

Adobe Photoshop

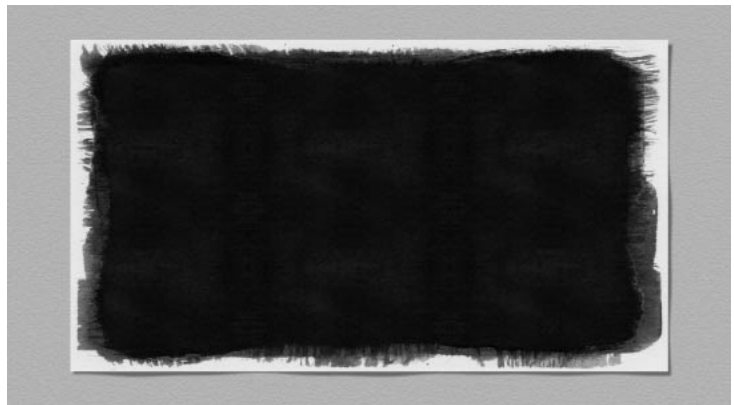
Adding Photographic Edges in Photoshop with Julieanne Kost

Software needed Adobe Photoshop 5.0 or later



There are multiple manufacturers of photographic and painterly edges and frames that you can purchase to apply to your images. However, this technique shows you how to make your own borders and apply them to your images. We'll use a simple black and white painterly edge effect, but this technique can be applied to any variety of edges.

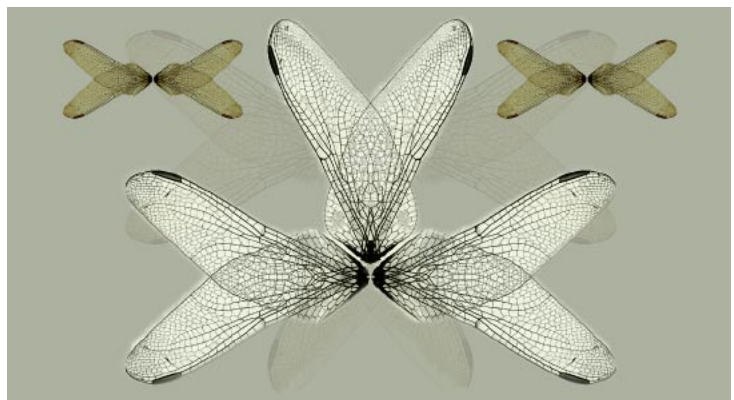
Create the edge. The great thing is that edges can be made from almost anything and are only as limited as your imagination! To create this edge, I used a little bit of black paint with a relatively dry brush on some cold press watercolor paper. *Note: since I knew the proportions for this image needed to be 3.5:2 to fit in this template, I measured the dimensions and marked them with pencil to help aid me to paint in the correct areas. I later erased the pencil marks.*



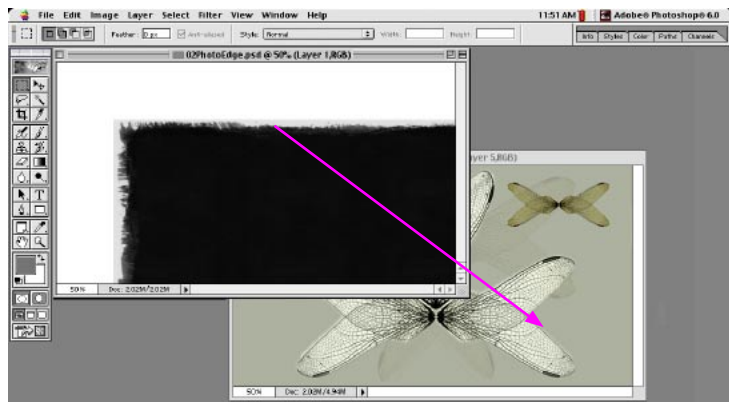
Scan the image. Using a flatbed scanner, scan the edge that you created, and open the file in Photoshop. *Note: It helps to know the final size of the image before you scan so you don't end up having to rescan later because it was too small or wasting time working with a file that is larger than you need.*



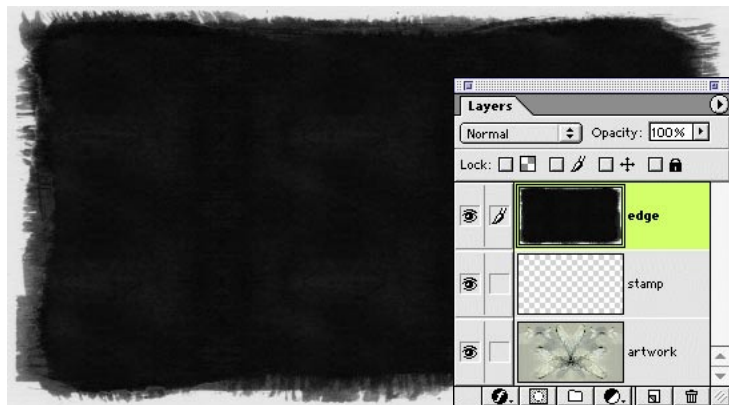
Open the photograph. Open the image that you want to add the scanned edge to.



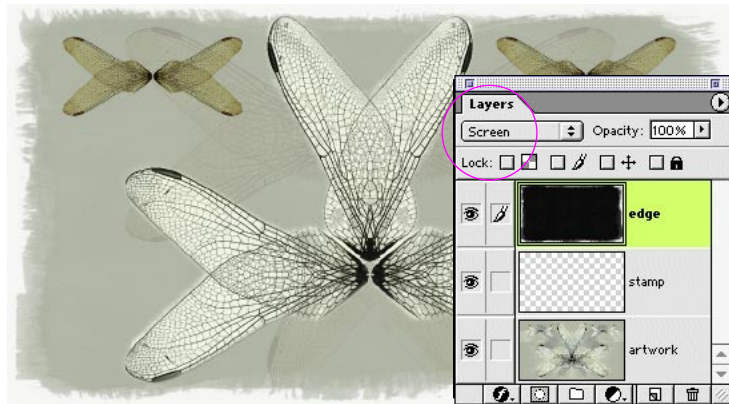
Combine the two files. Make sure that both of the images are visible. From the Tool box, select the Move tool and click on the edge file to make sure that it is the active file. Click and drag the edge image on top of the other image. When the move tool is positioned above the other image, a highlight will appear to provide feedback that you can let go of the mouse to “drop the image”.



Reposition the Edge layer. If the top layer of the other image wasn't selected before dragging and dropping the edge file into the artwork, now is the time to reposition it. In the Layers palette, select the Edge layer and drag it to the top of the layer stack.



Eliminating the black center. If the center of the Edge image is black like in this example, set the Edge layer's Blend Mode to Screen. This causes the black area to be hidden, (revealing the image) and the white areas to remain white (hiding the image) creating the edge effect.



Reverse the effect. If you prefer the image to appear in the center, and the edges to be black, in the Layers palette, target the Edge layer and select Image > Adjust > Invert. This invert the edge making the white areas black and the black areas white. In the Layers palette, set the edge layer's Blend Mode to Multiply.

