

Exercise 4: Filters

Objective: Learn/practice the following skills:

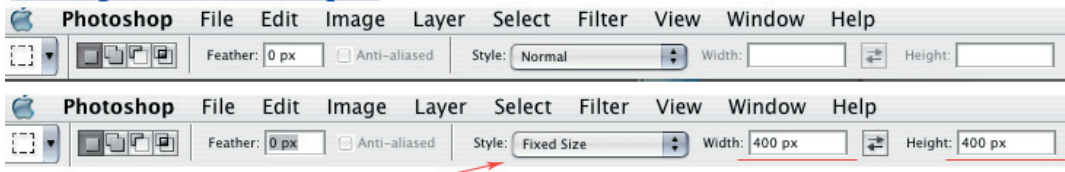
1. Make a fixed sized marquee
2. Make a new image of a specific size
3. Activate Guides and “Snap to Guides”
4. Understand and use Filters to make same image feel very different
5. Make a flattened image
6. Save it for web and for printing
7. Notice how to compose and make choices for the most interesting grid.

Step 1: Open a digital image. This can be any image, but look for one that will be interesting with a variety of filters applied and one that has an interesting square section.

Step 2: Select the Rectangular Marquee Tool (M)  from the Toolbox.

Step 3: Look at the Options bar. Select fixed Size from the Style pop-up window. Enter 400 for the width and 400 for the height.

Making a fix sized marquee

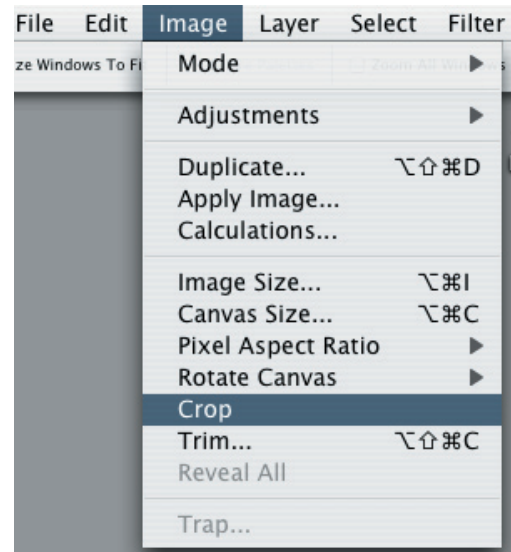


Step 4: Click on the your image and a selection marquee will appear. With the rectangular marquee still selected click inside the selection marquee to drag the marquee to the desired location. (If you can not get what you want in the 400x400 pixel square, then you will need to downsample your image to make it smaller.)

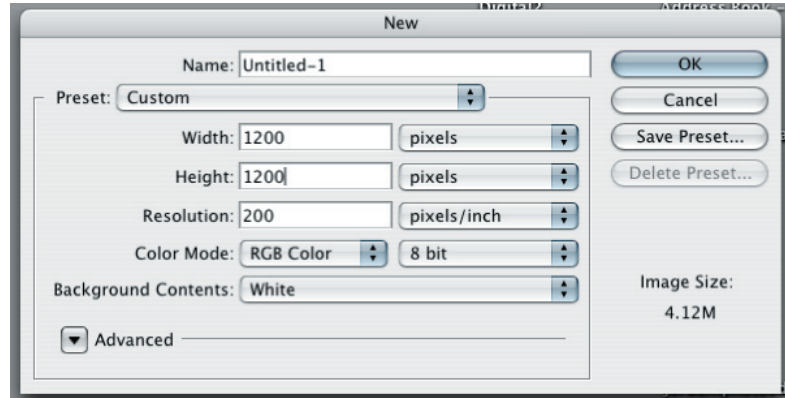
Step 5: Choose Image>Crop from the menu bar,

Step 6: Check the image size after the image has been cropped. Click on Image>Image size. The dimension should be 2 inches by 2 inches at 200 pixels/inch. Make sure your image is this size and remember to avoid resampling.


Step 7: Click on the File/Save as. Type the name “yourlastnameCropped.psd” and then click the Save button. Make sure that Photoshop is the file format selected.

