

# SCRAPPER'S GUIDE

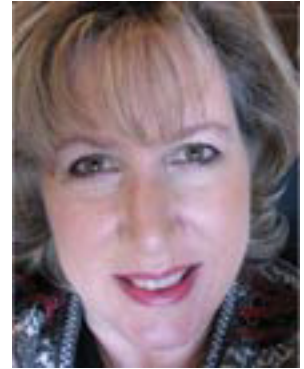
The Easiest Way To Learn Digital Scrapbooking. **Guaranteed.**

## Crumpled Paper (Photoshop Elements)

Tip of the Week by Sara Horton on August 17, 2009

By their very nature, digital scrapbook pages lack dimension. When you are designing your pages, you can counteract this by adding visual texture.

One of my favorite ways to add virtual texture and dimension is making papers look wadded or crumpled using the Blend Modes in Photoshop Elements and scanned or photographed cardstock.

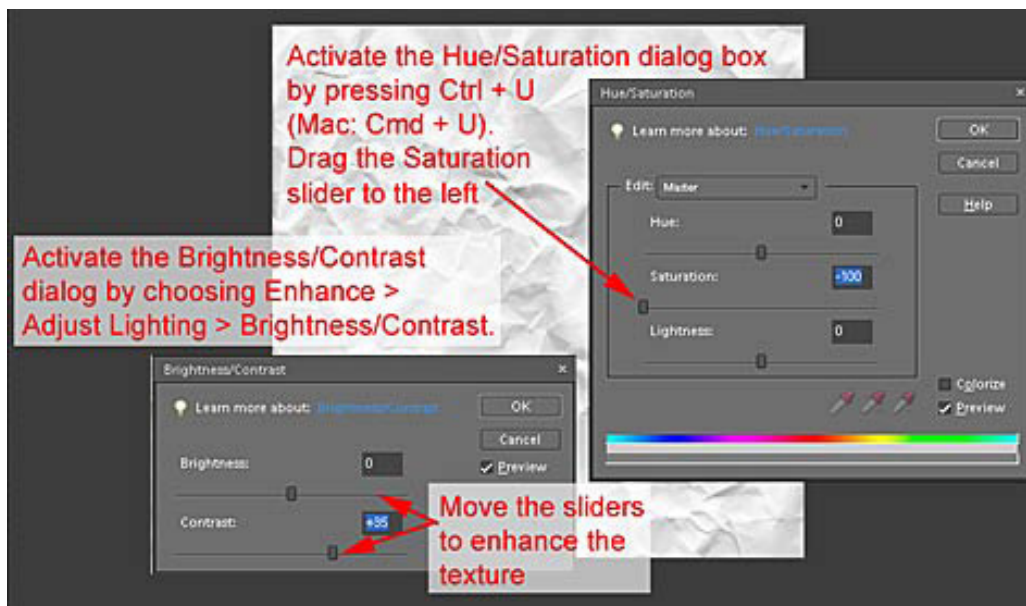


### Step 1: Create a Crumpled Texture Image

Begin by crumpling a piece of cardstock. A thick, stiff piece of white cardstock gives the best results. Crease or wad the paper, then flatten it out again. Photograph or scan the crumpled paper and open it in Photoshop Elements by selecting File > Open. When the dialog box comes up, navigate to the folder where you saved the file, and click Open to bring the wadded paper image into the Photoshop Elements editing window.

