

Adobe Photoshop Design Professional

WORKING WITH LAYERS



Chapter Lessons

- Examine and convert layers
- Add and delete layers
- Add a selection from one image to another
- Organize layers with layer sets and colors

Defining Layers

- Each object created in Photoshop exists on its own individual **layer**
- You can easily control the position and quality of each layer in the stack
- You can have a maximum of 8000 layers in a Photoshop image

Why Are Layers Important?

- You place images, effects, styles, and type on separate layers
- You can modify each layer individually without affecting other layers

Advantage & Disadvantage

- Advantage of layers:
 - Provides ability to isolate effects and images on one layer without affecting other layers
- Disadvantage of layers:
 - An image containing multiple layers can get very large

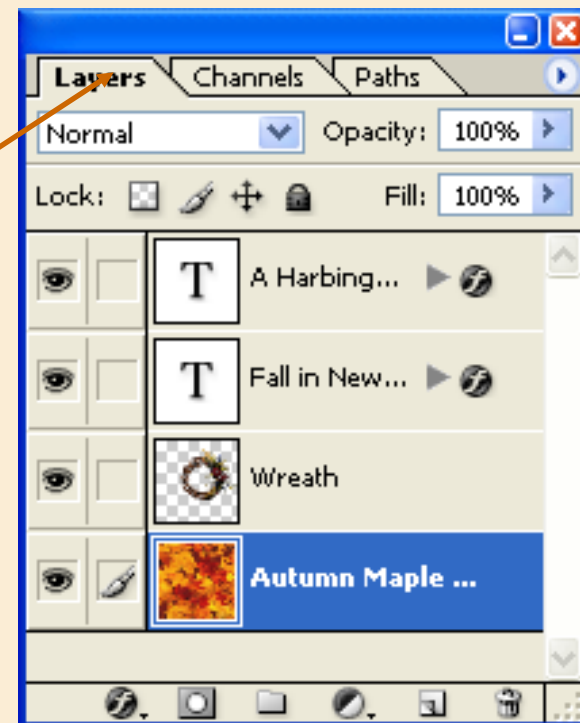
What To Do With Layers

- Add, delete, and move layers
- Drag a portion of an image (a **selection**) to another Photoshop image
- Hide and display layers
- Change the opacity of a layer
- Change the order of layers

Examining Layers

- Use the Layers palette to manipulate layers

Layers tab
selected



Layers Palette Components

- Name of each layer
- Layer thumbnails
 - A miniature picture of each layer's content
- Layer colors, if applied
- Buttons for creating and deleting layers

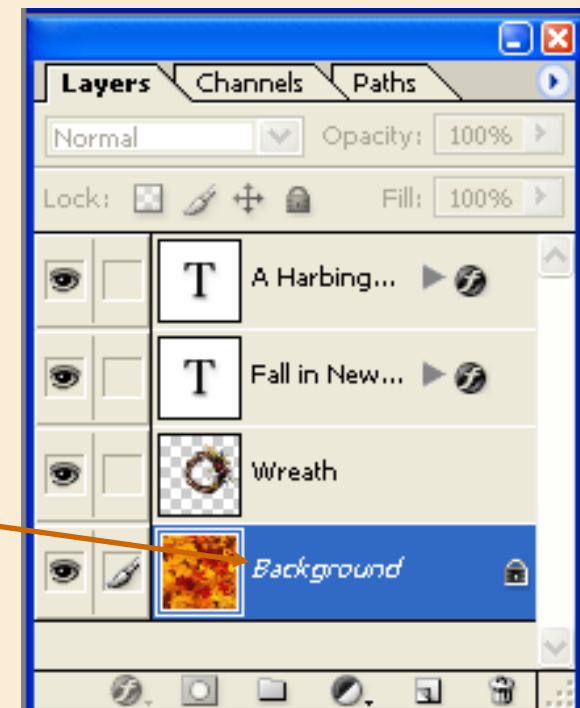
Types of Layers

- Three types of layers
 - Background layer
 - Type Layer
 - Image Layer

Background Layer

- Always at the bottom of the stack
- Identified by italics
- A Photoshop image need not include a background layer

