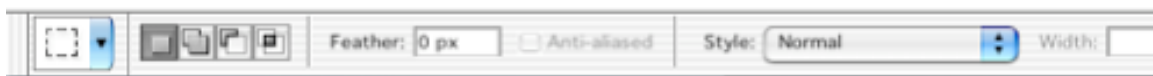


Adobe Photoshop 7.0 Working with Selections

Elliptical and Rectangular Marquee Tools

- Use the Marquee tools to select elliptical and rectangular shapes.
- While dragging, hold down the space bar to move the selection without moving the pixels.
- Hold down the shift key as you drag to make the selection a perfect square or circle.
- Choose Fixed Aspect Ratio or Fixed Size from the Options Toolbar to constrain selection proportions.



- For a softer selection, choose feather, and enter a pixel number. You can delete or move the selection to see the results.
- Hold down the control key and click the tool's icon in the options palette to reset tool options.
- Use the Options Toolbar icons: New Selection, Add to Selection, Subtract from Selection, and Intersect Selection to change the way your tool works. These icons work for any selection tool.
- Go to the Select Menu and choose Deselect to deselect any selection. Alternatively, press Apple-D.

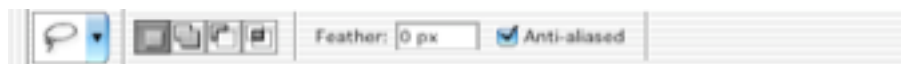
Magic Wand

- The Magic Wand selects similarly colored pixels. Set the tolerance higher to increase the specified color variation, lower it to decrease the color variation. This will increase or decrease the amount of pixels selected.



- Use the contiguous check box to select adjacent pixels only, deselect it to select non-contiguous pixels.
- Anti-aliasing is the process of blending graphics with the rest of the page by softening edges through gradual color changes. This keeps the edges of the graphic from appearing jagged.

Lasso and Polygon Lasso



- Use the Lasso tool to make freehand selections.

Polygon Lasso

- Click to create polygon corners and straight edges between them. To complete a selection, either double click or move the lasso back to the first point. A small circle will appear next to the cursor indicating that you can click to finish the selection.



- Option-drag the mouse to create a curved section of a selection. Release the option key to continue making straight-edged selections.

Magnetic Lasso



- The Magnetic Lasso allows the computer to determine the border of the selection. This tool works well with high contrast areas, but it can be adjusted. Click and move the mouse over the perimeter of an object. Fastening points are applied at the edge of the graphic by the computer. If necessary click to create extra fastening points to keep the lasso on track.
- The Width refers to the area that the lasso considers when determining the edge of the object. Make it smaller when using low contrast selections.
- The Edge contrast refers to the amount of color differential applied when determining the object's selection.
- The Frequency determines how many fastening points the computer will make as it is moved along the object's perimeter.



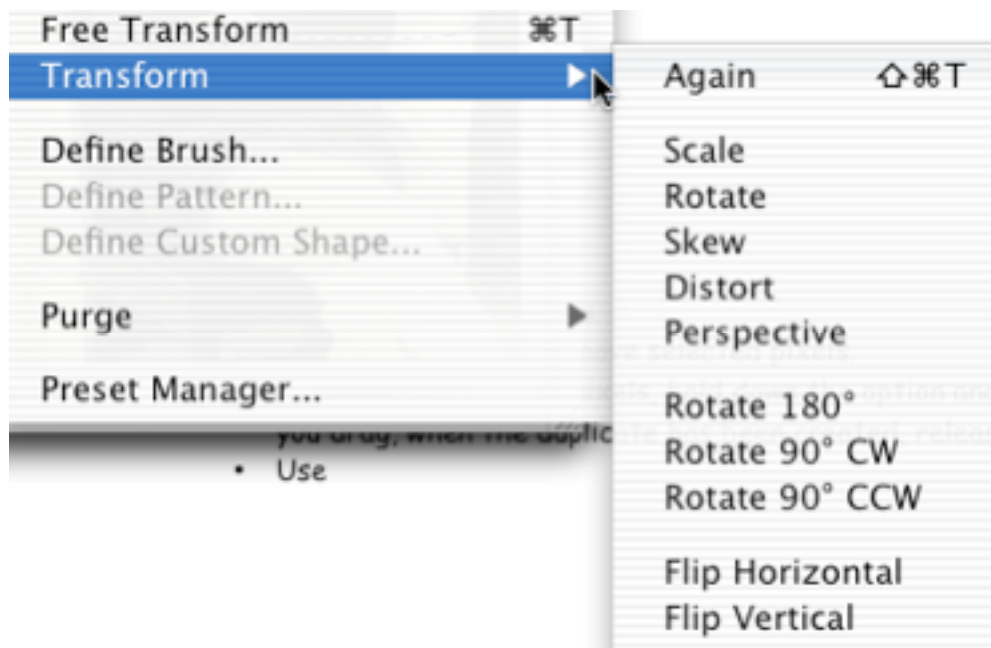
Selection Menu

Use the selection tool to:

