Fly Away Butterfly

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by Jen White

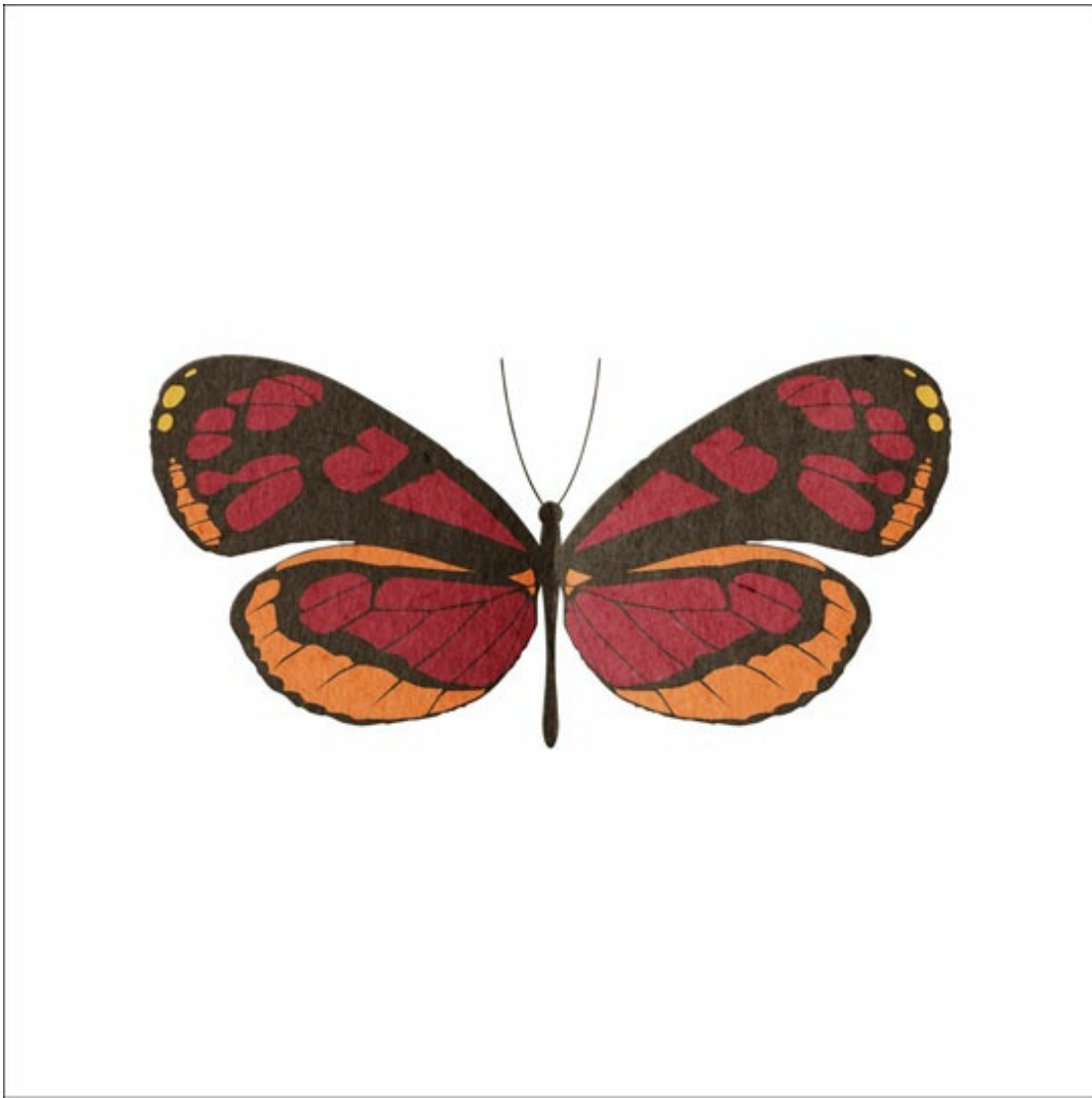Make a butterfly jump off the page and fly away.

