

SCRAPPER'S GUIDE

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

Unlock the Power of Multiple Layers (Photoshop)

Tip of the Week by Jennifer White on November 22, 2011

This time of year, I'm always looking for ways to save time. One kid needs a costume made for the madrigal dinner, another needs a craft project planned and prepped for her class holiday party, and yet another needs festive (FESTIVE!?!?) cupcakes for the bake sale.

When exactly am I supposed to finish the calendars and photobooks I've promised everyone for Christmas?

So today I'm going to share with you a little tip that speeds things up ever so slightly — I call it my Multiple Layers Trick. Why do something to one layer ten times, when you can do it to ten layers one time?

This works very well for Text layers:

- Hold down your Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and in the Layers panel click on the blank area of each layer you want to affect. All the layers will highlight showing they are active.
- Now go to the Options Bar at the top and change whatever you'd like - the font, the size, the justification or the color. All the layers you have selected will now have those settings.

I find this especially useful when I want to change fonts and I have a lot of text layers, or if I want to change the color of all the text on a page.



This also works well for other things — here is one of my favorites:

- Apply a layer style (say, a drop shadow) to one layer.
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) in the blank area on that layer and choose Copy Layer Style from the menu.
- Now hold down your Ctrl key (Mac: Cmd key) and in the Layers panel, click on the blank area of each layer you want to affect. All the layers will highlight, showing they are active.
- Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on any of the highlighted layers and choose Paste Layer Style; the style from the first layer will be applied to all the layers! I use this to apply drop shadows to all the layers that need the same shadow. It saves a ton of time!

Now maybe I can get a layout done before the oven dings... hope you all have an enjoyable Thanksgiving weekend, and don't forget to scrap your blessings!

Credits:

Tip of the Week: Multiple Layers - by Jennifer White

Scrapbook Page: Jennifer White

Paper and Elements: Jennifer White

Software: Adobe Photoshop CS5



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