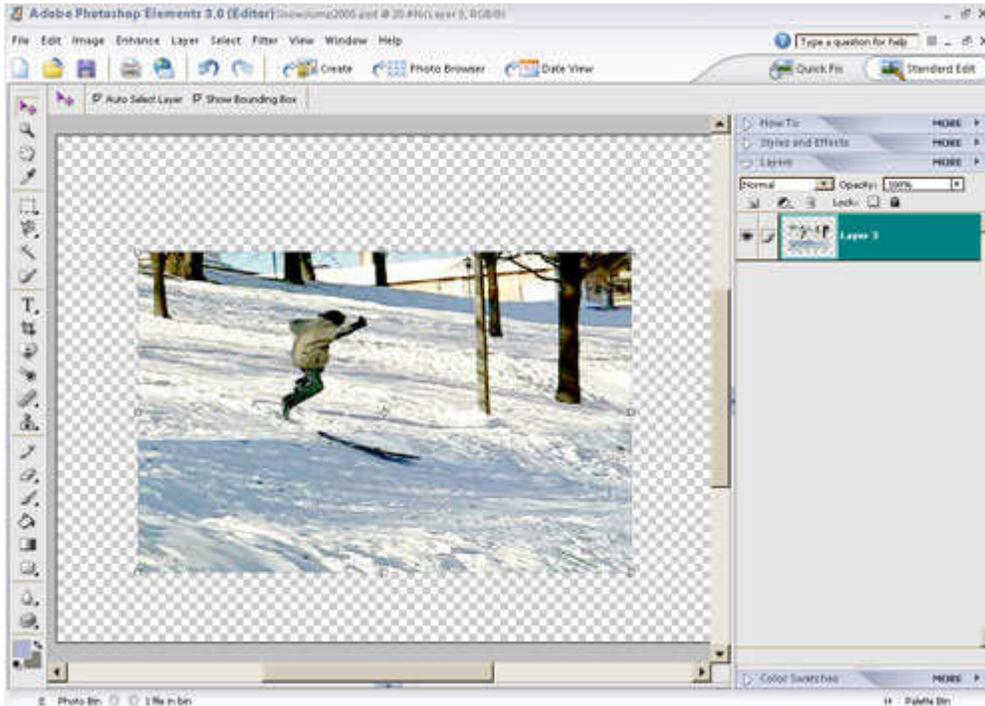


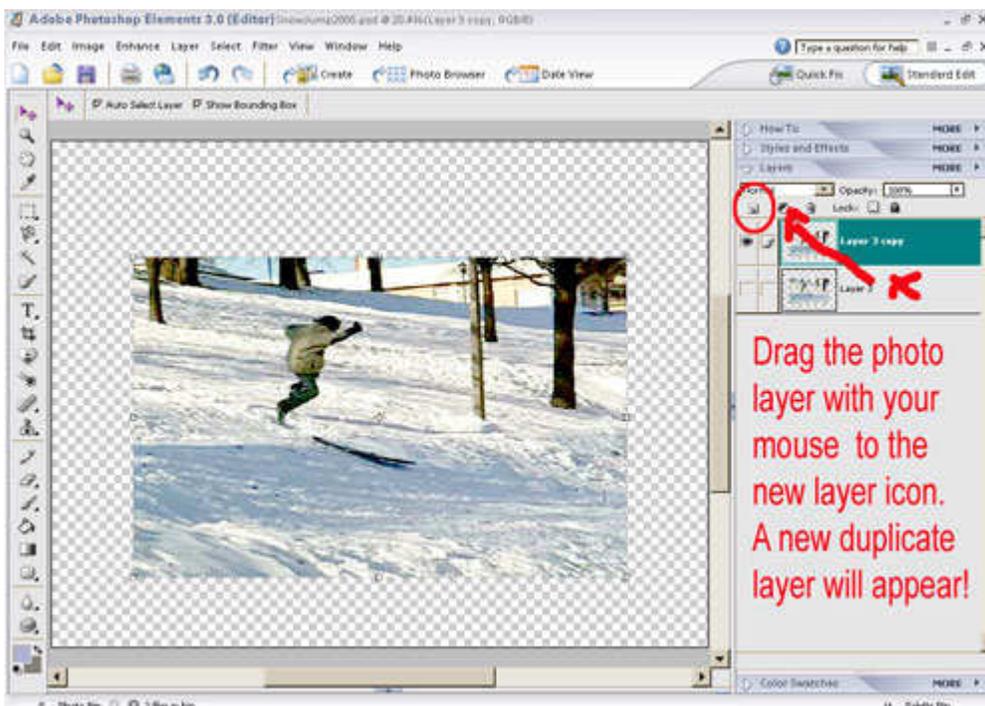
Out of Bounds Tutorial

By Hummie

This is a fun technique to play with for an artistic type of layout, rather than a paper-looking layout. It takes some imagination when viewing photos.

