

Adobe Photoshop

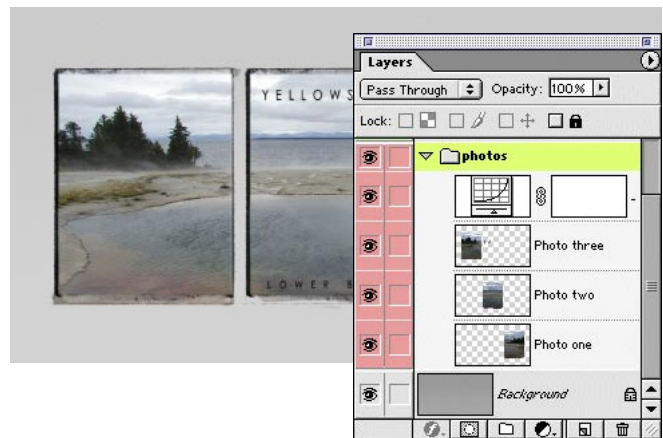
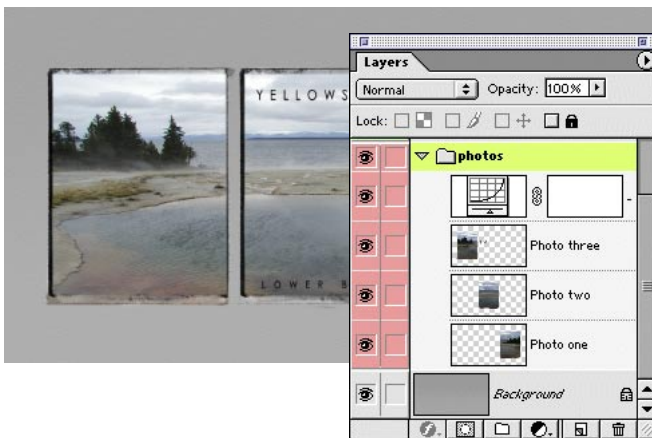
Pass Through Mode in Photoshop with Julieanne Kost

Software needed Adobe Photoshop 6.0 or later



There's a new Blend mode in town called Pass Through and you're going to want it! Available when using Photoshop 6.0's new Layer Sets, it offers the ability to control how layers interact with each other. This tip and technique demonstrates when you would want to set the Blend mode to Pass Through and when you would want to set it to Normal.

The image below contains four Layer Sets which do more than simply help organize layers. Notice that the three photos in the Photo set all require the same curves adjustment. Yet I don't want that adjustment to affect the background which is below the photo layers. In Photoshop 6, placing all of the photos and the adjustment layer in one set and setting the Layer Set Blend mode to Normal the set confines the adjustment layer to the layers contained in the set. Compare it to the image on the right where the Layer Set Blend mode is set to Pass Through. There, the Curves adjustment layer passes through the bottom of the layer set and affects the background. *Note: in Photoshop 5.x, the only way to isolate an adjustment layer to another layer was to duplicate the adjustment for each photo layer.*



Now let's look at the *Edges Set to Multiply* Layer Set that was created to realistically apply the edges to the photos. In order to have the edges semi-transparent (to show the photo through them), set the Layer Set's Blend modes to Multiply. This is different from setting the individual layers to multiply in that the mode is applied to the layers below the set but not within it.

