

Integrating Project #1 “Crazy Character”

Using Editing techniques, Selections and Layers

- Objective:** To practice the skills from CS 4 Lessons 1, 2, on the Introduction and Basic Photo Corrections; Lessons 3, 4 on Selections and Layers or comparable lessons in previous texts. Complete exercises on Image Size and Scanning plus practices on “File Formats”, Editing “Edges” “Layer Comps” and
- Description:** Students will create a composite of a hybrid character, animal or thing using a variety of selection tools and layer management skills. The character should **dominate** (fill the page). Basic version should be on a plain, solid color background. Other backgrounds may be used for variations.
- Skills:** **Image Size, Resolution. Edit:** Healing, Patch tools. **Adjustment:** Levels or other. (Adjustment Layers* recommended.)
- Selections:** Use marquee, lasso, wand, and Quick Selection in combination or separately. Transform, crop, move, copy and paste selections on new layers. Be sure to make clean selections (without a “cut hard ragged edge.”). Use anti-alias, and refine edges. Selections may be feathered. Do not smudge edges. Use “Refine Edge”. **Save selections** even if not perfect. (Select>Save Selections.)
- Layers:** Rearrange layers, copy/paste layers; add **type** layer; **name** and **group** layers in sets. Include at least 8 named layers. Vary layer opacity. Use **Adjustment Layer(s)** for tonal changes and **Layer Styles** for special effects.
- Concepts:** Create imaginary character by making multiple selections from image(s) that have a common theme: garden tools, instruments, flowers, fish, etc.
- Design:** The final character should be *dominant* (fill page) and have *contrast* to the background or its surroundings. Elaborate upon the character. Use many separate selections to create eyes, ears, legs and/or arms, hair, etc.
- Resources:** Use images provided by instructor (suggested) or personal images (digital camera or scans). Multiple selections may be made from a single or multiple images. *Do not stretch any selections larger.* Use selections at original or smaller size.
- Planning:** Select image(s) with a common theme. Make a list of the images with their size (dimensions and resolution.) Provide the sources of the images used. **Keep original images in a folder separated from the edited images.**
- Instructor discretion:** Complete 2–5 **thumbnails/sketches** of ideas to be approved by instructor prior to project. A sketch may be scanned and used as a template for the layout. Create at least 3 **Layer Comps** by moving, and/or turning off/on selected layers creating 3 variations. At least one comp should have the character on a plain background, while another could be a new image. **Keep all layers in the PSD file.**
- Document/ Image Size:** Start with a Photoshop document 5” x 7” vertical or 7” x 5” horizontal with a resolution of **150 ppi** in RGB mode. Save image with “last name_-Integ1” as PSD in project folder. At the end, **save COPY of this file as a JPEG** (this will flatten the file). Downsample a COPY of the layered PSD to 75 ppi.
- Canvas size may be enlarged or cropped down in order for the character to fill the page. Final document must be no larger than 8 x 10 inches at 75 ppi. See Image>Image Size menu.
- Submission:** **Use grade-sheet as self check.** Fill in write-up form describing how each criterion is met. Provide downsampled layered PSD including at least 3 layer comps at 75 ppi and JPEG copy at 150 ppi Put images used into a folder and make a contact sheet of the images if more than one image is used.

Integrating Project #1 Grade-sheet

Hand in Materials: *Project cannot be evaluated without turning in the following items. The instructor may give bonus points for doing above average write-ups. Or will take off points for missing pieces or doing incomplete work. Submit work according to instructor specifications by disk, to teacher lab stations and/or online through Blackboard.*

Before submitting work: name files as follows: first 4 characters of 'last name_integ1. Put following in project folder for submission.

Written documentation. Submit *write-up* form with requested information filled-in.

Word-processed preferred. Use grade-sheet below for self-check. _____

Project: Submit layered version (include **Layer Comps**) of project. _____

JPEG flattened file of **original size file**. _____

Thumbnails approved by instructor (lf/ as requested). _____

Original Images: Create a folder of original images used in project. Create a "contact sheet" from the images used (if more than one). _____

Online Submissions to Blackboard.

Add first four characters of your last name to all files+item description (integ1_flat, integ1_lyrs. integ1_write-up; Integ1_contact sheet, etc)

1) Submit down-sampled layered PSD with layer comps; flat JPEG at full size; contact sheet of images used (if more than one) and write-up (form provided). Compress or zip these files. Submit to the Assignment upload area in Blackboard.

2) Submit final **flattened JPEG** copy to the **Discussion Board** in the Integrating I forum to share with classmates. Include description of what you did and answer design questions on the front of the forum.

Students will be evaluated for completing the following activities.

Activities/Skills/Followed Directions: (address these items in write-up)	Points
Set up document at specified size and resolution. (150ppi+downsample 75 ppi)	5/ _____
Used duplicate layers for retouching with clone, patch, healing brushes.	3/ _____
Levels and other tonal adjustment. (Prefer Adjustment Layers)	2/ _____
Made multiple selections. Used at least 3 of the following selection tools. Lasso, Wand, Marquee, Quick Selection Tool	9/ _____
Saved selections (Select>Save Selections) even if not perfect.	2/ _____
Used transform tool to change at least one selection/layer.	2/ _____
Used move tool or copy pasted selections from one document to another.	2/ _____
Included a type layer. (Name of imaginary character/image.)	1/ _____
Made and named at least 8 layers to include at least one group (set)	10/ _____
Used a layer style.	2/ _____

Quality/Design:

Met requirements for concept: Hybrid with consideration to elaboration/design. 3/ _____

Cropped hybrid character **so it is dominant** (Fills space.). 2/ _____

Made clean edged selections. Not smeared or jaggy. 2/ _____

Did ABOVE and BEYOND requirements listed. 5/ _____

Lab time: Subtracted points for not working on project during lab time, turning in work late and/or missed presentation (due date). (-10%)

Online: Did not participate in Blackboard Discussion Board and/or late work. - _____

Sub-Total 50/ _____