**Background
layer**



Type Layer

- Contains text
- Identified by the type layer icon

Text layer

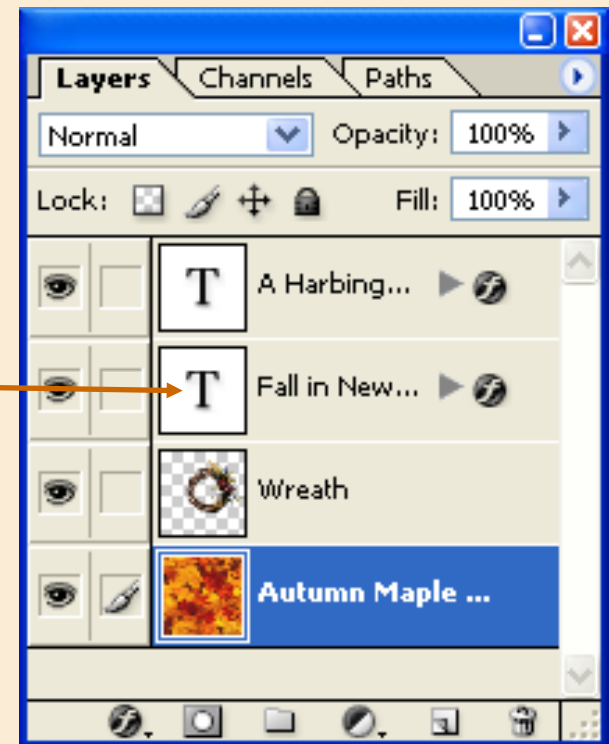
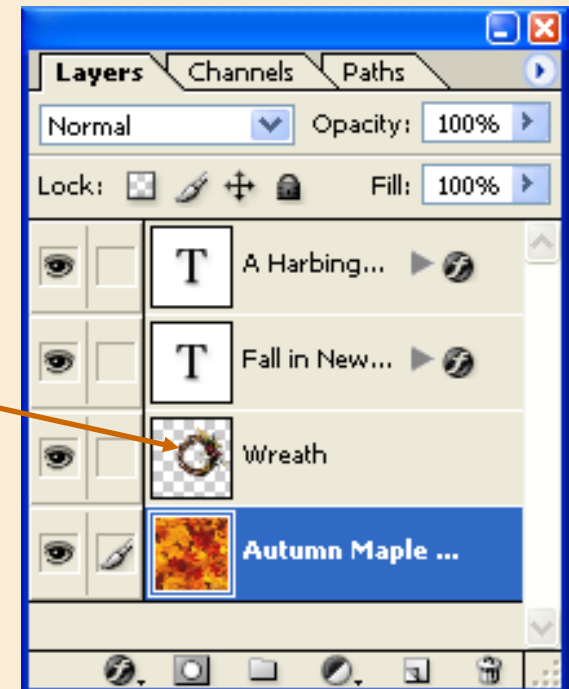


Image Layer

- Contains non-text items
- Identified by a thumbnail of its contents

Image layer



Organizing Layers

- Rearrange the order of layers to create different design effects

Layer Organization: Example



**Gourd *behind*
Wreath**



**Gourd *in front of*
Wreath**

Converting Layers

- Convert a Background layer into an Image layer to edit its content
- Convert an Image layer into a Background layer to make it the bottom layer

Adding Layers

- Add layers in three ways:
 - Use the **New** command on the Layer menu
 - Use the **New Layer** command on the Layers palette menu
 - Click the **Create a new layer button** on the Layers palette

Merging Image Layers

- Merge multiple image layers into a single layer to make specific edits permanent
 - Use Layer menu, or
 - Use Layer palette list arrow

Merging Type Layers

- Before merging a type layer:
 - Rasterize it: convert it to a bitmapped image layer
 - OR
 - Convert it into text that cannot be edited

Naming Layers

- Name layers to easily identify their purpose in the document
- To change a layer name:
 - Access Layer Properties
 - Double-click the layer name in the Layers palette and type a new name