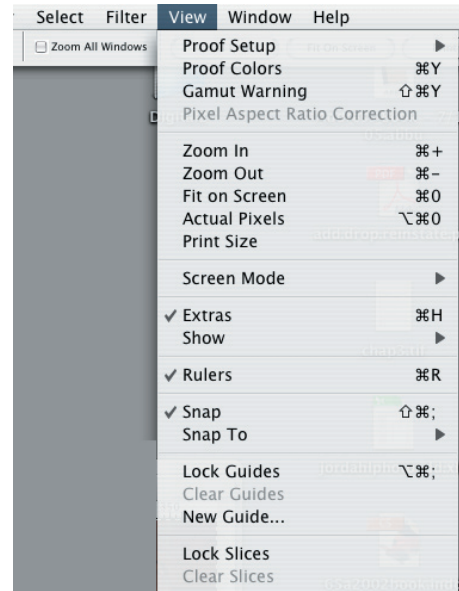


Step 8: Go to the file menu and scroll down to New. A dialog box will appear. Choose the following: *Custom size, 1200x1200 pixels, 200 pixels per inch, RGB color, 8 bit, background contents: white.*



Step 9: Click on the View Menu and scroll down to “Rulers”. Go back to the View Menu and scroll down to “Extras”. This should put a check in front of the words “Rulers” and “Extras”. Return to the View Menu bar and choose “Snap To>Guides.”

Step 10 Using the Move tool (v)  go to the left vertical edge of the ruler and the white canvas area. When the Move tool cursor changes to an arrow, click and drag a “guide” line to the vertical 400 pixel position. Get another guide line and position at the vertical 800 pixel position. (Be exact. If you aren’t sure either magnify your view or look at the X or Y on the info palette.



Step 11: Go to the top horizontal edge of the ruler and the white canvas area and drag a “Guide” line to the horizontal 400 pixel position. Get another guide line and position at the vertical 800 pixel position. Your canvas should now be divided into 9 400x400 pixel squares.

Step 12: File>Save As>yournameGrid.psd

Step 13: Click on the cropped.psd file to make it the active window. Using the Move tool click on the image and drag onto Grid.psd. Position the image in the top left grid section. If View>Snap to Guides is activated, the image will snap into place easily

Step 14: Drag another Cropped.psd image onto Grid.psd and position in top center grid section. Repeat until all 9 grid sections are filled with images.

Each time you drag an image from one file to another it is automatically placed on a new layer. If the Layers Palette is not visible, click on the Window Menu bar and scroll to Show Layers. The eye icon indicates layer visibility. Click on the eye icon to make the layer invisible to identify its location. Click back on to make layer visible again. Double-click on the name of the layer to rename that layer. It is good practice to name your layers in a useful manner.

- Step 15: Activate a layer by clicking on it in the Layers palette. Click on the Filter Menu bar and scroll down to one of the available filters. *Command>Click on the mac and Control>Click on the pc on the layer name will select just the object on that layer if it is on a white or transparent background.* Play and experiment with the filters! Think in terms of the interest in the individual frame and the overall grid composition. (If many filter are not available, check your mode menu: remember RGB and 8 bits/channel are what we want.)
- Step 16: Draw grid on separate sheet of paper. Label the individual sections with the name of the corresponding file layer name. Write down all information including what filter you used and what adjustments you made on each layer.
- Step 17: File>Save **frequently.**

Remember - every layer increases the file's storage size, requiring more memory to process commands resulting in a slower workflow. In addition to saving a flattened version, always keep a saved version of your file with all layers intact so that the file can be reworked.

- Step 18: Flatten all layers in the image. Click on the arrow on ther upper right corner of the Layers Palette. Scroll down to Flatten Image.
- Step 19: File>Save As>*yourname*Filters_Flat.psd. This file will be on your final cd and you may choose to print it for the final portfolio. Now, Resize the image to 72 ppi, save as a jpg and post to the forum. In the forum, tell which filters you used and what changes you made to each filter. Comment on a minimum of two other students' work.

