



# How to add edge effects to your photos

## Tutorial by Kelly

When displaying photos on the web one usually places them on a frame or table. This makes them look they're coming out of the page, instead of being part of it. Sometimes that is the right effect for the photo, and sometimes it's not. In this tutorial, I'm going to try to explain how to make some edge effects so that your photo merges into your page.

1. Open the photo you want to display. I'm using an image of a postcard (tis in the city I live) I scanned.
2. Set your background colour to the colour of the page you're going to place the image on. I'm using white.
3. Enlarge the canvas (Image > Canvas Size) at about 20 pixels (ie. 10px each side) both horizontally and vertically.
4. You can use any shape you want. Rectangular, elliptical or make your own with the lasso tool. Make a selection inside the image, making sure the edges of the selection are a bit far (about 10 pixels) from the edges of the photo itself.
5. Feather the selection (Select > Feather) by 5 pixels and inverse it (Select > Inverse or Ctrl+Shift+i). Now hit the delete key to fill the rest of the background with your background colour.
6. Inverse the selection again and contract (Select > Modify > Contract) it by 6 pixels. Again, feather by 5 and inverse. The image is now prepared for you to apply the filters to create the edge effects.

**You may want to duplicate the image (Image > Duplicate) here and keep a copy open and minimized so if you want to test more than 1 effect.**

**Photoshop has a magnificent selection of filters, and if you experiment with them enough to be familiar with the effects they create, then you will be able to visualize the way you want something to turn out, and make it happen by applying a filter or a combination of filters. When you experiment with these edge effects, you will get the best results from the brush filters , the distort filters and the pixellate filters. Try everything..if it doesnt look good, undo it and try something else. Try combinations of 2 or 3 filters. Experiment, and have fun!**