Many scrapbook kits come with pretty little butterflies. In this tutorial I'll show you the quick and painless way to set a butterfly free by making it jump off the page and fly away.

For the purpose of this tutorial, I'll be using a butterfly from Count Your Blessings by Digilicious Design. You can use a butterfly of your own or you can download this butterfly to practice with. (1.2MB)
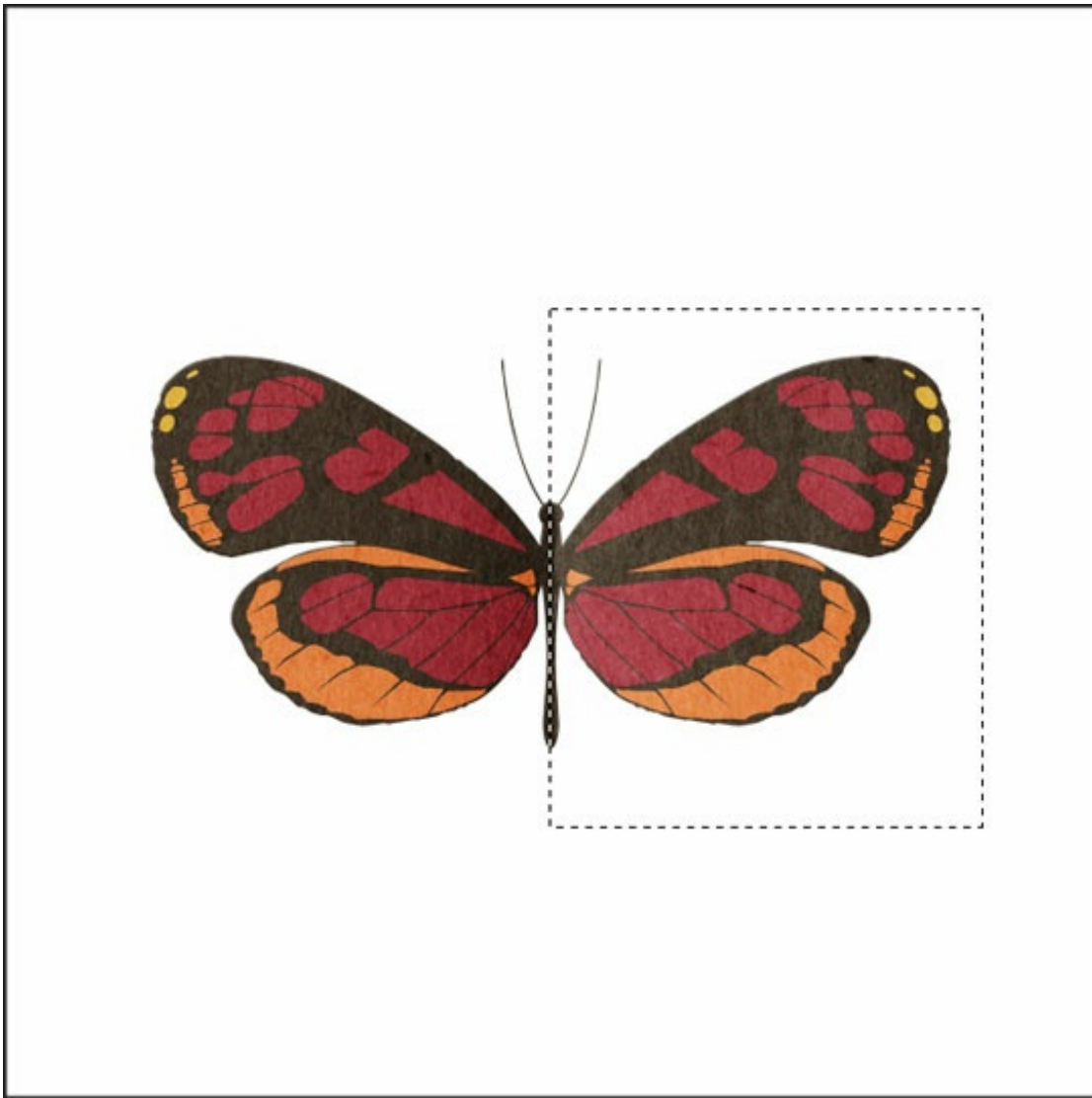

