

PrintHints

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION
FOR PEOPLE WHO BUY PRINTING
JUNE 2008

THINK PRINT: IMAGE IMPACT

All right, Mr. DeMille, I'm ready for my close up.

Gloria Swanson as Norma Desmond, Sunset Boulevard

Do a double, triple, or even a quadruple-take to produce dramatic, eye catching effects

Combining multiple viewpoints in a single image goes back beyond the birth of cubism. Just as experimental movements in art caught the imagination of their audiences, you can use this kind of image treatment to attract a lot of attention, and perhaps provoke some thought.

See how you can recreate similar effects with Photoshop, inside.

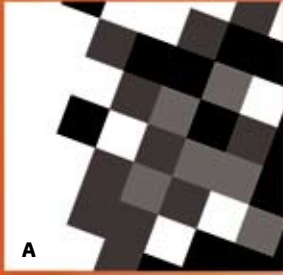
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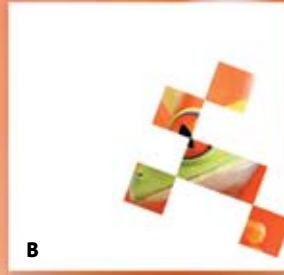
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Begin by duplicating your original image onto separate layers, each at a different size. For the cover composition the main image was duplicated and resized three times.

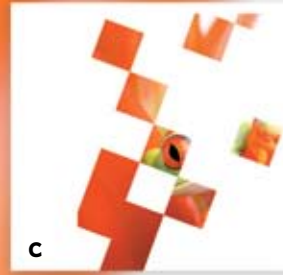
Make the grid visible with Show > Grid, so you can use it as a guide to create a square with the marquee tool, and for alignment as you duplicate each new square on to its own layer. Group all the layers together so you can easily rotate and resize them as a unit.



With the original image visible underneath you can select clusters of squares and move these into separate groups. Move squares from one group to another and toggle visibility to check how they correspond with the underlying images.

A: The different shades of gray show the groupings used to create the cover image.

Duplicate each group of squares and flatten the copy.



Now you can use the magic wand tool to quickly select all the squares in each flattened group.

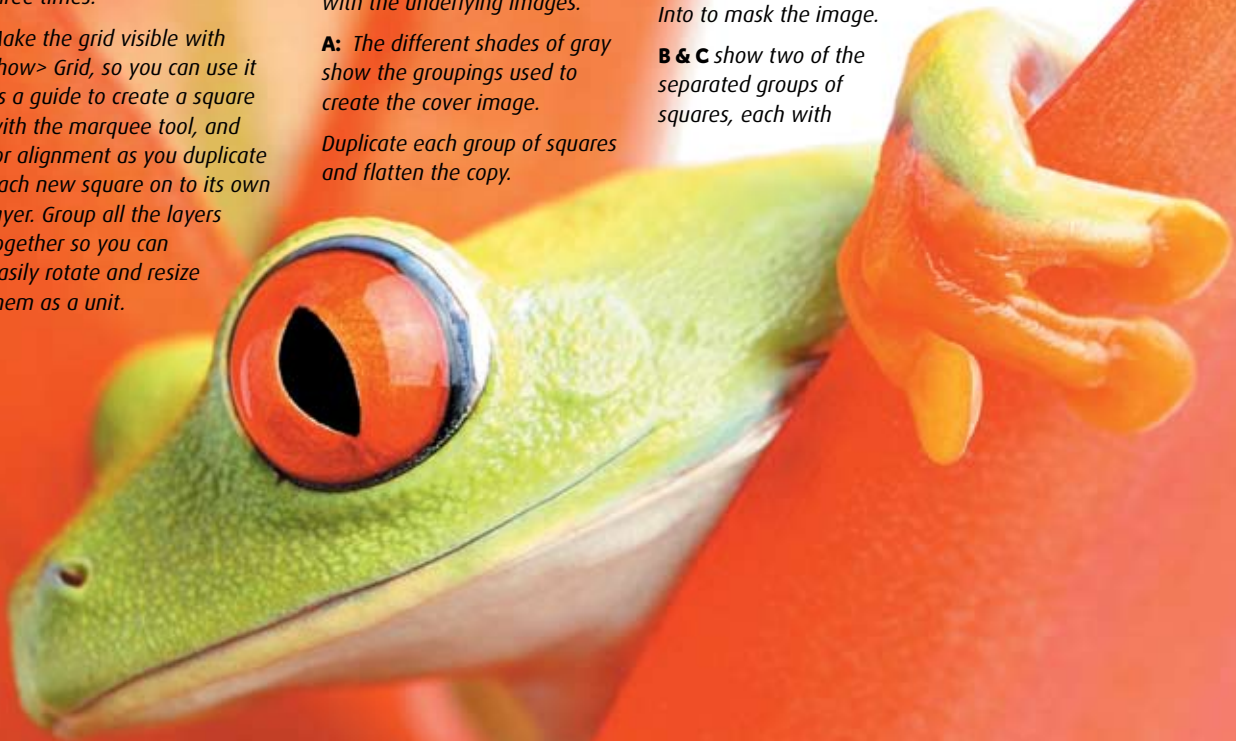
Copy each resized image layer, select one of the groups of squares, and use Edit > Paste Into to mask the image.

B & C show two of the separated groups of squares, each with



one of the resized images pasted into it.

D shows all three grouped, masked layers together. Making the bottom layer visible completes the image shown on the front page.



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