

# CD Cover Project

## Overview

Create a cover design for the folded booklet that fits in the front of a CD case. The CD cover may be a music CD, a CD ROM for children, a personal portfolio CD, etc. The imagery should reinforce the style and theme of the CD chosen. The canvas/document size in Photoshop will be 9.75 x 5 inches to allow 1/4 inch bleed for trimming. Use multiple original images from scanning or digital camera art, things or photos. Scale and scan images for final output at 200 dpi. Bar codes, song lists and other items may be added to back/left panel to add authenticity to the project. Consider concept and good design principles: unity, rhythm, informal balance. A separate Photoshop document may be created for the back panel of a CD case to include side spines left and right (do own measurements—See link below). The final project will color corrected and printed on the color lasers in lab. Online students may have prints made by submitting request to instructor.

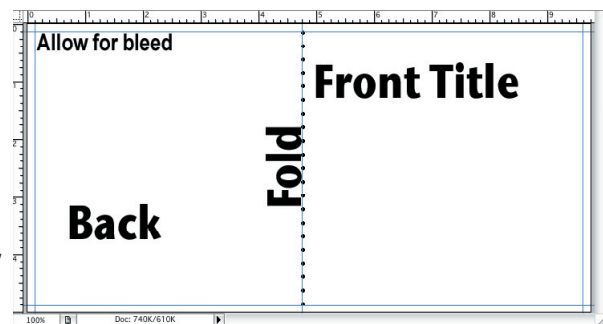
## Read and Review:

See following link about CD cover design. <http://graphicdesign.about.com/od/designtips/a/cdcoverdesign.htm>

## Objectives:

The student will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Set up CD document 200 dpi at 9.75 x 5 to allow quarter inch bleed. Front cover is right half of panel and back is left half of panel.
- Scale and adjust image resolution of at least 5 separate original images (scans or digital photos-of photos, art work, textures, things.)
- Include at least 10 layers (may include adjustment layers) excluding type layers.
- Be sure all layers are **named** and **grouped** into **sets**.
- Use multiple selection tools and masks to include the pen tool to make clean blended selections. Be able to tell what was used and why.
- Use clone, patch, **Unsharp Mask** and other image editing tools to clean-up images as needed.
- Use “**Adjustment Layers**” to make tonal and color adjustments between selections.
- Make, edit and use at least one **custom brush**.
- Use **History/Art History** Brushes.
- \* Create **patterns/textures** to blend into composite.
- \* Use at least two other **Layer Blending modes** other than normal.
- \* Use at least two special effects filters on a selections or layers.
- Add dominant type for CD title plus your name.
- \* Used at least two **Layer Styles** on type or selections on a transparent layer.
- Consider combining gray scale and color images for contrast. Consider channel mixing. (optional)
- Make at least 3 variations saved as Layer Comps.
- Save final layered version in RGB mode.
- Convert from RGB to CMYK. Correct color of CMYK version.
- Save final Photoshop CMYK composite flattened as a Photoshop PDF.
- Give consideration to principles of design (balance, rhythm, emphasis, etc) to make a well integrated composition. Make sure design supports the look, feel and theme of the CD. Elaboration and creativity will be taken into consideration.



## General Procedure (see objectives):

- Set up Photoshop canvas size 9.75" w x 5" h for a folded CD cover, at final resolution of 200 dpi. Save this file as your "CD Cover".
- Scan or take digital photos of at least 5 original images, textures, things, etc to use in composite.
- Scale scanned images close to their correct finished sizes at the final resolution (to minimize resampling). Adjust digital photo(s) with sampling 'Off' and set resolution at 200 dpi. Turn on "resampling" and adjust dimensions, or crop image to needed size.
- Have at least 10 layers in final composite excluding type layers.
- Use multiple selection tools, masks and the pen tool path to integrate and blend images. Be able to tell which selection/masks tools you used where and why they were chosen.
- Clean up images (clone, patch) and apply "Unsharp Mask" to the individual images as needed.
- Use adjustment layers (levels, curves, color balance, etc.) for all tonal corrections and blending.
- Create/edit and use at least one custom brush to use in composition.
- Use history and/or art history brushes.
- Create some patterns and textures to blend into composite.
- Apply at least **2 Layer Blending** modes and **2 special effects filters** on selections or layers.
- Add type layer for CD title. Minimize body type. Include your name on back side of project. Keep this type small. Keep type on layers.
- \* Apply at least 2 layer styles to type or selections on layers.
- **Save a final RGB version with layers.**
- Flatten the adjustment layers used for tonal correction and save a copy.
- Convert copy to CMYK and fine tune color as needed.
- Save a flattened color corrected CMYK copy as a Photoshop PDF for printing.
- \* Print final on color lasers in lab or take to a service bureau and have printed.
- **Optional:** Create new Photoshop file for back cover. Set up measurements for back panel to include two spines left and right. Follow same procedures for front cover.

## Hand in Elements

- **Final Project:** Lab: Submit one color print and flattened CMYK PDF to teacher station. Online: Submit flattened composite PDFs of final RGB and CMYK versions.
- **Layers, Channels. Paths Check:** Lab: Submit layered PSD version of file to teacher station. Online: Submit Screen shot of layers, channels and paths palettes. These may be composed into one PSD file or inserted in a text document and submitted to the Drop Box.
- **Original Images:** Lab: Submit folder of images to teachers station. Online: Submit JPEGs of original images. These may be composed into one PSD file or inserted in a text document and submitted to the Drop Box.
- **Write-up.** Use grade sheet as form/guide to list the tools and techniques used to create the project. Lab: Type up, print and hand in with image prints. Online: Send written steps in E-mail or submit with images in the BB Drop Box.
- **Note:** Be sure your name is on everything when it is submitted. Lab keep all pieces in one folder. Online students may submit elements in a compressed/zipped folder to Drop Box.

## Presentation:

Everybody will be expected to share their projects with other class members.

**Lab students** will share theirs in lab class.

**Online students** need to submit a JPEG of their final image in the Discussion Board area along with a brief write up of what they did to share with other classmates