Step One: Open the Butterfly

- Create a new 4×4 inch document (File > New Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- Click on the download link above to download the butterfly I'm using for this tutorial.
- Open the butterfly01-CountYourBlessings-DigiliciousDesigns.png file (File > Open) located in the download folder.
- Get the Move tool.
- Click and drag the butterfly onto the new document.

Step Two: Cut the Butterfly

- Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and the Aspect to Normal. (PS: Set the Style to Normal.)
- On the document, click and drag a selection outline around the right half of the butterfly. See the screenshot below. To reposition while dragging, press and hold the Space bar. Make sure to include the entire right side of the butterfly.
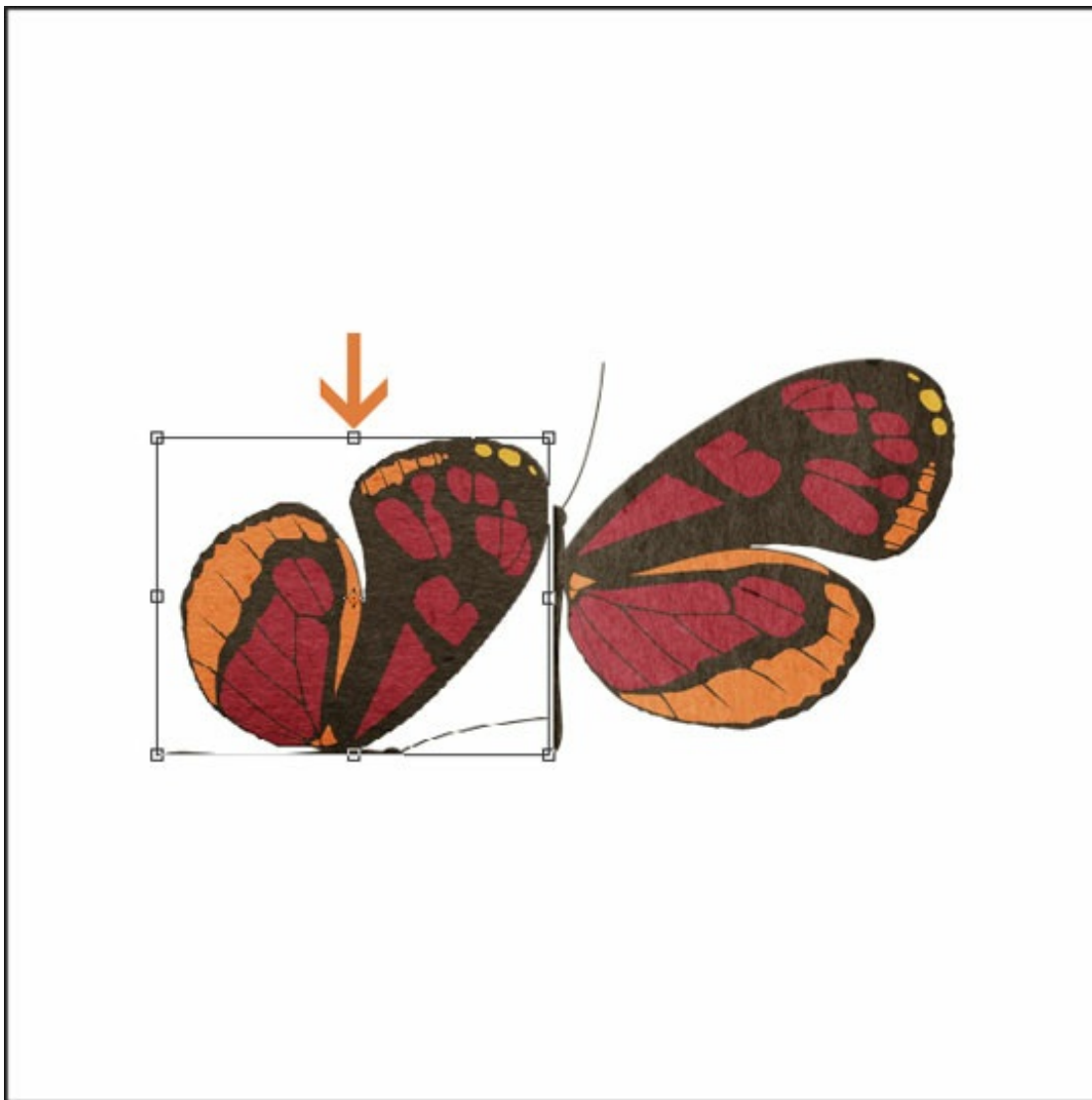
- Press Shift Ctrl J (Mac: Shift Cmd J) to move the selected pixels onto a new layer.

