

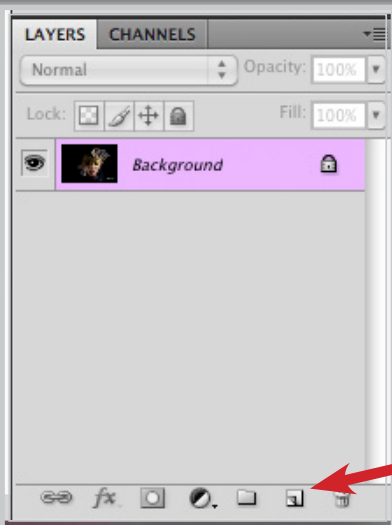
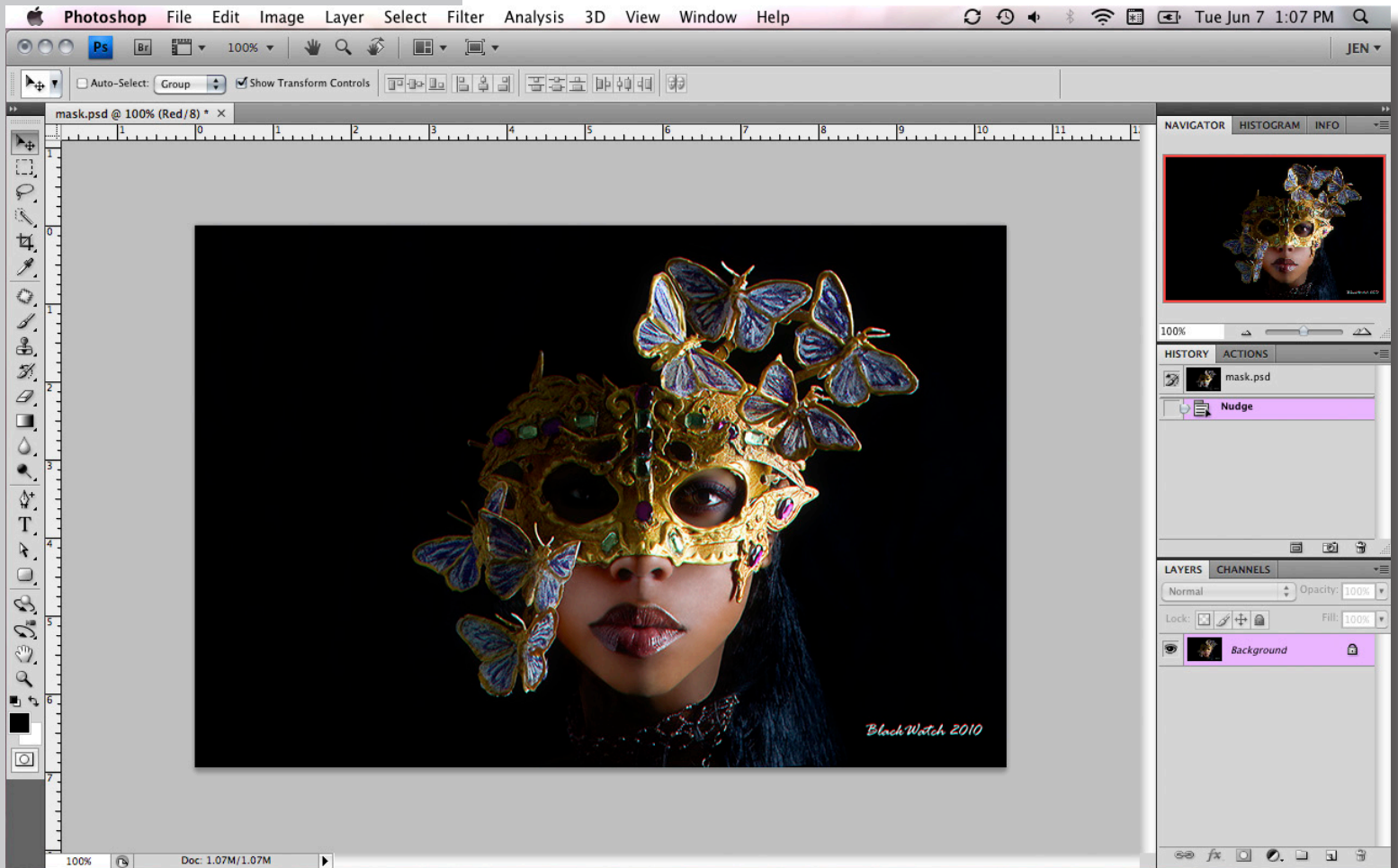
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Using Layer Masks