- select the inverse of a selection
- select by color range
- feather a selection
- modify a selection
- transform a selection (size as you would a graphic)
- save a selection for later use
- load a previously saved selection

Transforming Selected Pixels

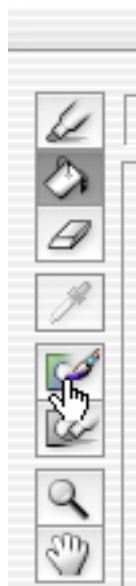
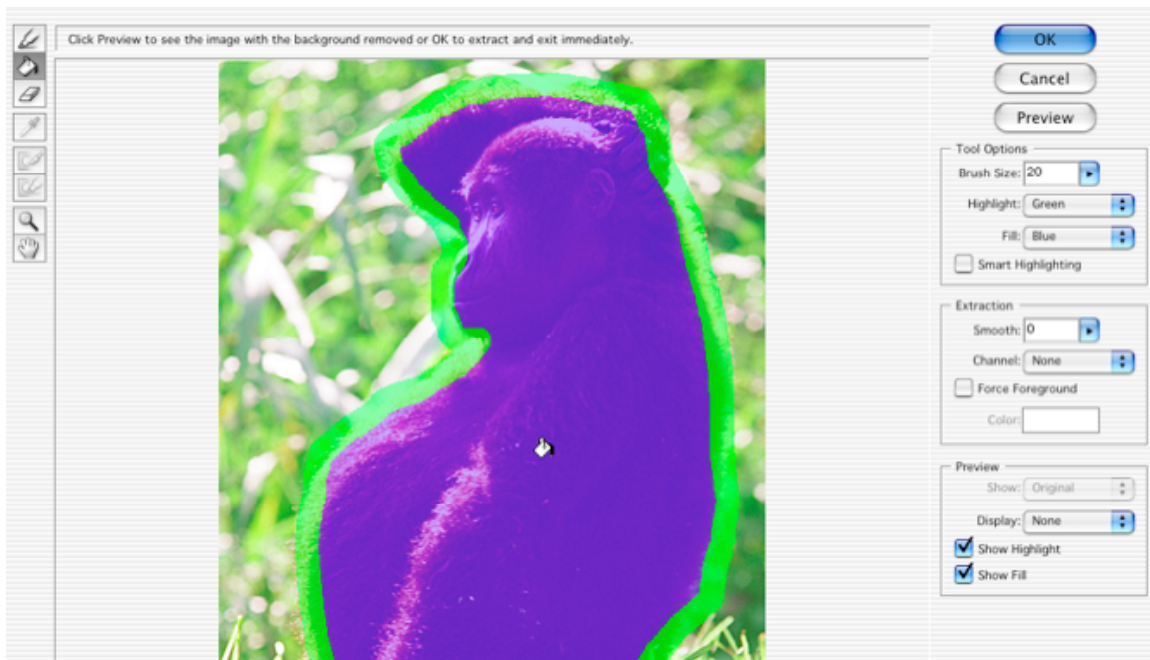
- Use the Move Tool to move selected pixels.
- To duplicate selected pixels, hold down the option and shift keys as you drag with the Move Tool. When the duplicate has been created, release the keys.
- Go to the Edit Menu and select Transform to complete any of the changes listed below to your selection.
- To apply a transformation, hit return. If you don't like the result go to Edit/Undo or step back in the History Palette.



Masking

In some cases it is necessary to remove the background from an object through masking, which is essentially creating a “mask” which only allows certain areas of an image to show through. This is especially helpful in the case of a background with many colors. In the image below, the fur also complicates the selection process and masking facilitates the selection process.

To create a mask, go to Filter/Extract and use the highlighter to draw a line around the perimeter of your image. Try to cover some of the background and some of the foreground with your line. Adjust the highlighter size via the brush setting on the right of the Extract window. When you are done highlighting, use the Paint Can to pour into the area you wish to keep, and click Preview.



In the preview window, use the tools on the left to alter your mask. The Cleanup tool makes pixels transparent, holding down the option key while dragging the Cleanup tool makes pixels opaque.

When you are done working with your mask, click OK. At this point you can use other tools to edit the image.