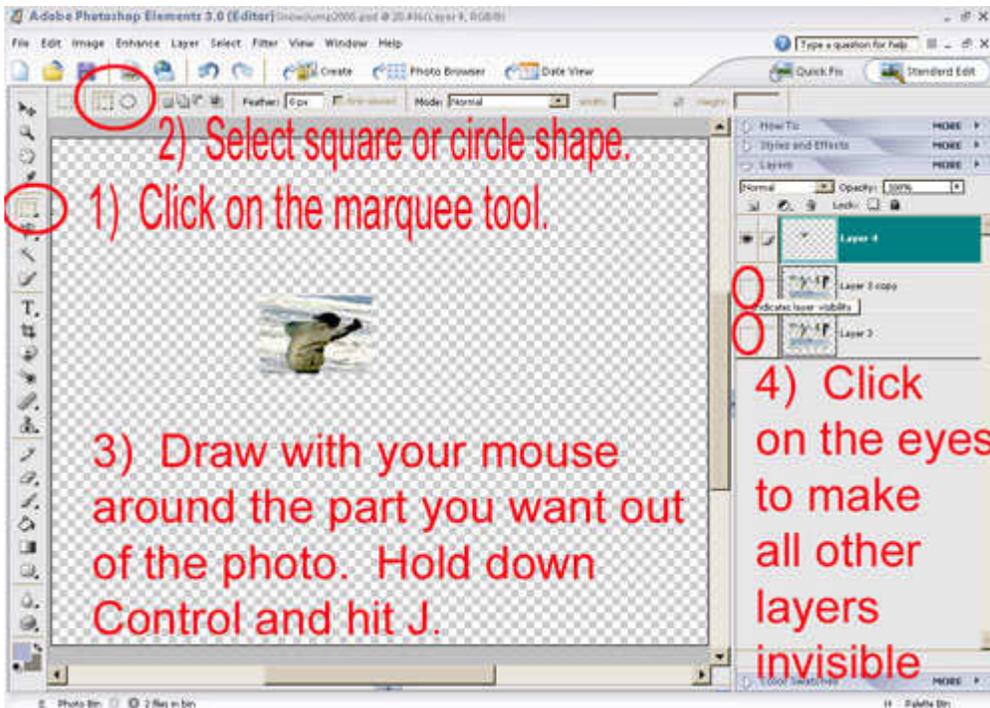


Here is my photo I've chosen and I've put it on a new file for my layout. This is my son being silly chasing and jumping and twisting about a snow board as it went down a hill. He had me laughing so hard.



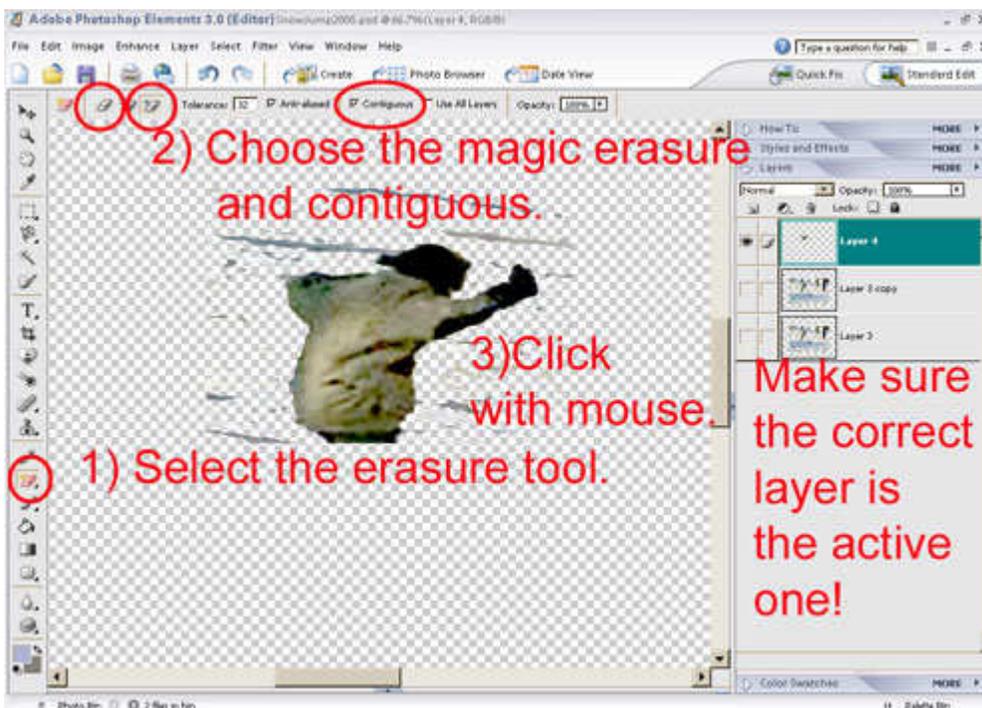
To always have an untouched copy of the photo in the layers palette to go back to in case of a redo, make a duplicate copy of it. There is always more than one way to do things, but the quickest way which I prefer is to use the mouse to click on the layer in

the layers palette and drag to the new layer icon. Click on the eye to make the first layer invisible (since we will not be using it).



Decide what part of your layout will set outside the bounds. I chose the upper body of my son, stopping near the bottom of his coat. Click on the marquee tool and select the square shape. Draw around the chosen subject with the mouse. Do you see

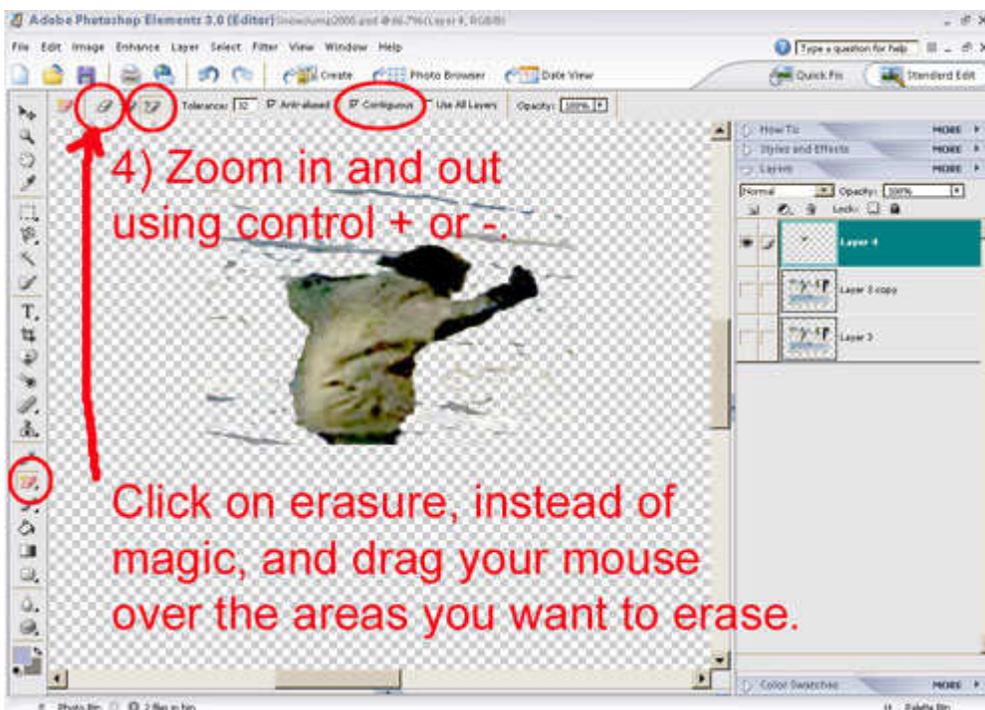
marching ants? Hold down the control key and hit the J key. This will put your selection on a new layer. Click on the eye of the layer with the entire photo to make it invisible. (Having trouble, see a similar tutorial [here](#).)



