

J101

Photoshop Tutorial 1 - manipulating images and text

1. Find an image on Google Images, or anywhere, save it to your computer and open it in Photoshop. If possible find an image that you can post in your Franklinsj.com blog when you are done. (Make sure Photoshop has “Auto Layer Select” checked on the top tool bar or you will have trouble with some of these steps).
2. Once in Photoshop check to make sure you are in the correct mode by going to “Image” then “Mode” then select “RGB”.
3. Using Control M (hit control or the Apple key and M key at the same time) adjust the contrast of the picture to improve it. Always try the “Auto” selection first. Feel free to use other image tools from the Image- Adjustments area.
4. Using your Rectangular Marquee Tool (on your floating tool bar, if you don't see this open it from the Windows drop down) and select an area on the image, right click and select “Layer Via Cut”. You should now have two layers.
5. Open a New file, make it 4” by 4” with 72 dpi. Name it something “coolpic” or more descriptive and then save to your desktop.
6. Drag your new layer from your original picture over to this new file.
7. Resize image using Control or Apple + T. Make image bigger or smaller to fit the space.
8. Increase Canvas size (go to Image- Canvas Size) so there is a 1” border (or some space) around the image.
9. Add a Drop Shadow to the image. (Layer- Layer Style- Drop Shadow). Play with this tool some since there are many options for each effect and on the right there are additional effects that you are welcome to add to the image including bevel/emboss etc.
10. Add text below the image using the Text tool on your tool bar or hitting the “T” key then creating a box (click and drag) on the area you want the text. Type in several lines of text so that you can manipulate it. If you need more space for the text increase the canvas size some more.
11. With the text box open select all the text using Control A or dragging over all the text so it is highlighted. Now change the font size and color to whatever you think looks best.
12. Hit Control T (control and T keys at the same time) and your Text Character box should pop up. This is a powerful tool to arrange text. Play with the Leading, Tracking and Vertical Scaling to get different layouts with the same font size. Play with these functions for a while and explore what every function does.
13. While still in the Text Character box select the Paragraph tab. Use the functions on this page to affect the layout of the text.
14. Flatten the image (Press Alt L and F at the same time) and save it as a JPG on your desktop. If this image can be used in your blog and you have time left, make a new post with the image and describe what it is about.
15. Then mail the image to me at jebbanner@gmail.com