LEDET

**Adobe Photoshop:
Masking &
Compositing
Fundamentals**

PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS TRAINING COURSE SYNOPSIS

Photoshop Masking and Compositing: Fundamentals shows how to make selections, refine the selections with masks, and then combine them in new ways, using layer effects, blend modes, and other techniques to create a single seamless piece of artwork. You will be introduced to the Channels panel and the alpha channel, the key to masking and transparency in Photoshop; reviews the selection tools, including the Color Range tool , Quick Mask mode, and the Refine Edge command; and shows how to blend masked images so they interact naturally. Exercise files accompany the course.

PREREQUISITES FOR PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS

We highly recommend attending our first Photoshop class before coming to the course. You'll get the most out of this class if you know some of the basics such as using layers, masking, and adjustments. For more experienced Photoshop users, previous attendance is not required. We also recommend that you have the Adobe Photoshop software before starting the class. You can purchase the software or obtain a trial version of it from the Adobe website.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS

Setting up a workspace	Working with the seven key selection tools
Using the Color Range command	Automating masking
Matching a scene with Smart Filters	Choosing the ideal base channel
Converting a channel to a mask	
Painting with the Overlay and Soft Light modes	
Using History to regain a lost mask	Working with the Calculations command
Extracting a mask from a Smart Object	Masking and compositing light
Masking with black and white	Working with path outlines
Combining pixel and vector masks	Creating and feathering a vector mask

PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS LENGTH AND TIME

This class is 2 days long. Class time is 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Breaks are scheduled throughout the day and lunch is typically scheduled 12-1. Students provide their own lunch.

ENROLLMENT PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS

Please see our Enrollment Page (http://www.ledet.com/enroll) for our enrollment form.

PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS COURSE LOCATIONS

We have training centers in Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, San Diego and Washington DC. We also offer classes at a network of rental facilities. We offer private onsite training and instructor-led, live online training. If coming to a rental facility, please double-check the location of your class with our office to make sure you get to the right location.

GOALS FOR PHOTOSHOP MASKING & COMPOSITING: FUNDAMENTALS

Sterling Ledet and Associates realizes the importance of education and we take pride in being able to offer you classes that are more custom fit to your needs. Call us at (877) 819-2665 if you have any special questions or e-mail us at sales@ledet.com.

DISCLAIMER

Our goal is to make sure your class meets your objectives, not ours. Therefore, all of our outlines are treated as guides to help steer the workshop. This outline does not guarantee that all the topics listed will be covered in the time allowed. The amount of material covered is based on the skill level of the student audience. We may change or alter course topics to best suit the classroom situation.

Adobe Photoshop: Masking & Compositing Fundamentals

LESSON 1 - IT ALL STARTS WITH THE CHANNEL

The channel is the origin of masking
The Masks and Channels panels
How color channels work
Viewing channels in color
How RGB works
Single-channel grayscale
Mixing a custom "fourth" channel
The other three-channel mode: Lab
A practical application of Lab
The final color mode: CMYK
Introducing the Multichannel mode
Creating a unique multichannel effect

LESSON 2 - THE MAGIC OF MASKING

The alpha channel is home to the mask
The origins of the alpha channel
How a mask works
Making an alpha channel
Using the new channel icons
Saving an image with alpha channels
Loading a selection from a channel
Putting a mask into play
Loading a selection from a layer
Loading a selection from another image

LESSON 3 - THE SCIENCE OF COMPOSITING

The mask meets the composition
Viewing a mask as a rubylith overlay
Changing a mask's overlay color
Painting inside a mask
Cleaning up and confirming
Combining masks
Painting behind and inside a layer
Blending image elements
What to do when layers go wrong
Hiding layer effects with a mask
Introducing clipping masks
Unclipping and masking a shadow

LESSON 4 - THE ESSENTIALS OF SELECTING

The seven selection soldiers
The marquee tools
The single-pixel tools (plus tool tricks)
Turning a destructive edit into a layer
Making shapes of specific sizes
The lasso tools
Working with the Magnetic Lasso tool
The Quick Selection tool

Combining Quick Selection and Smudge
The Magic Wand and the Tolerance value
Contiguous and Anti-aliased selections
Making a good selection with the Magic Wand
Selecting and replacing a background
Resolving edges with layer effects
Adding lines of brilliant gold type

LESSON 5 - THE VERSATILITY OF COMBINING AND TRANSFORMING

Selections reign supreme
Introducing "selection calculations"
Combining two different tools
Selections and transparency masks
Selecting an eye
Masking and blending a texture into skin
Painting a texture into an eye
Combining layers, masks, channels, and paths
Moving selection outlines vs. selected pixels
The Magic Wand and the Tolerance value
Transforming and warping a selection outline
Pasting an image inside a selection
Adding volumetric shadows and highlights
Resolving edges with layer effects
Adding lines of brilliant gold type

LESSON 6 - THE UNMATCHED POWER OF COLOR RANGE

The best selection tools are commands
Introducing the Color Range command
Working in the Color Range dialog box
Primary colors and luminance ranges
A terrific use for Color Range
Introducing the Quick Mask mode
Moving a selection into a new background
Combining layers, masks, channels, and paths
Moving selection outlines vs. selected pixels
Smoothing the mask, recreating the corners
Integrating foreground and background
Creating a cast shadow from a layer
Releasing and masking layer effects
Creating a synthetic rainbow effect
Masking and compositing your rainbow

LESSON 7 - THE UNEARTHLY JOY OF REFINEMENT

The ultimate in masking automation
Introducing the Refine Mask command

Automated edge detection
Turning garbage into gold
Starting with an accurate selection
Selection outline in, layer mask out
Matching a scene with Smart Filters
Cooling a face, reflecting inside eyes
Creating a layer of ghoulish skin
Adding dark circles around the eyes
Creating a fake blood effect
Establishing trails of blood
Integrating the blood into the scene

LESSON 8 - THE REWARDS OF EVERDAY MASKING

Using the image to select itself
Choosing the ideal base channel
Converting a channel into a mask
Painting with the Overlay mode
Painting with the Soft Light mode
Mask, composite, refine, and blend
Creating a more aggressive mask
Blending differently masked layers
Creating a hair-only mask
Using history to regain a lost mask
Separating flesh tones from hair
Adjusting a model's color temperature
Introducing the Calculations command
Extracting a mask from a Smart Object
Integrating a bird into a new sky
Creating synthetic rays of light
Masking and compositing light
Introducing a brilliant light source

LESSON 9 - THE MECHANICS OF LAYER MASKS

The synthesis of masking and compositing
White reveals, black conceals
Layer masking tips and tricks
Generating a layer mask with Color Range
The Masks panel's bad options
The Masks panel's good options
Creating and feathering a vector mask
Combining pixel and vector masks
Working with path outlines
Combining paths into a single vector mask
Sharpening detail, reducing color noise
Recreating missing details
Masking glass
Refining a jagged Magic Wand mask
Masking multiple layers at one time
Establishing a knockout layer
Clipping and compositing tricks