Using Layer Masks

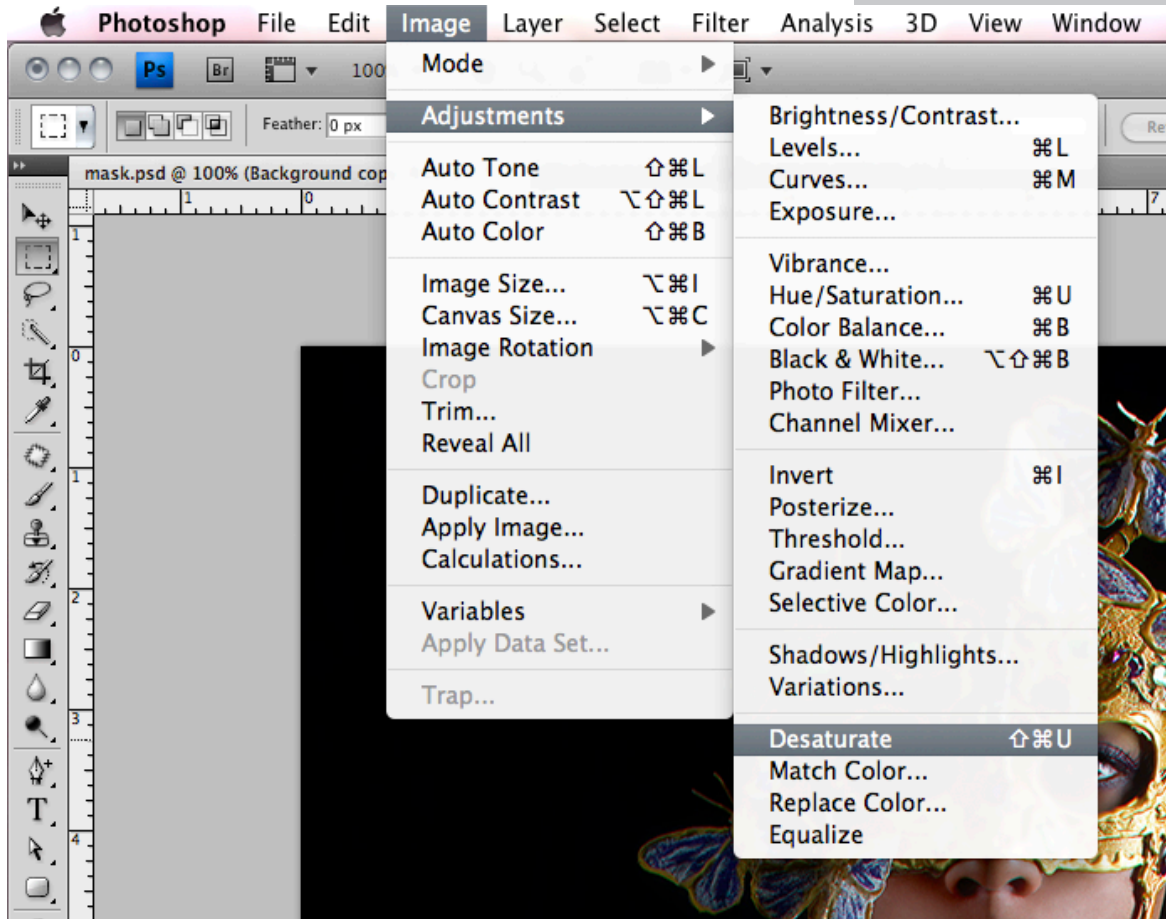
In order to create many different effects in Photoshop, you must become comfortable using layers, and layer masks.