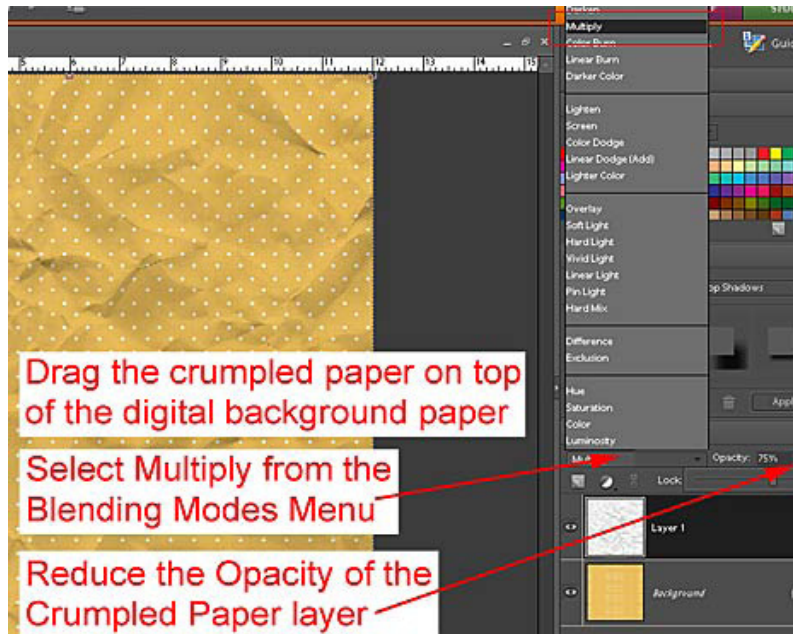
Prepare the paper for use as a texture by removing the color. Press Ctrl U (Mac: Cmd U) on your keyboard to activate the Hue/Saturation dialog box. Drag the Saturation slider all the way to the left to render the image gray and white.

If the crumple marks on your paper lack definition, select Enhance > Adjust Lighting > Brightness/Contrast. Move the Contrast slider and Brightness slider to enhance the wrinkles and remove some of the gray shadows.



## Step 2: Apply the Texture

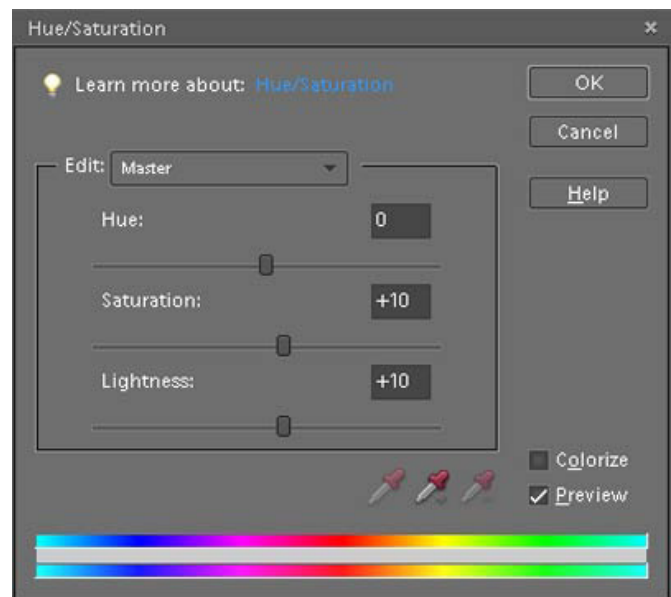
Open a piece of digital paper, keeping in mind that this technique works equally well with both patterned and solid papers. Using the Move Tool, drag the crumpled paper texture file on top of the digital paper. Select the crumpled paper layer and choose Multiply from the Blending Modes pop-up menu above the Layers palette. Select the crumpled paper layer and choose Multiply from the Blending Modes pop-up menu above the Layers palette.



To soften the crumpled effect, reduce the Opacity of the crumpled paper layer by moving the Opacity slider above the Layers Palette.

When you are satisfied with the crumpled look of your paper, merge the layers by selecting Layer > Flatten image from the Menu.

Finally, tweak the color of your crumpled paper by making adjustments using the Hue/Saturation dialog box. Press Ctrl U (Mac: Cmd U) to activate the Hue/Saturation dialog. As a general rule, I find that increasing the Saturation and Lightness sliders a few steps restores the original vibrance of the paper after a crumple texture is applied. The amount varies from page to page, so use your own judgement. For the sample, I increased the Saturation and Lightness by +10. Click OK to confirm the change.



For interesting effects, try experimenting with the other Blending Modes or add a crumpled appearance to photos.

Credits: page by Sara Horton  
Font: VTPortableRemington  
Little Shores kit by Katie Pertiet at Designer Digitals  
Stitched Layered template No. 4 by Katie Pertiet at Designer Digitals



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