

Selection Tool Exercises

Photoshop - Long - Spring 2012

Magic Wand

Giraffe/Bolivian Background Exercise

Start by clicking your Magic Wand tool in the blue sky. Go to Select on your application bar, then click on similar once or twice until the “crawling ants” have selected all the blue sky in a perfect outline on the giraffe.

Since we want to select & work with the giraffe, we then go back to Select on your application bar, but this time click on inverse. Now the giraffe is selected.

Since we need to work on his mane, we will first go to the eyedropper tool and sample part of his mane. Make sure the correct color is shown as the fore color. Then using the paint brush on a Mode of “hue”, paint away the blue. Do this same procedure anywhere else the blue might transfer.

When done, click on the move tool and drag the giraffe into the Bolivian background. Press the “shift” key before you let go of the mouse. Then, using the move tool, make sure the giraffe is in perfect position.

Quick Selection Tool

Rowhouses Exercise

Start by clicking and dragging this tool (looks like a lit cigarette) to select the sky. If the selection gets parts of the houses, or not enough, you need to either click on the + (add) tool or -(minus) tool located at the top above your picture. Then click and drag the parts of the selection you want included/left out.

OR before using the quick selection tool, just click to select a small portion of the sky. Then put the quick select tool on the minus setting and take the brush over the edges you don't want it to pick up. When finished, put the selection tool back on plus and click & drag on the sky. When you have a great selection that gets all the sky without the buildings, click the delete button & your new sky will appear.

Refine Edges

Mississippi River Exercise

Use the Quick Selection tool and select the river. Go to Select in the upper application tool bar and choose Inverse. Then click on refine edges. Pick how you want to see your mask and then go about moving the slides to either get 1) harder lines and more distinct edges OR 2) a softer selection with feathered edges.

Quick Mask

Pots Exercise

First use the Quick Selection Tool to outline the left pot, and don't worry about getting a perfect select around it.

While it's selected, go to your vertical tool bar and click on the last tool - the quick mask. This should turn everything red in the photo except what's selected.

Make sure your foreground and background colors are black and white respectively. Then choose your paint brush and paint the selection to perfection! If you have more than the pot selected, paint that area in black. If you have "red" showing on the pot, paint that area with the white as your foreground color. Click again on the quick mask tool and bingo! Perfect selection!

**To check your selection, open a new document in Photoshop. Make the settings or document size 3 inches x 3 inches. Click okay. Then click on your page arrangement icon and select the two vertical photos view. Then, click back on the pots picture, select the move tool, move pot to new document and hit shift key & drop it on your new page. This will show you how clear your selection was.

Background Eraser and Lasso Tool

Watertower Exercise

We want to replace the sky in this photo, so we need to select and remove everything else very carefully. Click on the background eraser. Then, at the top above the picture, look for a few things. First, where it says limits, click and choose discontinuous. Then go over and check the "protect foreground color" box. Next, get your dropper and take a sampling of the green we don't want to lose. Next use the BACKGROUND eraser and start erasing just around the tower, adjusting brush size as necessary. When finished, click on your lasso tool and select the rest of the sky. When selection is complete, merely hit the delete button and your new sky will be in place!