Fawn Allen Creative Services

Adobe Software Tutoring

1221 Marcano Blvd. • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33322 • 954-905-7894 • 305-562-0783   Creative Services • Digital Design • Marketing

PHOTOSHOP LESSONS 1 & 2: The Basics & Project Set-up
Four Hours in Two Sessions

1) SETTING UP YOUR WORK SPACE:
- Decide if you are doing a Print project (high-resolution 300 ppi) or Web Page Project (Screen Resolution 72 ppi)
- Organizing your Work Space for different pre-sets: Essentials, Painting, Photography, Typography
    Menus at top, Panels & submenus, Tools & hidden tools
- Canvas Sizes integral to your project; Cropping vs Image Size vs Canvas Size; set a new pre-set for future usage
- Color Profiles: CMYK / RGB / Index color for web > view Swatches Panel & Color picker, Color libraries LOAD
- Preferences menu: Grids, Guides, Snap to, other assisting tools; the View Menu and View Rulers (set units)
- Key commands for speed: Cmnd-plus (+) and Cmnd minus (-); type 'v' to jump to the Move Tool;
    Cmnd-C Copy; Cmnd-V Paste; Cmnd-J to Jump a copy to a new layer, Cmnd D to deselect a selection

2) ORGANIZE FILES FOR YOUR PROJECT (Planning your files needed)
- Project folder with all the photos / logos / clipart, notes, Text files to copy/paste into Photoshop.
- Helpful Panels you'll want visible....Color Swatches, Channels Panel, or Type>Character Panel
- If working with Text: Learn Fonts Menu & Character Panel - choosing appropriate style for project, Font Book
and how to use it, downloading & installing new fonts; Matching fonts (http://www.myfonts.com/WhatTheFont/

4) TOOLS / TOOLBAR / MENUS & PANELS
- An Overview of the Tool window & view options, Each Tool's function, Hidden Tools, the Horiz. Toolbar
- Panels: Using the Windo Menu expose each panel; explor opening, moving & collapsing them; view side menus

5) ADDING CONTENT: Layers with text, photos, art you create
- Open a new, blank page, set up a new preset: 72 or 300 ppi; pixel or inch hxw; color RGB/CMYK
- Open a Photo file in a separate window or tab: Move the PS Tab off the main window to create a separate
window, then drag the single layer to the previous blank window. A new layer appears with your photo.
- The Layers Panel: Add new layers, Drag layers from other windows, duplicate layer,
    link layers, group layers, trash layers to delete or use panel side menus, change layer order; lock layers;
- Visibility of layers: Eyeball on / off; Transparency & Opacity & Layer blending: explore all.
- Type Layer: Text Tool & hidden ones; Using Character Panel / top bar for changing fonts, color / alignment etc.
    Other Type tools>Tabs, paragraph; Type Horizontal, Vertical & Mask tools, Warped Text panel
- Layer Styles like drop shadow, bevel, emboss, outer glow, outline & copy/paste styles

6) TRANSFORM OBJECT IN A LAYER: Scale, Rotate, Flip Etc. ... do it freehand or do it by the numbers!

7) WORKING WITH COLOR: Foreground /Background & switch, Eyedropper, add Swatches ; how to load Libraries
- Changing colors of the photo and areas of the photo, Hue & Saturation, Curves, Levels, Variations, etc.

8) MAKING "SELECTIONS": Marquee, Square, Eliptical, Lasso tools and Magic Wands ... The Marching Ants.
    Selection from layer object with Command-click on icon. Selecting portions of a photo to change its color or fill.

9) CREATE SHAPES: Tool Shapes in library and create a freehand shape - Brush sizes & softness, pencil or pen tool.

10) SAVE & SAVE AS: DO IT OFTEN. Command-S. Discuss saving for print, save for web, resizing pixel sizes for
different purposes ie. *interpolating* resolutions from 72 to 300 ppi for print file / 300 to 72 ppi for web file. Save As: PDF
settings for output (low, medium, high quality & Press Quality)

HOMEWORK: SEE TASKS ON NEXT PAGE. Review all of the tools names and experiment with them. Also, see attached TASKS to complete for fun.

LESSON 3 - 6 : Retouching skills to airbrush & remove imperfections or perfect image. Color correction to specifications. More about Type Effects, Layer Effects, Filters; Adjustment Layers and Layer Masks, Gradients & gradient masks, image color adjustments; Montaging & collaging using gradients. Adding to color & gradient swatches; Working with Paths, creating paths, points, pen tool, usage in exporting/importing Illustrator files; Bringing in layers from other files; and photo files, resizing & retouching images such as model's skin and hair; Creating Motion Animations... Timeline attributes using text and image layers, export as animated gifs. Saving files as Smart Objects. Bringing these objects into web design software.

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HOMEWORK IDEAS

PHOTOGRAPHY TASK: ADJUSTING COLOR, LEVELS, CONTRAST, BLENDING
Open a photo. Duplicate the background layer. Turn off background layer, click on copied layer and rename it to "working layer." From Menu choose >Layer >New Adjustment Layer >Levels. A new level box opens and says Levels 1, click OK. In the Properties panel you will see a slider with 3 ticks. Practice sliding each to experiment with highlights, mid-tones and shadows. Practice same slider when choosing R, G, or B (red, green, blue) in the color pulldown button.

TEXT TASK: CREATING HEADLINE TYPE OPTIONS
Click on the T (text tool) and then click anywhere on your image to create text on layer above the photo layer. Type your name. Drag cursor across the words or click three-times to select all the text. Take your cursor/arrow up to text menu bar or use Character-style panel to click on font, type size, width, etc. to adjust the type to make a large headline across photo. Change the text color by clicking the triangle next to the T swatch and choosing a different color fill for the text.
Add a Drop Shadow (from the Layer Styles menu). When the type looks right, click ok. Then transform the headline text by Rotating it 15 degrees (counter-clockwise) or -15 degrees (clockwise)

COLOR & SHAPES TASK:
Fill one layer with the foreground color. Fill a new layer with the background color. Play with Opacity of top layer and see its effect on bottom layer.

Click on Shapes Tool, select heart from library panel... a heart and change its outline color to Black and then its fill color to white. Drag this layer above the other layers in the panel. Adjust the Opacity slider to 50% and view the effect of the middle layer color in the heart shape.