The next step is to erase all of the background around the body. Make sure the correct layer is your active layer (darker color) or you may accidentally erase from the wrong layer. Click on the erasure tool.

Click on the magic erasure and make sure there is checkmark in the box for "contiguous." I like to think of this word as "connect" as it seems less confusing. If this box is checked, then all of the particular color that you click on will disappear in all areas that are connected or touching one another. If this box is not checked, then it will erase the particular color that you click on throughout the entire layer. This is not a good thing if that color is somewhere inside the object you are preserving (in this case, the body). If your background is too close to the color of the object you are preserving, then you may need to lower the tolerance number so it erases a lower range of colors per click.

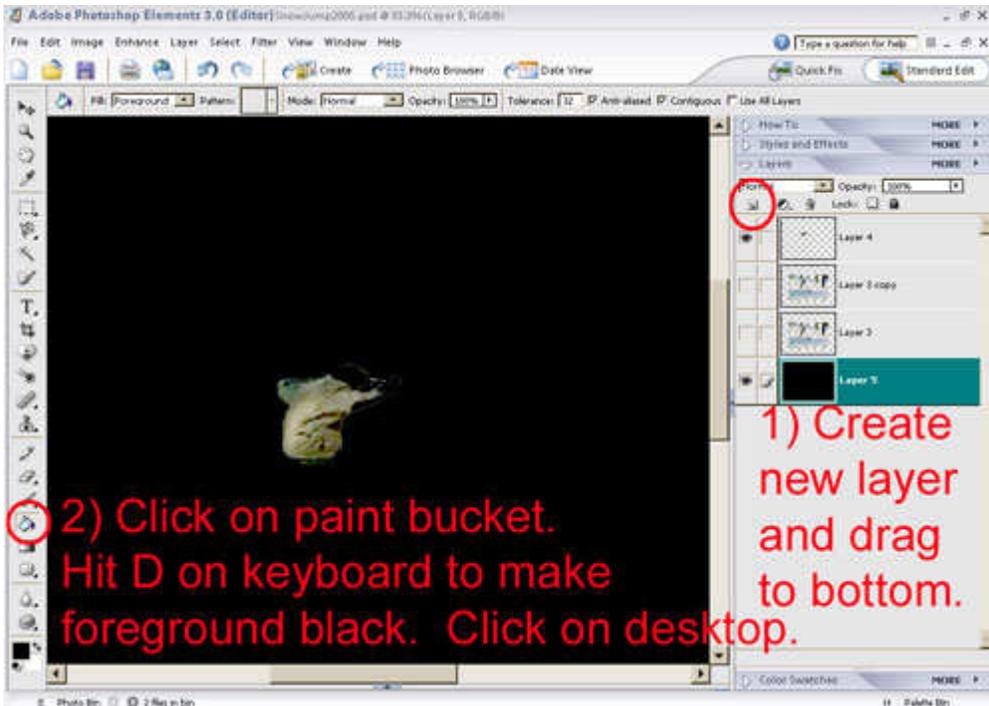
Click on your desktop on the parts you want to erase and watch them disappear like magic! With a few clicks, you can see in my sample below, that most of the background is gone.



Manually erase the rest of the background. Click on the basic eraser tool (to the left of the magic eraser). Drag the mouse around on the areas to erase. Zoom in very far (and use the scroll bars to scroll around the object) to erase close to the object.

To zoom easily, hold down the control key and use the + and - keys on your numeric keypad.

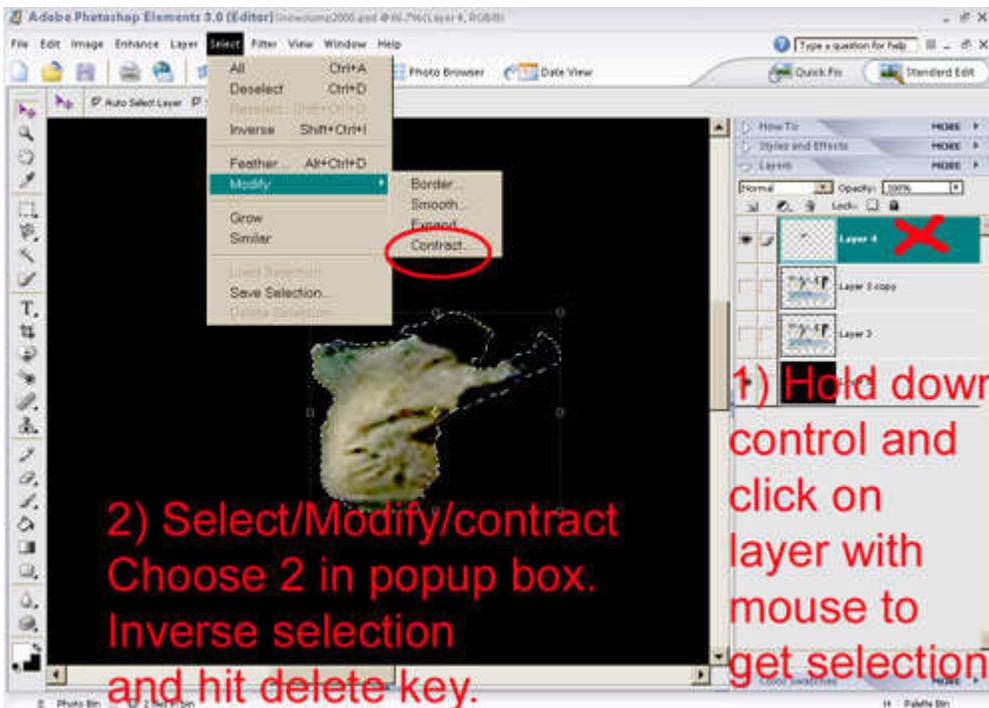
To make the size of your eraser larger and smaller, click on the [and] keys on your keyboard.



