



Adobe Photoshop CS 6

Level III

Topics:

- Masks
- Channels
- Pen Tool
- Vector Graphics
- Smart Objects

Photoshop CS6 Level 3

Chapter 6

Masks

In Photoshop, you can make temporary masks, called quick masks, or you can create permanent masks and store them as special grayscale channels called alpha channels. Photoshop masks isolate and protect parts of an image, just as masking tape protects window panes or trim from paint when a house is painted. When you create a mask based on a selection, the area you haven't selected is masked, or protected from editing.

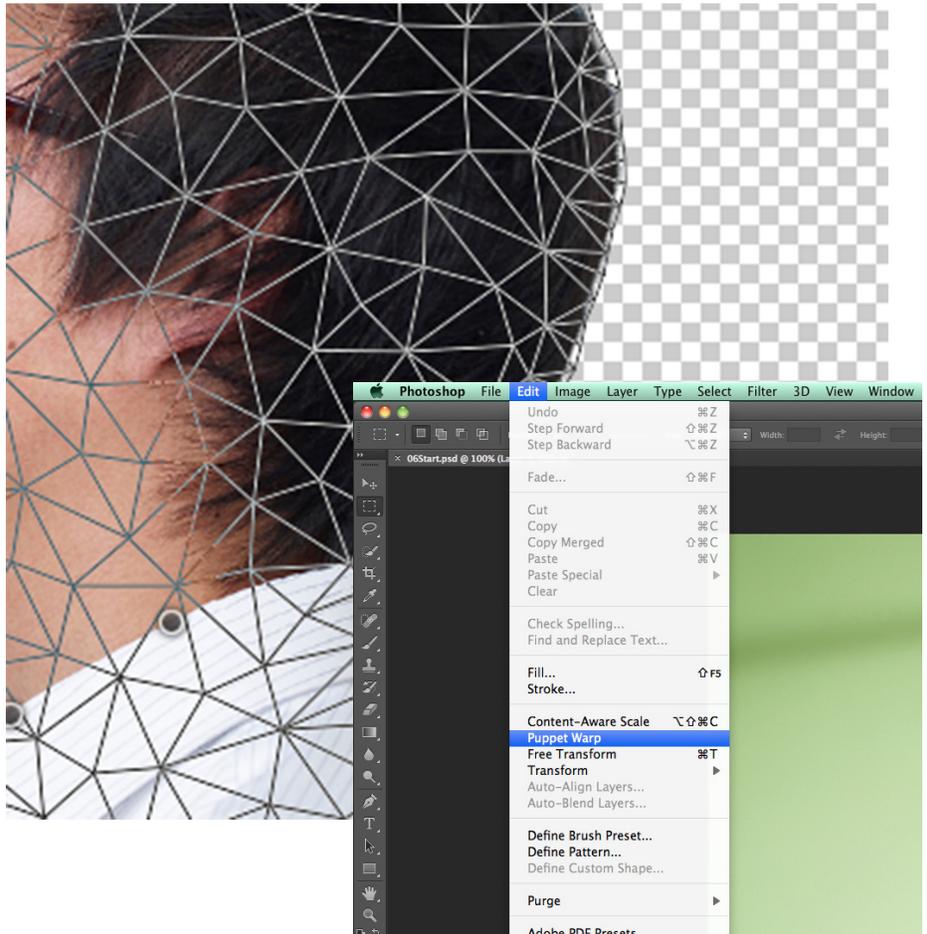
Puppet Warp

The Puppet Warp feature gives you flexibility in manipulating an image. You can reposition areas, such as hair or an arm, just as you might pull the strings on a puppet. You place pins where you want to control movement.



Masks

Tip: In CS6, layers can now be clipped to groups, which allow different variations of masking capabilities. Use this with when using group layer styles for enhancing your project.



Photoshop CS6 Level 3

Channels

Just as different information in an image is stored on different layers, channels also let you access specific kinds of information. Alpha channels store selections as grayscale images. Color information channels store information about each color in an image; for example, an RGB image automatically has red, green, blue, and composite channels.