Deleting Layers

- Four methods
 1. Use the **Layers palette list arrow** next to the layer name
 2. Use the **Delete layer button**
 3. **Drag** the layer name to the Delete layer button
 4. Use the [**Alt**] (Win) or [**option**] (Mac) buttons with the Delete layer button

Restoring a Layer

- Delete the **Delete Layer state** on the History palette to restore a layer deleted by accident

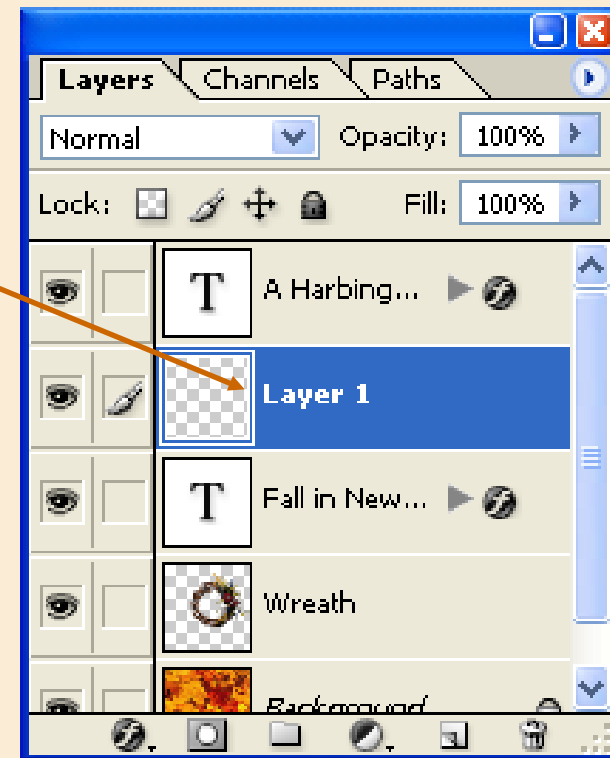


Adding a Layer

- Use the New Layer dialog box to add a new layer to an image
- Photoshop names new layers consecutively starting with Layer 1

New Layer with Default Settings

New Layer



Defining Selections

- An area of an image surrounded by a marquee

**Area selected using
the Rectangular
Marquee Tool**












Selection Tools

- Four Marquee tools available for making selections:
 - Rectangular Marquee
 - Elliptical Marquee
 - Single Row Marquee
 - Single Column Marquee

Table of Selection Tools

TABLE B-1: Selection Tools

tool	tool name	tool	tool name
	Rectangular Marquee Tool		Lasso Tool
	Elliptical Marquee Tool		Polygonal Lasso Tool
	Single Row Marquee Tool		Magnetic Lasso Tool
	Single Column Marquee Tool		Eraser Tool
	Crop Tool		Background Eraser Tool
	Magic Wand Tool		Magic Eraser Tool

Extract Command

- Located on the Filter menu
- Used to separate an image from a background or surrounding imagery

Color Range Command

- Located on the Select menu
- Used to select a particular color contained in an existing image

Cropping an Image

- Use the Crop Tool on the toolbox to remove a portion of an image:
 - Click the Crop Tool
 - Drag the pointer around the area to keep
 - Press **[Enter]** (Win) or **[return]** (Mac)

Defringing Layer Contents

- A fringe contains unwanted pixels around a selected object
- Use the **Defringe** command on the Layers menu to replace fringe pixels with the colors of other nearby pixels

Understanding Layer Sets

- Use Layer Sets to organize layers on the Layers palette
- A Layer Set contains a collection of individual layers
- For example, create a layer set to contain all the Type layers in an image

Renaming a Layer

- Add a descriptive name to a layer
- Double-click the current layer name in the Layers palette, then type the new name

Adding Color to a Layer

- Organize layers by color-coding them
- Use the Layer Properties dialog box to assign a color to a layer

Flattening an Image

- Reduce the file size by flattening the image
- Flattening merges all visible layers into a single Background layer and discards hidden layers
- To flatten an image, click **Layer** on the menu bar, then click **Flatten Image**

Chapter B Tasks

- Recognize layer types
- Convert layers
- Add and delete layers
- Use selection tools to select images
- Make color range selections
- Create and organize layer sets