

PaintShop Pro Tutorials

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TITLE: CLIPPING MASK

Software: PaintShop Pro X6

Web Page: [Creative-Designs](#)

Supplies: [Photograph & Brush Download Here](#)

Other versions may be used



DESCRIPTION

Photoshop has a great tool called 'Clipping Mask'. Unfortunately, PaintShop Pro does not have this, but, there is a great work-around that I've been working on while using the PS Clipping Mask. There are a few extra steps required, but the end result is the same. All that is required is a photograph that you wish the subject to be displayed within a shape. Select a photograph of a child, person or pet and your result will be an interesting picture. I have provided a photograph and brush tip for this tutorial.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SAVE YOUR WORK OFTEN TO AVOID LOSING IT.

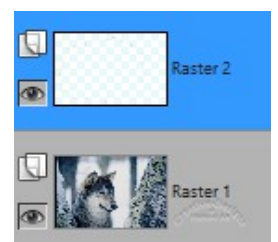
To begin, download the photograph and brush tip.

Go to your PSP 16 (or your version) folder, Brushes folder and add a new folder. Name it My Brushes or something similar. Place the brush files x 2 - PspBrush and PspScript into this folder. Never place custom brushes directly into the Brushes folder. It is always a good idea to have separate folders for collections of custom brushes.

Open the photograph in the workspace, select Shift+D to duplicate.

Close original.

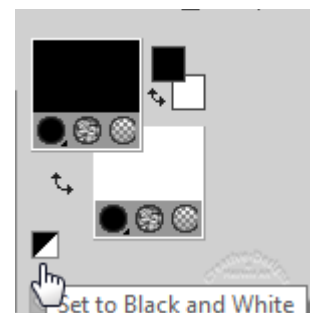
Add a new raster layer.



Select the Paintbrush and the new brush.

Click the Set to Black and White button on the Materials Palette.

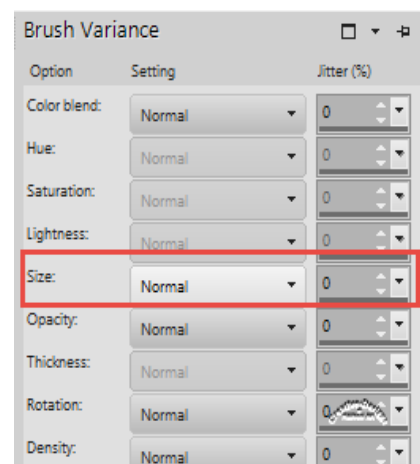
The foreground colour should now be black.



The image size is 768x512 so we need to adjust the size of the brush in accordance with the image.

- Brush size: 370
- Step: 10
- Density: 100
- Rotation: 290°
- Opacity 100
- Both Thickness and Hardness will be greyed out.

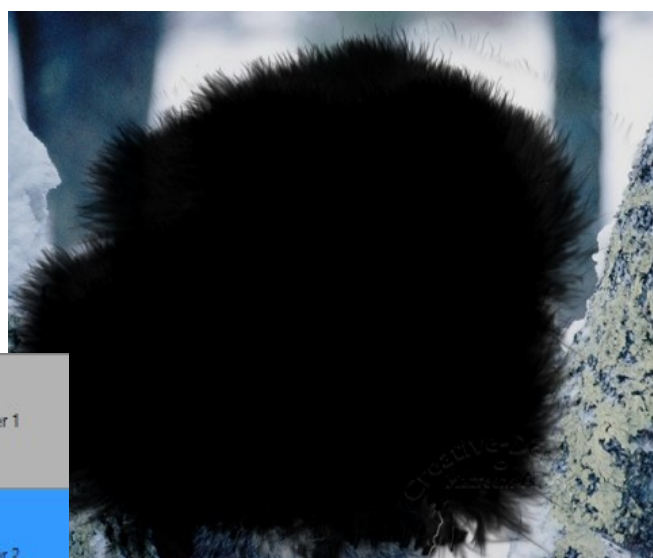
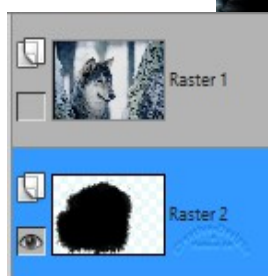
If you are using a mouse, the below setting will not apply. The Brush Variance is only for those using a pressure pen and tablet.



Open Brush Variance palette from View, Palettes. You can use a shortcut key of F11 to open the palette. Change the setting on the Size button from Pressure to Normal. Click OK.