To test to see if everything is erased correctly, create a temporary black layer. Click on the new layer icon. Drag the new layer down to the bottom so it is behind everything. Click on the paintbucket tool. Hit the D key on your keyboard to make the foreground color black. With the

new layer active, click out on the desktop to paint the layer black.

I purposefully left some of mine not erased to the right of his head so you could see how this reveals what needs to yet be erased (but my sample is small!).



I manually erased all the white spots I missed. But there appears to be a white edge around his body that I cannot get very well with the eraser tool. To solve the problem, start by making a selection of the object. Hold down the control key and click on the layer in the layers palette.

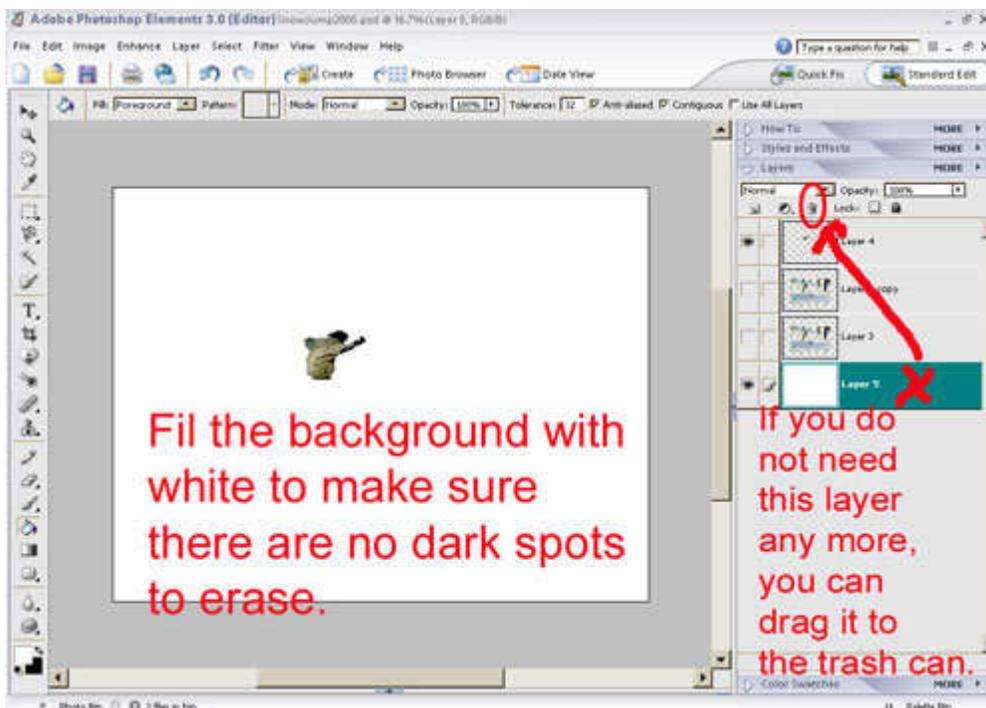
Do you see the marching ants around your object? We need to make those marching ants move in a little further on the object so they are within the area of white needed to be erased. Go to the Select drop down menu, choose modify, and

then contract. In the popup box, chose 2. Play with the number (hitting undo if it is not enough or is too much and trying again).

The marching ants are currently selecting the area covering the entire object (body). It needs it to select the edge outside of the body, so inverse the selection. Do this by going to the Selection drop down menu and looking for Inverse or by right clicking on the selection and clicking on inverse.

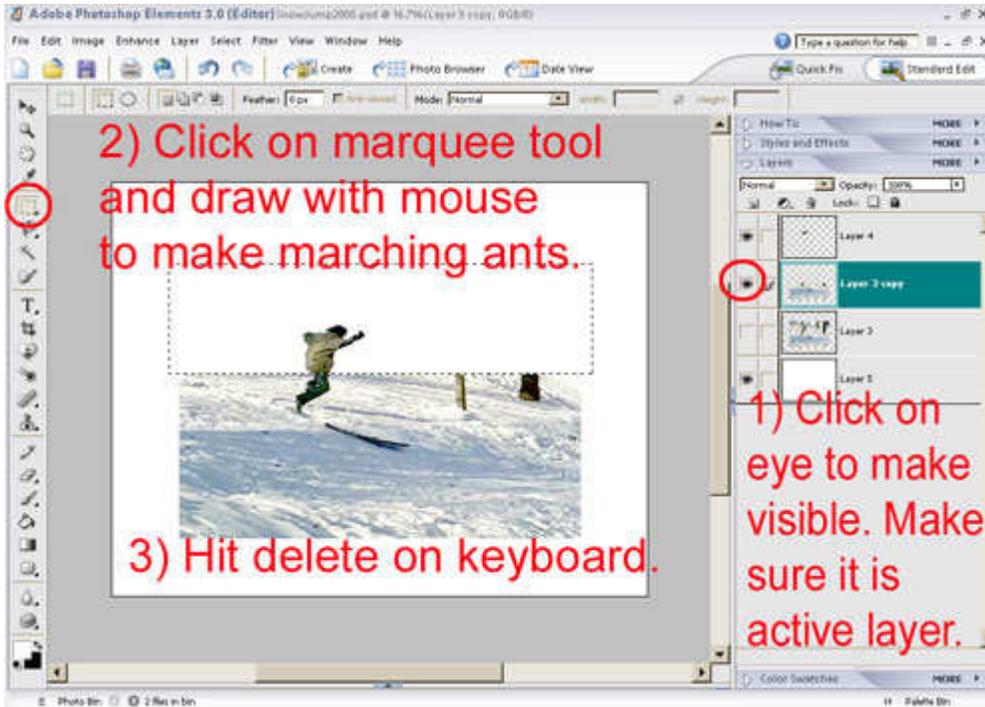
Hit the delete key to erase that white edge.

