

FUN WITH PHOTOSHOP - PART TWO

PUTTING PICTURES INTO TYPE. If you ever want to make title slides or Greeting Cards, you might want to know how to manipulate type for an interesting title. Select an image that has an interesting pattern that illustrates your group of pictures (Fig.1). Type in the title in a big, bold typeface (72 point). Command/Control T to enlarge type to fit frame (Fig 2). Hold down Control key and click and hold on the type layer. Scroll down on the dialogue box to Create Work Path. Go to Select>Load Selection. Now your type is still type, but you have a selection that is the outline of your type. Shut off type layer since you don't need it anymore or throw it out. Highlight the background layer, and hit Command/Control J and the type outline selection will move to a new layer above the background layer, then fill Background layer with another color (Fig. 3). Go to Layer Styles and pick out whatever styles strike your fancy (Fig. 5). On your layer dialogue box are two sliders, one called Opacity (which controls the opacity of your LAYER) and one called fill (which controls the opacity of the FILL in your layer but keeps all the layer effects). Lower the Fill Slider to 0 to get a totally different look to the type (Fig. 4).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

WARPING TYPE -

Once you have set your type, you can warp it, color it, add texture and a variety of other things and it will still be changeable. Open Image you wish to use as background. Set type as you want it. Go to type warp tool. Select a warp and adjust sliders to get the effect you want. Then go to layer styles and select the effects you want on the type. Again as with the previous example, you can eliminate the fill and just have the effects create the type and the background will show through.



OTHER WAYS OF SPLIT TONING - The gradient tool, which is a good quick way to get a black and white image, can also give you an infinite number of color duotones or split tones if you will. Open an image, add a gradient tool adjustment layer to create a BW image. Add a second gradient tool adjustment layer, but change the gradient by clicking on the arrow next to the BW gradient to reveal the other gradients. Select one and see what happens. You can also create your own gradients by double clicking on the gradient and changing the colors (click on arrow below gradient color and change color). You can change the opacity of the color as well by clicking on the arrows ABOVE the gradient and changing the opacity. Since you are working on an adjustment layer, you are not harming your image in any way.



Color



Black and White



Split Toned

SPLIT TONING USING THE DUOTONE METHOD - In order to create a Duotone, you must first convert your image to true black and white. Using whatever method you use convert to BW and then change the image MODE to grayscale. This eliminates all color info from the file. Now, if you will notice, there are two more Mode options available to you which weren't before. One of them is DUOTONE. Change the Mode to duotone. You can load various preset duotones, tritones and quadtones that are part of the Photoshop program or you can create your own. Each color in a duotone (two colors), tritone (three colors) or quadtone (four colors) have separate curves adjustments so you can control where and how much of the color you want in your image. They also come in Pantone colors or in process colors and the duotones also come in gray/black combos.

You can bring some color back in by converting the image mode back to RGB, creating a new layer and painting with the history brush at perhaps 50% wherever you want the color. More color, higher percentage, less color, lower percentage.



TriToned Image



TriToned Image with Color from History