

Create a Cute Pumpkin Cluster—Transform, Dodge, and Burn



Tip of the Week by Barb Brookbank on October 9, 2012

Sometimes I come across a cute little element that makes me want to play with it.

I want to grunge it up, or give it more depth, or even change the shape—gasp—is that even allowed? Well, yes it is. As long as proper credit is given to the designer, and maybe a comment about how you changed it.

Today I'm going to show you how to transform the shape of an element, then how to grunge it up and darken the edges.

If you ever scrapped with paper, it's called 'inking' the edges, and I used to have so much fun with it. I was always surprised at what a difference it made, because it gave an object much more depth. It got so that I practically had to 'ink' everything or it didn't look right to me.

Here's a "before and after" on a little pumpkin that I found in the kit *Happy Harvest*, by Susan Bartolini. You can download it [here](#) if want to follow along and make your own cute cluster! OK, let's get to it!

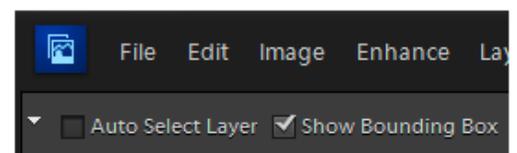


Step One: Prepare the Workspace

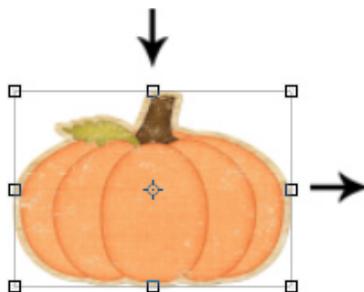
- Create a new document (File > New > Blank File) that is 12in by 12in at 300ppi with a white background. (Photoshop: File > New)

Step Two: Transform the Pumpkin

- Open the pumpkin that has been included with this tutorial.
- Get the Move tool.
- Click on the pumpkin and drag it onto the new document.
- In the Options Bar, make sure Show Bounding Box is checked and Auto Select Layer is unchecked. (Photoshop: check Show Transform Controls)

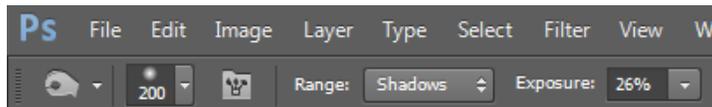


- Click and drag the the top or bottom handle of the Bounding Box upwards or downwards just a tiny bit—you don't want to overstretch the pumpkin and make it look distorted to the point where it starts to look weird. Double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the changes.
- Click and drag the left or right handle of the Bounding Box and drag outwards very slightly. Double click inside the Bounding Box to commit the changes.



Step Three: Use the Burn and Dodge Tools to Add Depth

- Get the Burn tool.
- In the Options Bar, choose a 200 pixel soft round brush from the Brush Picker. Set the Range to Shadows and the Exposure to around 26%.



Note: If you do not see a 200 pixel soft round brush, open the flyout menu and choose Reset Brushes.

- Brush lightly along the sides, bottom, and top of the pumpkin to darken and add depth. A little goes a long way, so go gently.
- Get the Dodge tool. You will find it nested with the Burn tool.
- In the Options Bar, choose a 200 pixel soft round brush from the Brush Picker. Set the Range to Shadows and the Exposure to around 26%.
- Brush around the center of the pumpkin to lighten it just a little bit and make it appear as if it is coming forward.

Tip: If you don't see anything happening, check to make sure that you have the pumpkin layer activated in the Layers panel.

Credits:

Digi Scrap Tutorial: Create a Cute Pumpkin Cluster—Transform, Dodge and Burn by Barb Brookbank

Layout: Pumpkin Spice Bread by Barb Brookbank

Kit: [Happy Harvest](#) by Susan Bartolini

Font: Myriad Pro

Photo and Recipe by Jo @ A Pretty Life In the Suburbs