Tip: Another trick is to apply the Glaussian Blur Filter to the contracted selection to eliminate any jaggies and messies.



Fill the background layer with white to test to see any dark spots that need to be erased. If you hit the D key to make your foreground color black, simply hit the X key to exchange the white for the black and make the foreground color white. When done, delete the temporary. Drag

it to the trash can with the mouse. In my case, I want to use the white background, so I left it.



Draw with the mouse to make the selection. Hit delete on your keyboard. Note: it may be applicable to do this step earlier if needed.

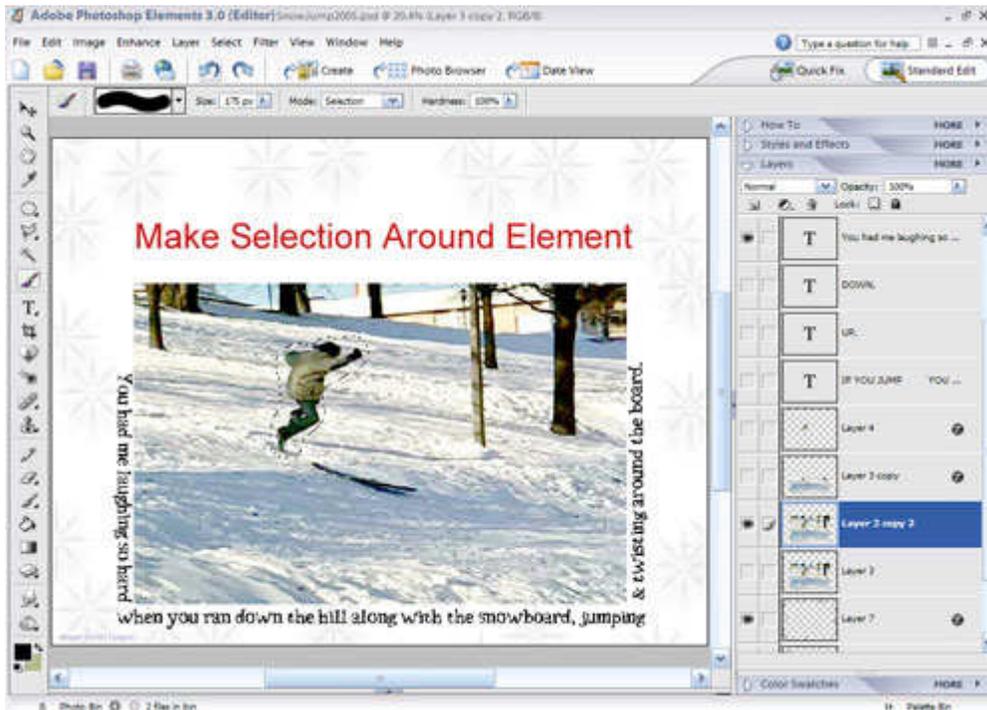
Next, to delete part of the original photo, click on the eye of that layer to make it visible again. Make sure it is the active layer (if not, you may delete part of the wrong layer!). Click on the marquee tool and select the square or circle shape as applicable.



Make sure you add drop shadows! It makes it more realistic. However, be careful of the angle of the drop shadow. Depending on what side the object is coming out of bounds, it may not look right.

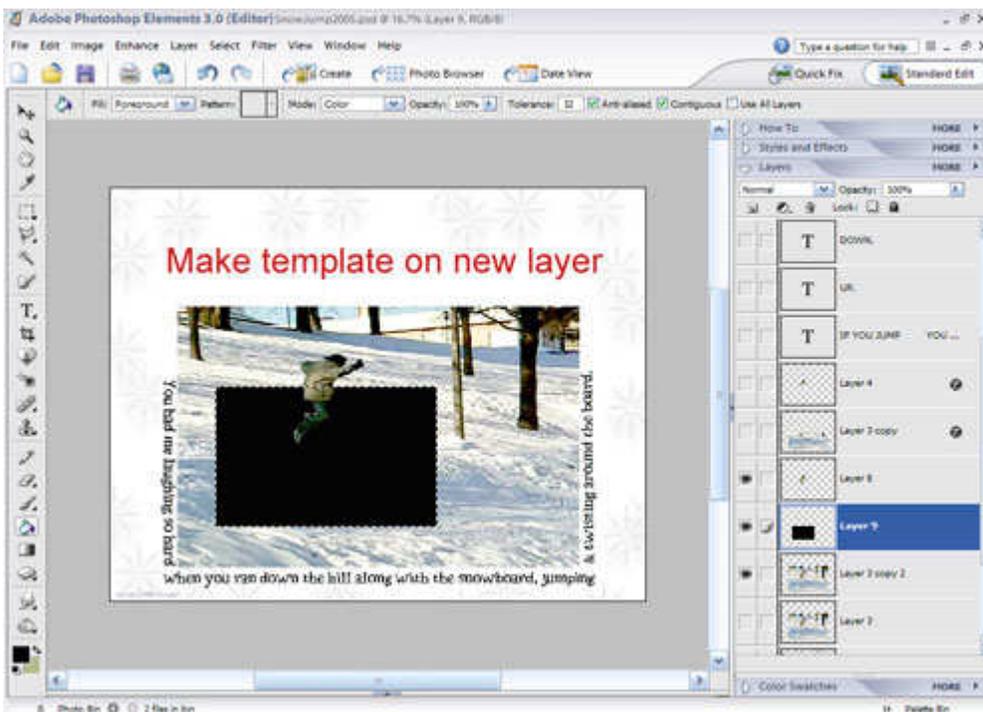
Here my finished layout.