With transparent Raster 2 selected, paint down on the canvas where you wish the image to show. When your painting is done, move Raster 2 below Raster 1.

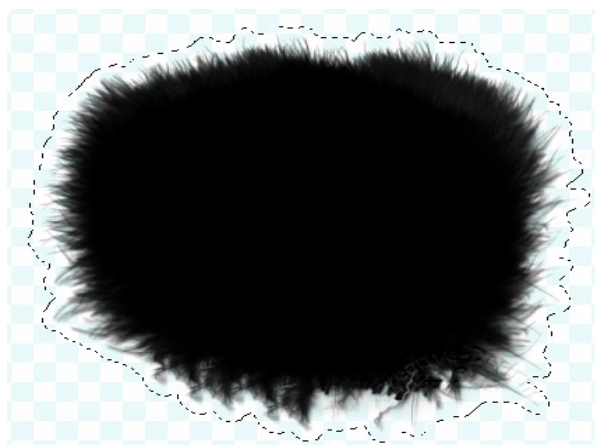
Apply the Visibility toggle to Raster 1. All you will see is a transparent canvas with paint.



Make sure Raster 2 is selected.

Change to the Magic Wand and apply these settings on the Tools Options Palette.

- Mode: Add(Shift)
- Match Mode: RGB Value
- Tolerance: 10
- Use All Layers: Unticked
- Contiguous: Unticked
- Feather: 10
- Anti-alias: Unticked

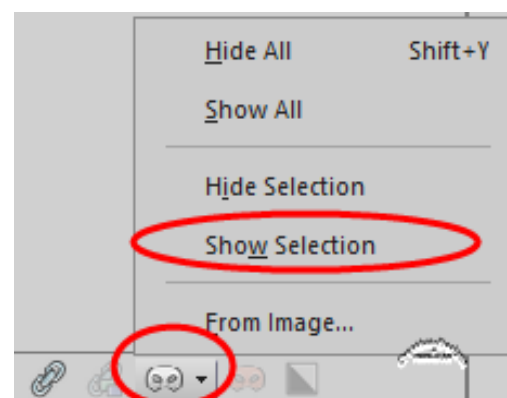


Place the Magic Wand in the centre of the painted area on the canvas, this will produce a marquee around the painted shape.

Go to Raster 1 and open the visibility toggle. The selection marquee will be visible over the top of the photograph. Keep Raster 1 highlighted.



Go to the Layers Palette and select the small white mask. Click on it. Choose Show Selection from the menu.



The photograph has the outer parts cut away by making a mask.



If your image isn't cut away, you've had the wrong layer selected. Make sure it is Raster 1 selected.

Look at the Layers Palette a new layer mask has been created.

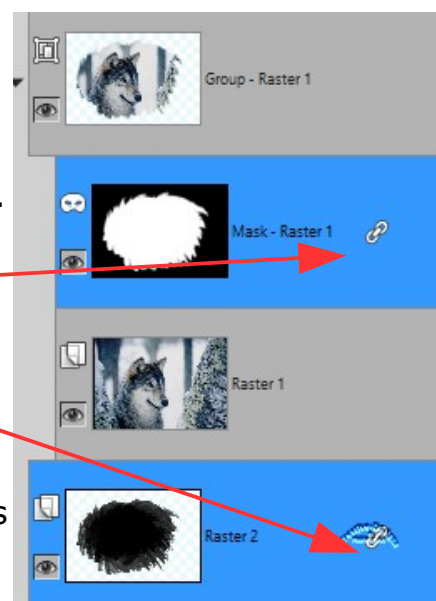
If you are happy with the image as it is, you can deselect – Ctrl+D and save. However, do not deselect if you wish to adjust the image inside the mask.

Hold the Ctrl. key select the Mask Raster 1 and Raster 2.

On the Layers Palette toolbar is a small Link/Unlink button. Whilst holding the Ctrl. key click this button. It will place two icons on each of the layers to show that they are linked.



To move the image. Go to the Mask Raster 1 and highlight it. Change to the Move Tool. Move the image on the canvas until it is set exactly where you want it. Deselect any selections by using Ctrl+D keys.



Crop the canvas closer to the shape.

Right click on any layer, Merge, Merge Visible.

A complementary background can be added if you wish. The image will then be Merge, Merge All (Flatten).



The image to the left was created by using a flower photograph. Using a brush tip of the design shown. Painting in the centre of the flower then applying the above steps.

A Bamboo brush was used on the image to the right with the background image set to overlay blend mode. There are many ways you can use Clipping Mask. Experiment with different images and brushes.