In the Layers panel, you should now have the left wing set on one layer and the right wing set on another layer.
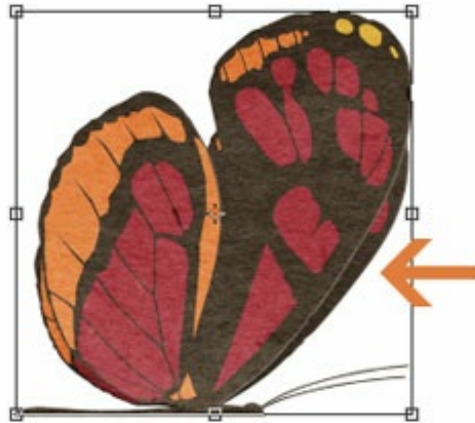
Step Three: Transform the Left Wings

- In the Layers panel, click on the left wing layer to activate it.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- In the Tool Options, set the Angle to 90˚. (PS: Set the Rotate to 90˚.)
- On the document, click and drag the top-middle bounding box handle down slightly. See the screenshot below.
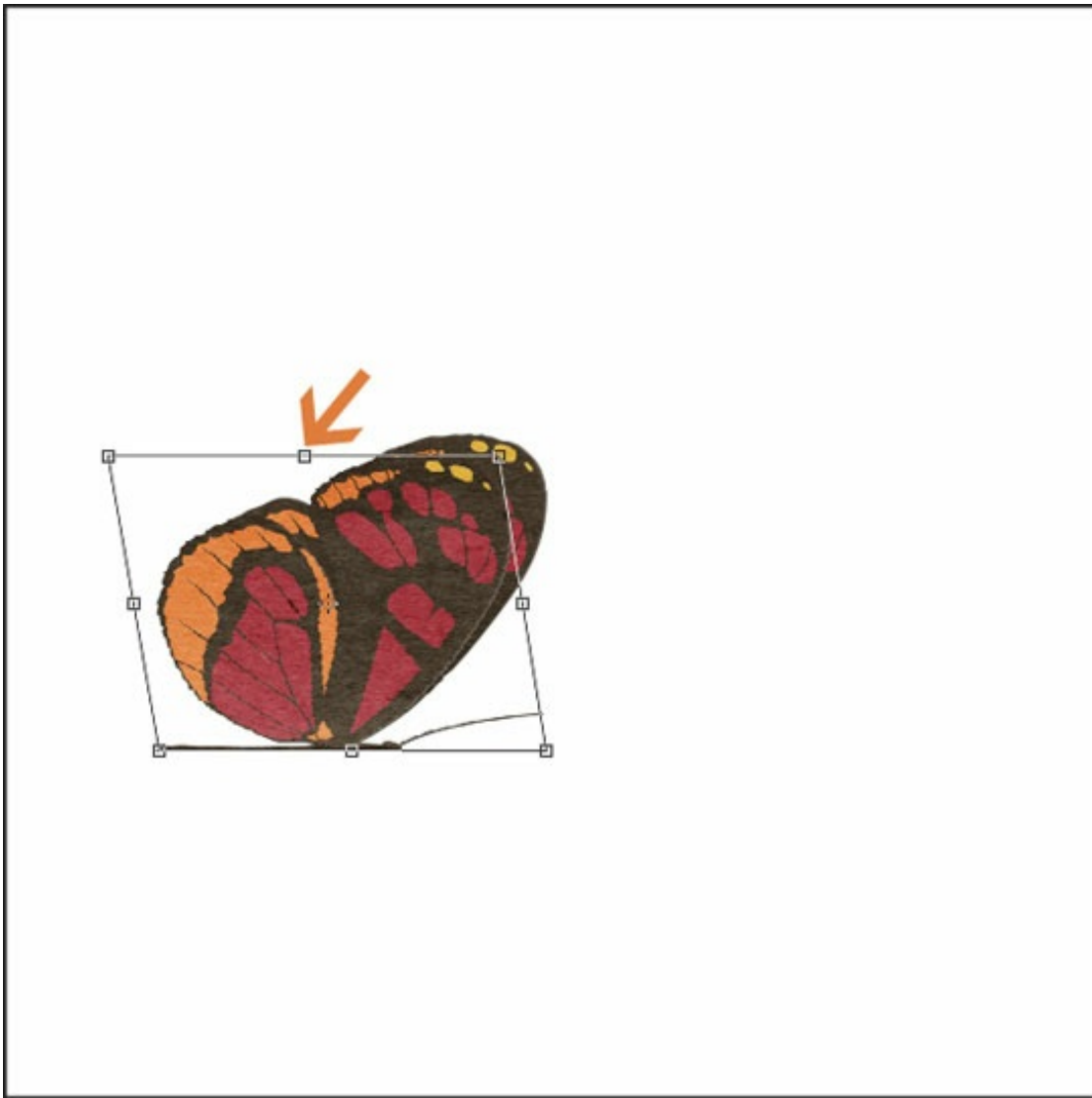- Click the checkmark to commit.

