

SCRAPPER'S GUIDE

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

A Magic Touch for Photos (Photoshop)

Tip of the Week by Jan Walker on September 27, 2011

Sometimes, all it takes is one small simple touch to take a photo from special to spectacular. Bringing in a bit of softness and light can give your images a magical, romantic, ethereal look.

Discover the difference you can make with just three easy steps!



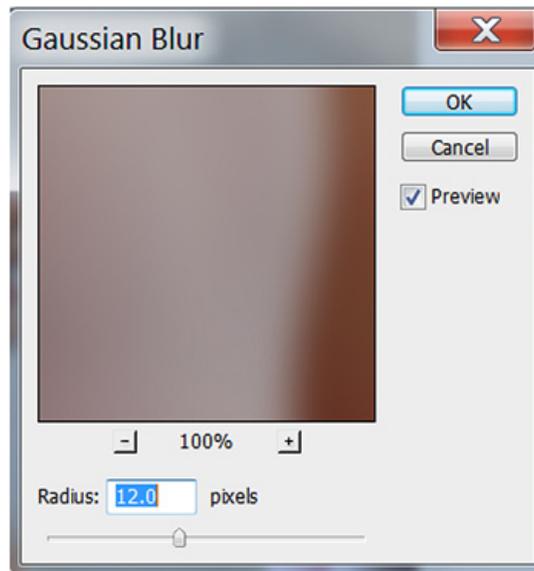
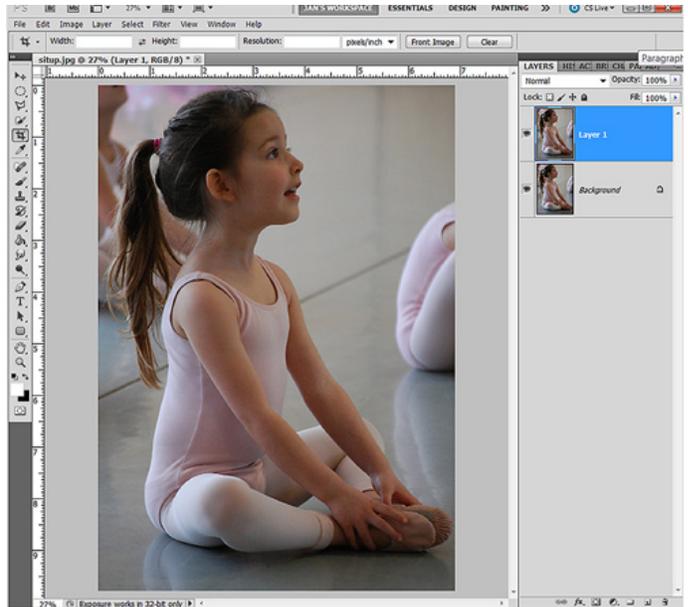
Step 1: Choose Your Photo

This tip works well with photos of people, landscapes, flowers, weddings... well, just about everything! So find a photo you'd like to add a touch of magic to.

- Open the photo you want to work with in Photoshop.
- Duplicate the original image by pressing Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J).

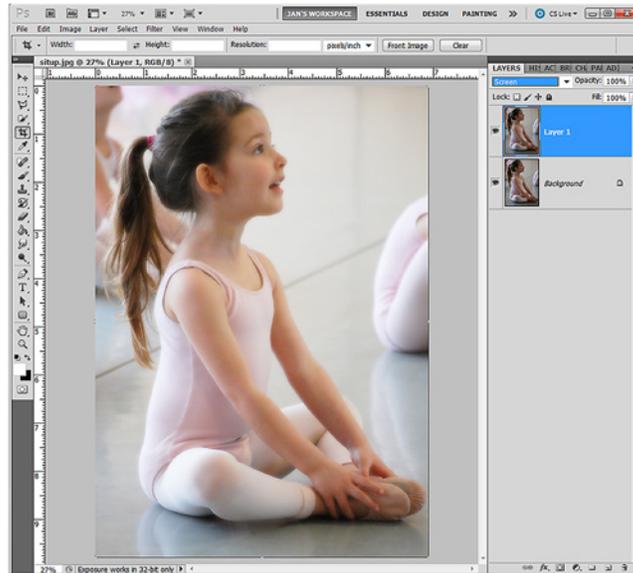
Step 2: Soften Things Up

- Go up to the Options Bar and choose Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur.
- Set the Blur Radius to about 12 pixels. Click Okay.



Step 3: Blend and Brighten

- Open the Blend Modes menu at the top of the Layers panel and choose Screen.
- Adjust the opacity of the screened layer, until the photo looks like magic to you!

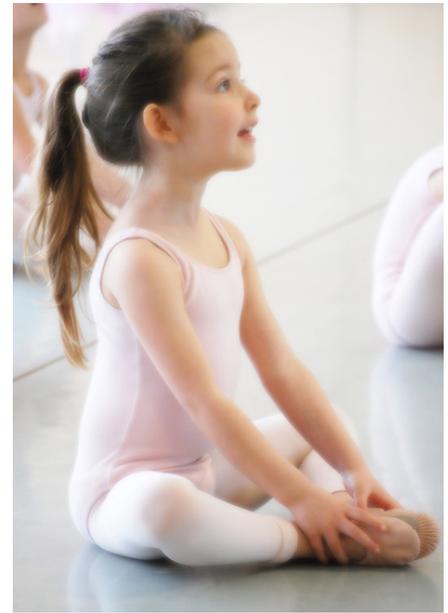


- You may even want to duplicate the screened layer, if the photo can handle it. It all depends on how ethereal you want your image to look.

So, here's the original:

Middle is the image with the tip applied:

And finally...



the picture to the far right is that bonus step... a duplicate of the screened layer, with the opacity slightly reduced.

You choose the amount of softness and light you want to apply — go with what works for your photo.

And that's all there is to it. A quick way to bring an extra special touch to your extra special photos! Plus, don't forget to post your finished photos in our [Tip of the Week Gallery!](#)

Credits:

Tip of the Week: A Touch of Magic for Your Photos, by Jan Walker

Photo: Morguefile.com

Software: Adobe Photoshop CS5



Leap Frog To The Next Level!

Rather than learning a bit here and a bit there, why not leap frog to the next level? Our *Learn Digital Scrapbooking* class takes you **step-by-step from rank beginner to confident digital scrapbooker** in a fraction of the time!

[Find out more about the Learn Digital Scrapbooking Class.](#)

If you enjoyed this Tip of the Week, be sure to sign up to receive the **Digital Scrapper Tip of the Week** newsletter.

**Newsletter
Signup**

For training in more **Advanced Topics** (at rock bottom prices), become a Premier member!

**Premier
Membership**