This technique has possibilities only limited by your imagination. I will share some variations.

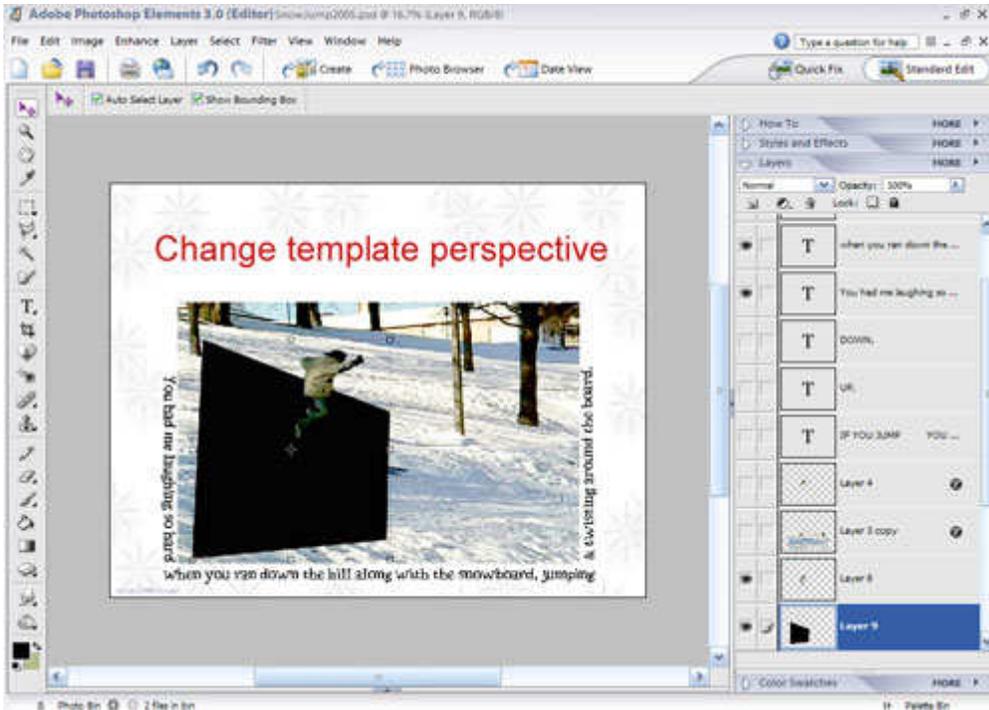


Use the brush selection tool to obtain marching ants around the object. With the photo layer as the active layer, hit the Control key and the J key to put the selection on a new layer. As indicated

above, use the erasure tools to remove the unwanted areas around the object, checking with a black and a white background to insure that all messies are erased.

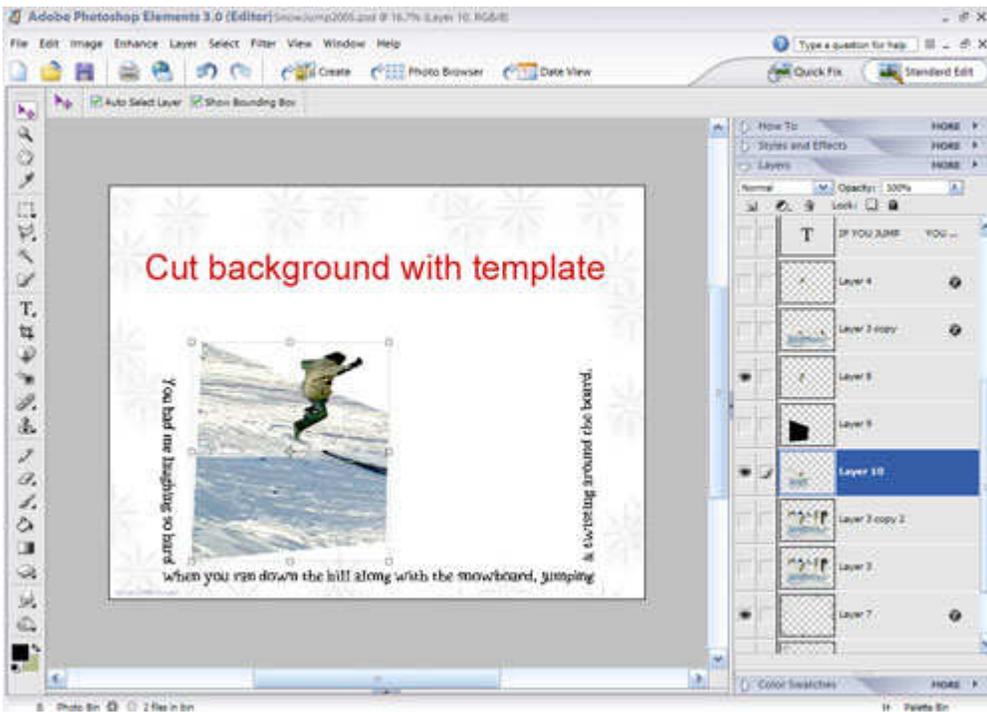


Create a new layer between the photo layer and the layer of the cut out object. Create a template by using the square selection tool, draw with the mouse to create a box or rectangle. Fill the selection with any color.



