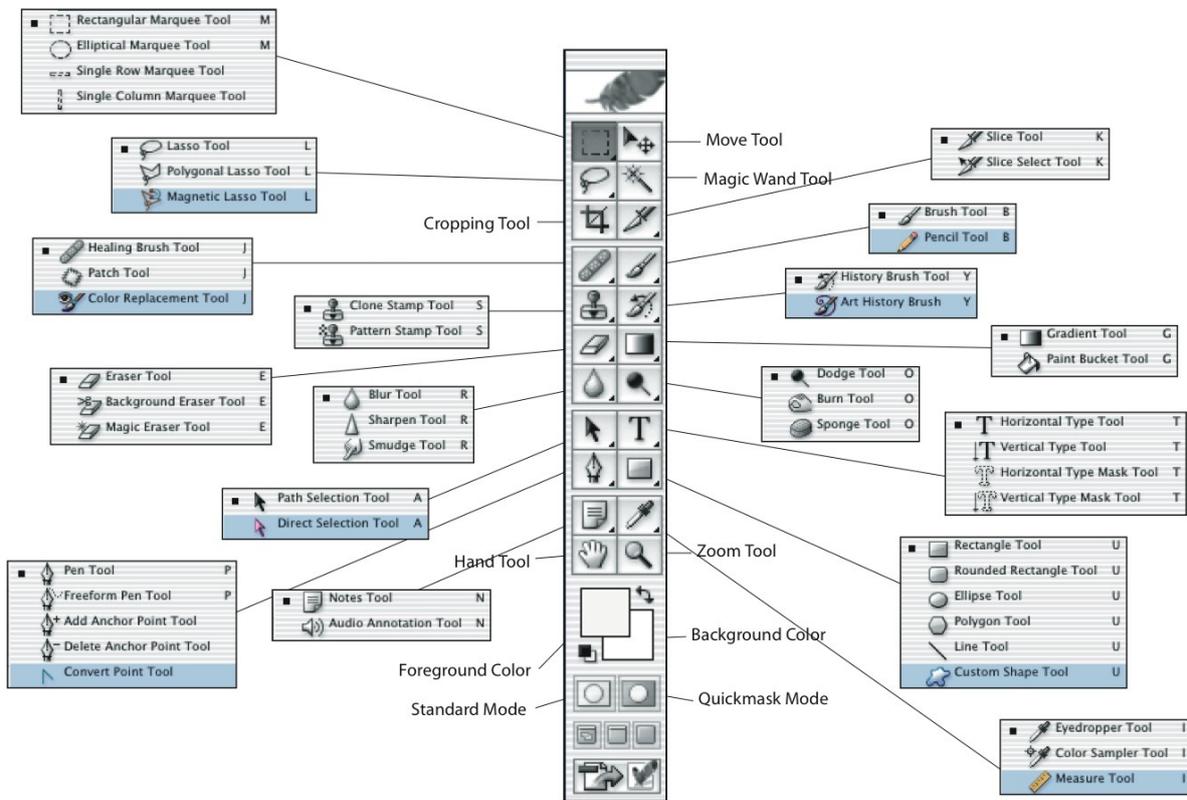
- 7 Try changing the blending mode to something different for a different result, in this case I liked what Screen mode did to the feel of the image.



Step	Details	I understand
8	<p>You may also use any of the brush tools on the mask. Black will “paint away” the image and white will “paint it back”. Use a soft brush for best results.</p>  	<input data-bbox="1305 232 1353 277" type="checkbox"/> <input data-bbox="1305 734 1353 779" type="checkbox"/>

Resource :
<http://photoshopcafe.com/tutorials/blend/blend.html>

Understanding Adobe Photoshop CS Toolbar



Tools's Name	Icon	I understand
Marquee	 Rectangular marquee tool (M)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Elliptical marquee tool (M)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Single row marquee tool	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Single column marquee tool	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Lasso tool (L)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Freeform lasso tool (L)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Magnetic lasso tool (L)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Quick selection tool (W)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	 Magic wand tool (W)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Move		<input type="checkbox"/>
Text		<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreground & Background		<input type="checkbox"/>