

Sketchy Photos

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by Nann
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By Nannette Dalton

Do you like the look of photos converted into sketches? I do too! There are so many interesting ways to use them on a layout. It allows us as digital scrappers to achieve a look that is hard to duplicate in the paper world.

However, I have struggled to find a sketchy look that's realistic. The Sketch filters that come with Photoshop and Elements are a little too harsh for my taste. But, I think I have found the answer using the Minimum filter! Never heard of it? It isn't a filter that we use too often, but it works perfectly for a lighter sketchy look.

Step One: Open and Duplicate the Photo

- Open a photo (File > Open) that you would like to turn into a sketch.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate and click OK. (Photoshop: Choose Image > Duplicate.)
- Close the original photo.



Step Two: Copy and Desaturate Photo

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the photo.
- Press Ctrl Shift U (Mac: Cmd Shift U) to desaturate the photo and turn it to black and white.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the black and white photo.

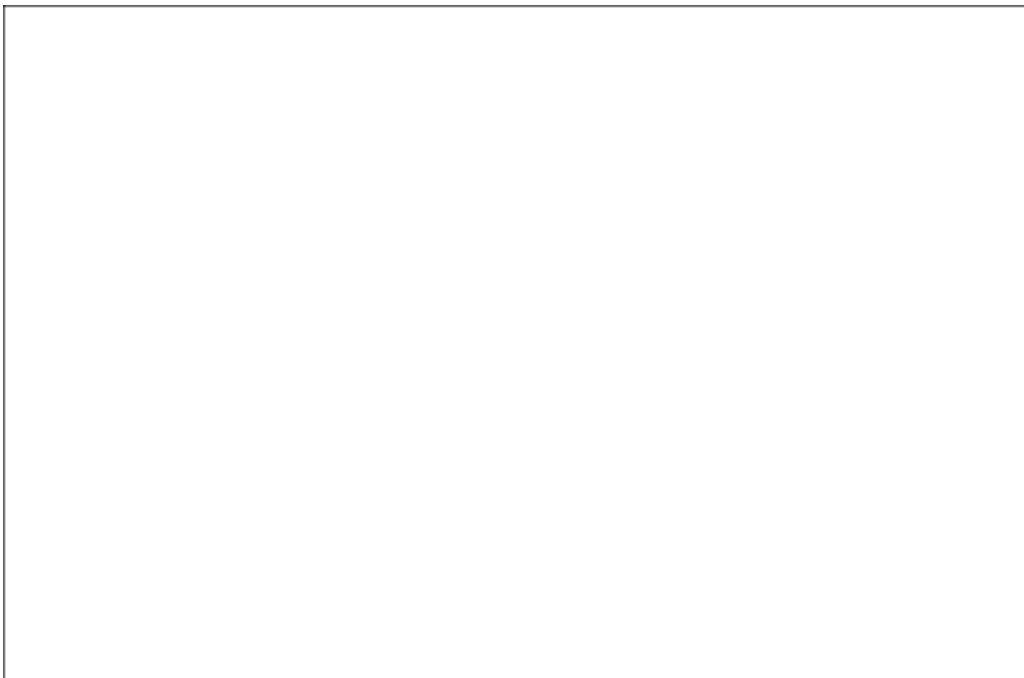


Step Three: Invert the Photo

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Invert and click OK. (Photoshop: In the Menu Bar, choose Image > Adjustments > Invert.)
- **Photoshop Elements Only:** Press Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E) to merge the adjustment layer with the top black and white photo.



In the Layers panel, change the Blend Mode of the top layer to Color Dodge.



Did the whole image disappear? Perfect!

Step Four: Use the Minimum Filter

- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Other > Minimum.
- In the dialog box, set the Radius somewhere between 2–5 pixels. Click OK. I set mine at 2 pixels.



Step Five: Save the Layered Image

Note: In my next tutorial, I will show you how to change this sketch into a colored pastel drawing. So we need to save this image as a layered PSD File.

- In the Menu Bar, Choose File > Save As.
- In the dialog box, name the sketch, choose a location for the file, set the Format to Photoshop, and click Save.

Step Six: Save the Flattened Image

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Flatten Image.
- In the Menu Bar, choose File Save As.
- In the dialog box, name the sketch, choose a location for the file, set the Format to JPEG, and click Save.

You can now use this flattened image on your scrapbook page.

Here is my layout using my sketchy photo. I used one of Jen White's photo masks to blend it a bit into my background paper.



Credits:

Page & Photos: Nannette Dalton

Tutorials: Sketchy Photos Part 2 by Nannette Dalton, Stenciled Effect by Syndee Nuckles

Kit: Thankful kit by Karla Dudley

Extras: Water Color Paper by Nannette Dalton, Photo Mask Pk Vol 1 by Jen White

Fonts: Homestead, DJB Nann Script

Software: Photoshop Elements 12, Adobe Photoshop CC 2014

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