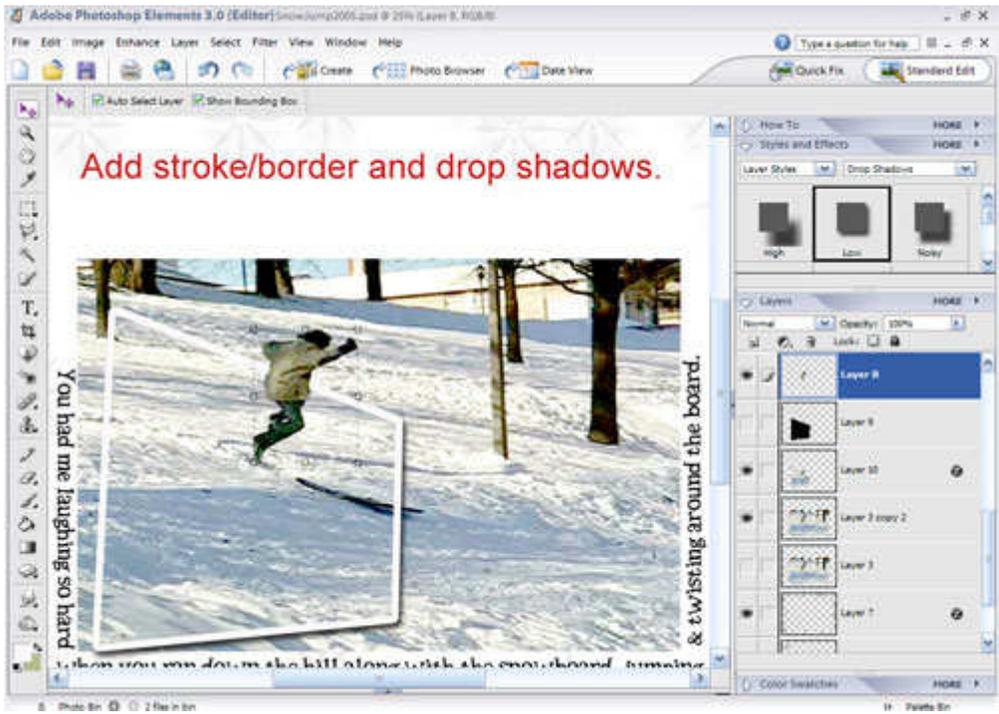
To change the perspective on the template, hold down the shift, control, and alt keys while grabbing the corners of the template with the mouse and dragging. What perspective you will drag to will take some practice to learn. Basically, the edge that is largest will appear closer to you and the edge

that is smaller will appear further away. In my instance, I took into consideration the angle of the hill so that it would appear that he was jumping down hill. If my goal was to have him appear to be jumping up, the perspective might be changed so the bottom edge is the largest and the top edge is the smallest. Sometimes just playing until it looks right is the best thing to do; and we all love to play!

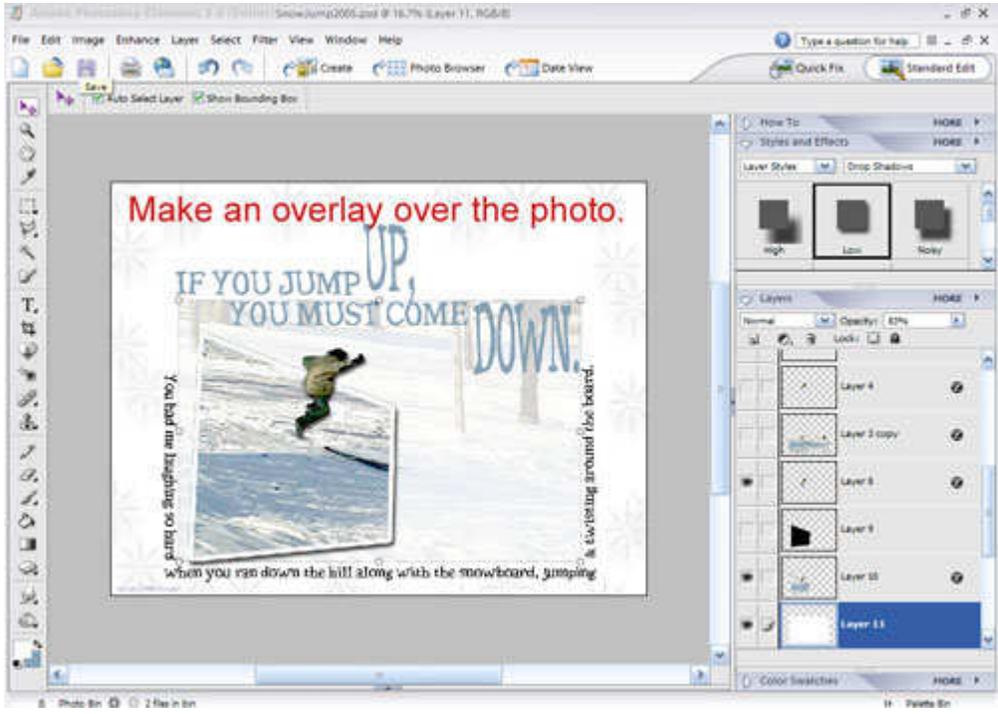


Use the template to cut the background paper. Hold down the Control key while clicking on the template in the layers palette. Do you see marching ants around the template? With the photo layer as the active layer, hit the Control key and the J key to put the selection on a new layer. Click the eye to make the template

layer invisible or throw it in the trash.