Red

In the red channel, color information with a high red content value shows up as white. The helmet, one sleeve, and half of the sign appear as white and light gray tones. Skin tones mostly fall in the red channel.



Green

This image doesn't have much to it that is only green. The white parts which contain a high amount of all three colors show as white, but nothing else does.



Blue

In the blue channel, the biker's suit, the side of the helmet, and the back of the sign show up as white and light gray because these are the parts of the image with the most blue.

Chapter 7

Clipping Mask from type

A clipping mask is an object or group of objects whose shape masks other artwork so that only areas that lie within the clipping mask are visible. In effect, you are clipping the artwork to conform to the shape of the object (or mask). In Photoshop, you can create a clipping mask from shapes or letters.



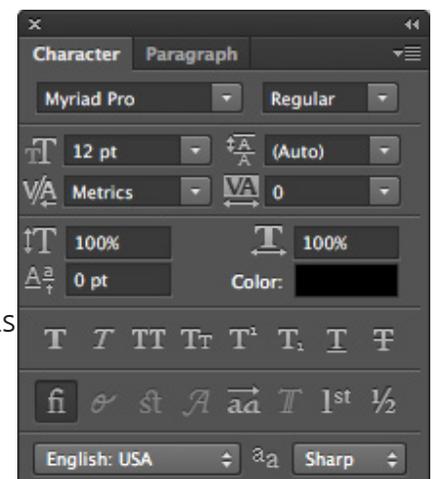
Type on a path

In Photoshop, you can create type that follows along a path you create with a pen or shape tool. The direction the type flows depends on the order in which anchor points were added to the path. When you use the Horizontal Type tool to add text to a path, the letters are perpendicular to the baseline of the path. If you change the location or shape of the path, the type moves with it.

When will the wristwatch strap shop shut?

Designing Paragraphs of type

Many designs call for full paragraphs of text. You can design complete paragraphs of type in Photoshop; you can even apply paragraph styles. You don't have to switch to a dedicated page layout program for sophisticated paragraph type controls



Chapter 8

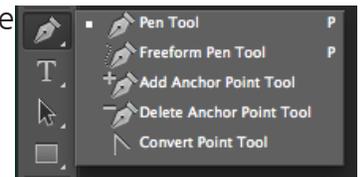
Vector Graphics

Photoshop can be used to work with either bitmap images or vector graphics. Bitmap images, technically called raster images, are based on a grid of dots known as pixels. Each pixel is assigned a specific location and color value. In working with bitmap images, you edit groups of pixels rather than objects or shapes.

Vector graphics are made up of lines and curves defined by mathematical objects called vectors. These graphics retain their crispness whether they are moved, resized or have their color changed. Vector graphics are appropriate for illustrations, type, and graphics such as logos that may be scaled to different sizes.

Pen Tool

In Photoshop, the outline of a vector shape is a path. A path is a curved or straight line segment you draw using the Pen tool, Freeform Pen tool, or a shape tool. The Pen tool draws paths with the greatest precision; shape tools draw rectangles, ellipses, and other shape paths; the Freeform Pen tool draws paths as if you were drawing with a pencil on paper.



Custom Shapes

Another way to use shapes in your artwork is to draw a custom shape or preset shape. Doing so is as easy as selecting the Custom Shape tool, picking a shape from the Custom Shape Picker, and dragging in the image window.

Smart Objects

Smart Objects are layers that you can edit in Photoshop nondestructively; that is, changes you make to the image remain editable and don't affect the actual image pixels, which are preserved. Regardless of how often you scale, rotate, skew, or otherwise transform a Smart Object, it retains its sharp, precise edges.



Tip: Logos and icons are commonly made as vectors for their scalability and crispness.

Wrap-up

By the end of this workshop, you should be able to:

- Apply quick masks
- Store a mask or selection as a channel
- Edit channels
- Understand the difference between channels and layers
- Create and edit type in a Photoshop document
- Work with text layers and paragraph styles
- Give text a background using a clipping mask
- Use the pen tool to create sharp selections
- Understand the role of bitmap and vector images
- Build graphics from shape components
- Import a Smart object