Step Four: Transform the Right Wings

- In the Layers panel, click on the right wing layer to activate it.

- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.

- On the document, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) inside the bounding box and choose Flip Layer Horizontal. (PS: Choose Flip Horizontal.)

- In the Tool Options, set the Angle to 90˚.

- On the document, click and drag inside the bounding box and reposition the wings overtop of the other set. Line up the bottom portion. See the screenshot below.

- On the document, hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click and drag the top-middle bounding box handle down and to the left. See the screenshot below.

- Click the checkmark to commit.

Step Five: Add Drop Shadows

ELEMENTS ONLY:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.
- In the dialog box, click on Drop Shadow to twirl it open. Set the Lighting Angle to 120˚, the Size to 30, the Distance to 15, and the Opacity to 75%. Click OK.

PHOTOSHOP ONLY:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow.
- In the dialog box, set the Blend Mode to Muliply, the Opacity to 75%, the Angle to 120˚, the Distance to 15, the Spread to 0, and the Size to 30. Click OK.

ALL:

- In the Layers panel, hold down the Alt key (Mac: Opt key) and click and drag the style from the top wing set to the bottom wing set.

Step Six: Link the Wings

- In the Layers panel, click on the top wing set to activate it.
- Hold down the Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and click on the bottom wing set. Now both wing sets should be active in the Layers panel.
- Click on the Link Layers icon.

Now where ever you drag the flying butterfly to, the wings will stay together as set. They will also stay together if you change the rotation of the flight!

Step Seven: Save the File

- Save the flying butterfly document as a layered PSD file (File > Save As) with a descriptive name. Make sure to include the kit and designer in the name. I'm saving my file as butterfly01-fly-CountYourBlessings-DigiliciousDesign.psd.
- Close the working documents without saving.

Credits
Hello Autumn Card: Jen White
Kit: Count Your Blessings by Digilicious Design
Word Art: Posting Bonus from November 2016 Premier

**After posting your results online,
return here and include the link in the comments.**

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 Author: Jen White | Contact Us
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