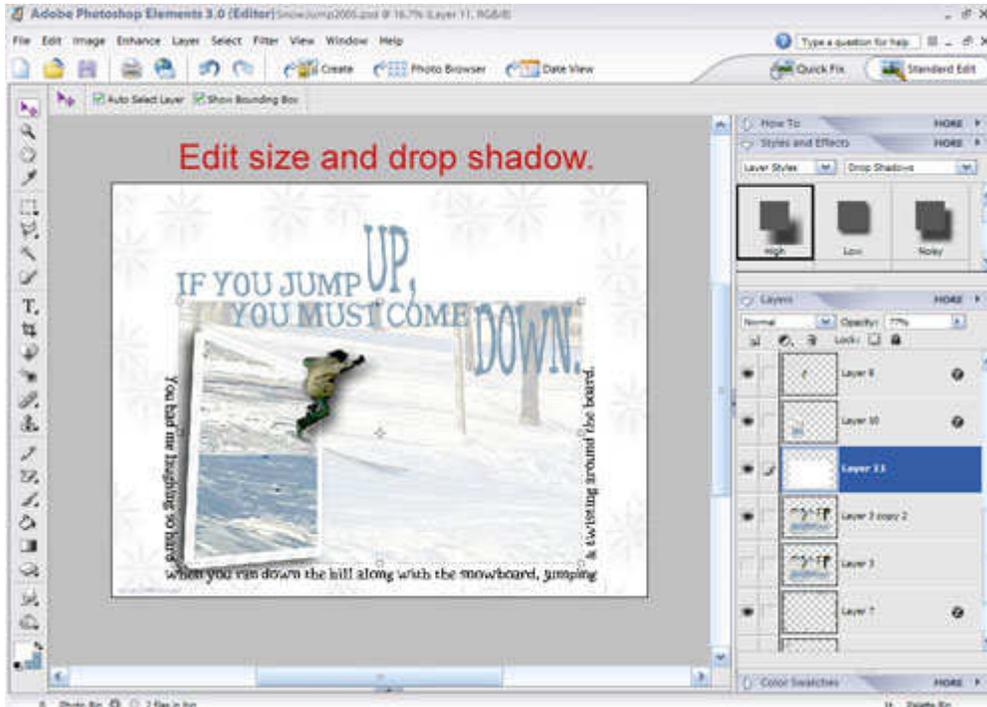
Add a stroke/border to the new layer made with the template. Most often a white border is created, but be creative and use another color. Add a drop shadow to both the new layer and the layer of the object that is out of bounds.



Make an overlay over the background layer. Create a new layer between the layer with the border and the background. Fill the entire layer with black, white, or another color (I used white, but did test a blue from the photo) or create an element the same size as the photo only

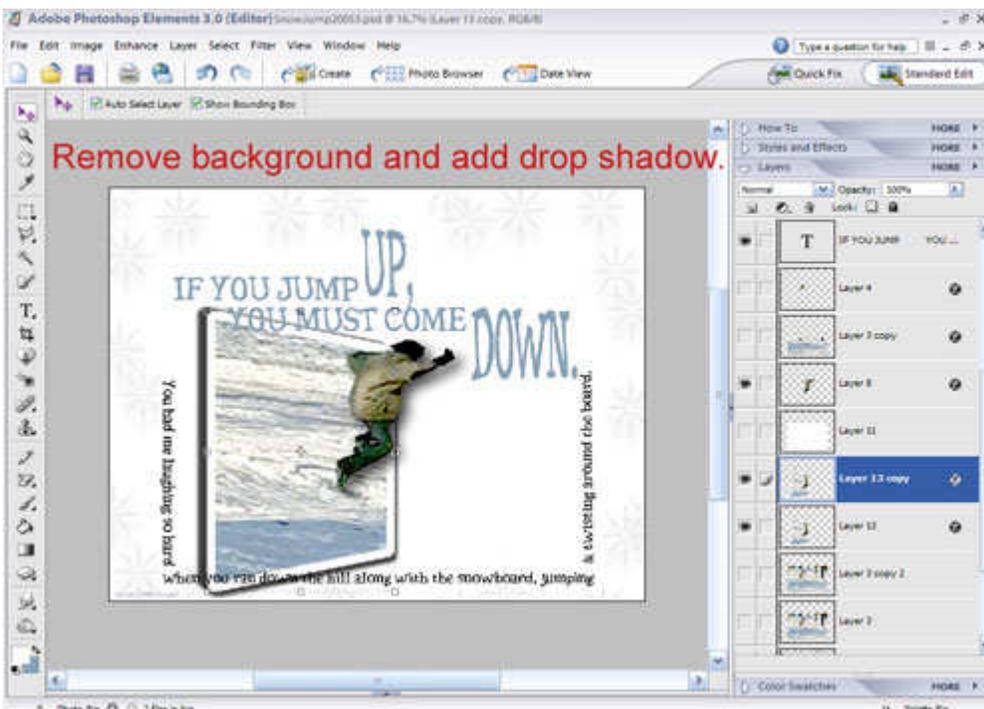
(as I did). Reduce the opacity of the solid colored layer to create an overlay.

Of course, there are other techniques to achieve similar effects. Reduce the opacity of the photo layer to allow the background below it to be revealed. Use the Levels tool to alter the background photo. Make the background photo black and white. Run a blur filter on the background photo. The possibilities are only limited by your imagination.



Continue to evaluate and play with the technique too achieve better results. On my layout, I re-cropped the template cutout layer so that more of his body appeared to be jumping from the photo.

Then I changed the drop shadow on both the body and the template cutout layer to high. Next, I changed the angle of the template cutout layer so that the shadow fell behind (to the left). To change the angle, unchecked the mark in the global box. What a difference these small changes made.



Another variation was achieved by removing the background photo completely and enlarging the template cutout layer and the body layers. I played with the shadow on the body layer. I duplicated the template cutout layer and applied a drop shadow to it

with yet a third angle (uncheck global box) so that a drop shadow appears to the right of the layer, as well as the left. This really gave the layout depth.

The ideas are never-ending. Have fun playing!