

PaintShop Pro Tutorials

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TITLE: MISTING IMAGES TWO WAYS

Software: PaintShop Pro X4/5

Website: Creative-Design

Materials Required: Photographs



DESCRIPTION:

Rather than using the lasso tool to cut out an image to make a tube, a much nicer way is misting the image. The background eraser can also play a large part in removing backgrounds to produce clean images. These images are excellent for using in tags. If you require images, type in Google and you will be surprised at the amount of photographs you can use. Just be aware of copyright.

First, you need to open an image in PSP. Always try to use good, large images. Sizing down is easier than sizing up which can cause blurring of the image.

My image is of a lady. I want to mist around her face and shoulders.

Go to Selection tool, Selection Type, Ellipse, Feather to about 35, although this will need to be adjusted up or down for the type of image you are going to mist and how much you want to reveal.

Anti-alias ticked and we are ready to go.



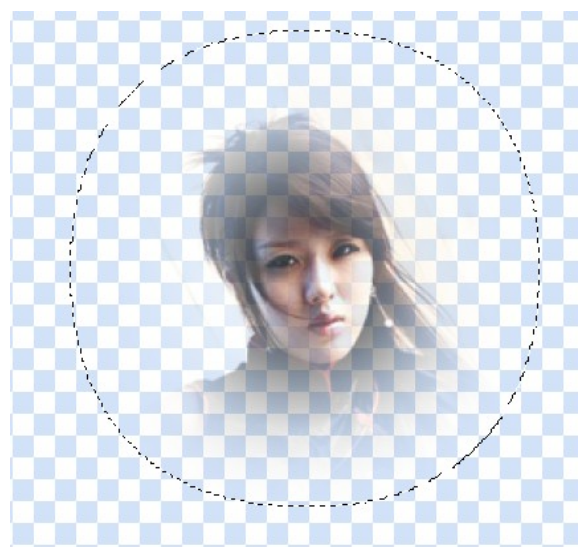
Because my subject is closer to the right of the photograph, I will begin my ellipse from her left cheek, looking at the image.

If you draw out your ellipse and it touches any of the edges, you will need to undo. The ellipse must stay within the boundary of the image by at least 5 pixels.



If you want a softer image, increase the Feather to about 70, again, this depends on how much of a misted image you need and of course you will need to draw a smaller ellipse.

You will have to draw out a smaller ellipse due to the feather being larger.



This image can now be saved as a PspTube. Before saving, all other images must be deleted so the misted image is sitting on a transparent background. The Selection can also be set to None by going to Selections, None or on the keyboard Ctrl+D

Go to File, Export, Picture Tube. Give your tube a specific name then save in your Tubes folder.

The misted image blends beautifully with backgrounds which looks much nicer than a cut-out with sharp edges.

By applying paint, stamps and other images, using Blend Modes, beautiful images can be created.



There so many ways of creating images like above which I call Collage. A new set of tutorials will be available to learn these techniques.

I hope you enjoyed this simple, yet effective way of misting an image.

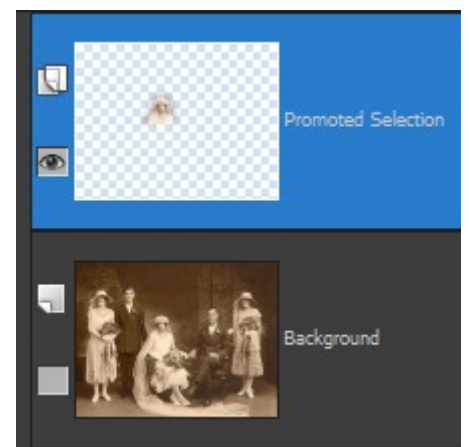
Another way of extracting an image from a photograph is using the Freehand Selection Tool.

Open an image you would like to extract a face or an object.

Select the Freehand Selection tool, in the Selection type choose Edge Seeker. Mode Add(Shift), Feather 28, Range 10, Smoothing 0 and Anti-alias ticked.

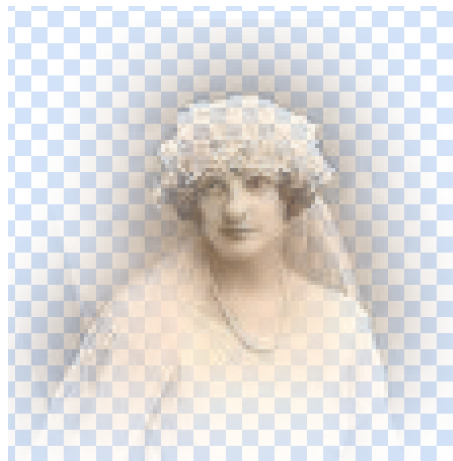
Begin to move around the subject. As soon as you join, the selection will be much larger than the initial drawing.

Go to the Layers palette and Promote Selection to a New Layer.

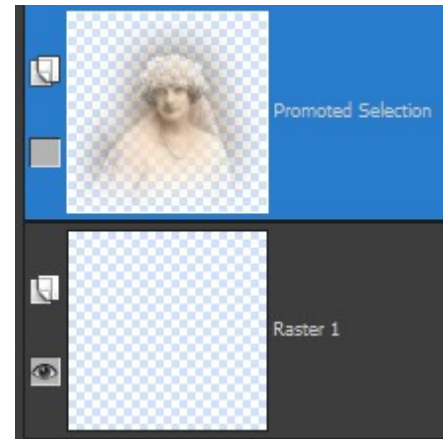


Apply a little Skin Smoothing (especially if it is an old image like mine) from Adjust on the Menu bar.

Move the slider to the right slowly until you get the desired result. If you go too far, you can blur it out.



Add a new Raster Layer and place the Promoted selection on top, close the eye on this layer so you can proceed to paint, add a background and or other effects.



I hope you enjoyed how to do misting with two techniques.