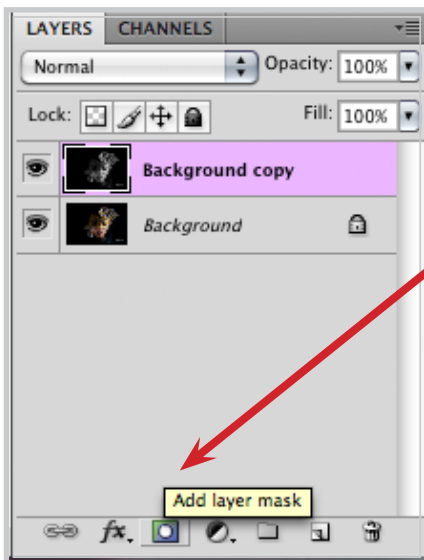
1. Open your image in Photoshop
2. Make sure your layers pallet is showing on screen. If not go to “Window” on the menu bar- select “Layers” from the list.
3. Drag the background layer onto the “New Layer” Icon or use the keyboard shortcut: Command (ctrl) J. This will duplicate your background layer.

Creating a Layer Mask

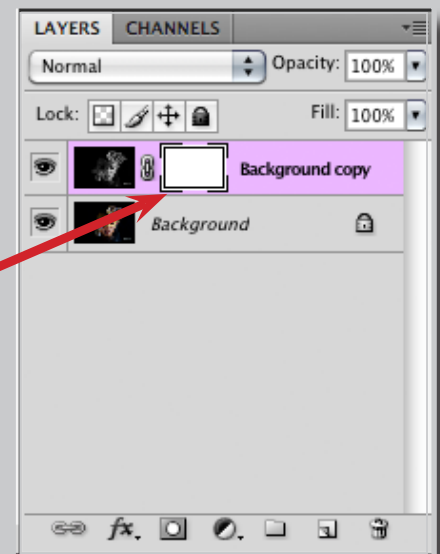
4. From the Image Menu on the toolbar, select “Adjustments” then “Desaturate” To change the layer to Black and White.



5. Click on the “Add Layer Mask” Icon on the Layer Pallet to add a mask onto your background copy layer



You should have a white rectangle next to the thumbnail image on the background layer. It will have a frame around it if it is active.

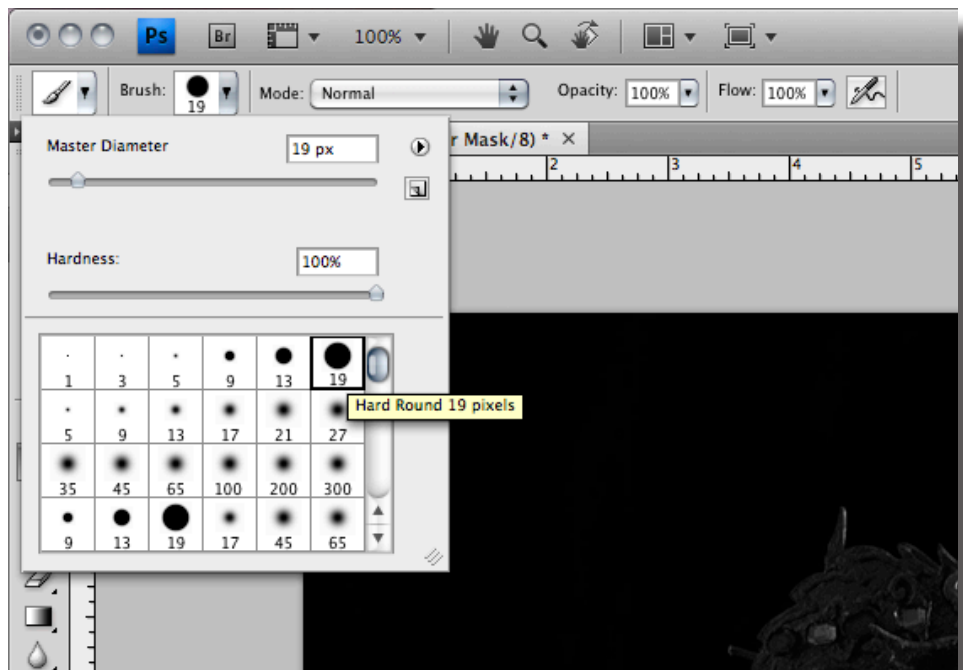


Masking an Image

6. Click on the Default swatch icon to restore foreground to white, and background to black.

7. Exchange Foreground for Background so Black Becomes the Foreground Color Swatch. You can also achieve this by typing “X” for exchange.

8. Select the Paintbrush tool from your tool pallet.



There will be a new menu bar at the top for the brush tool. Make sure your Opacity and Flow are both at 100%

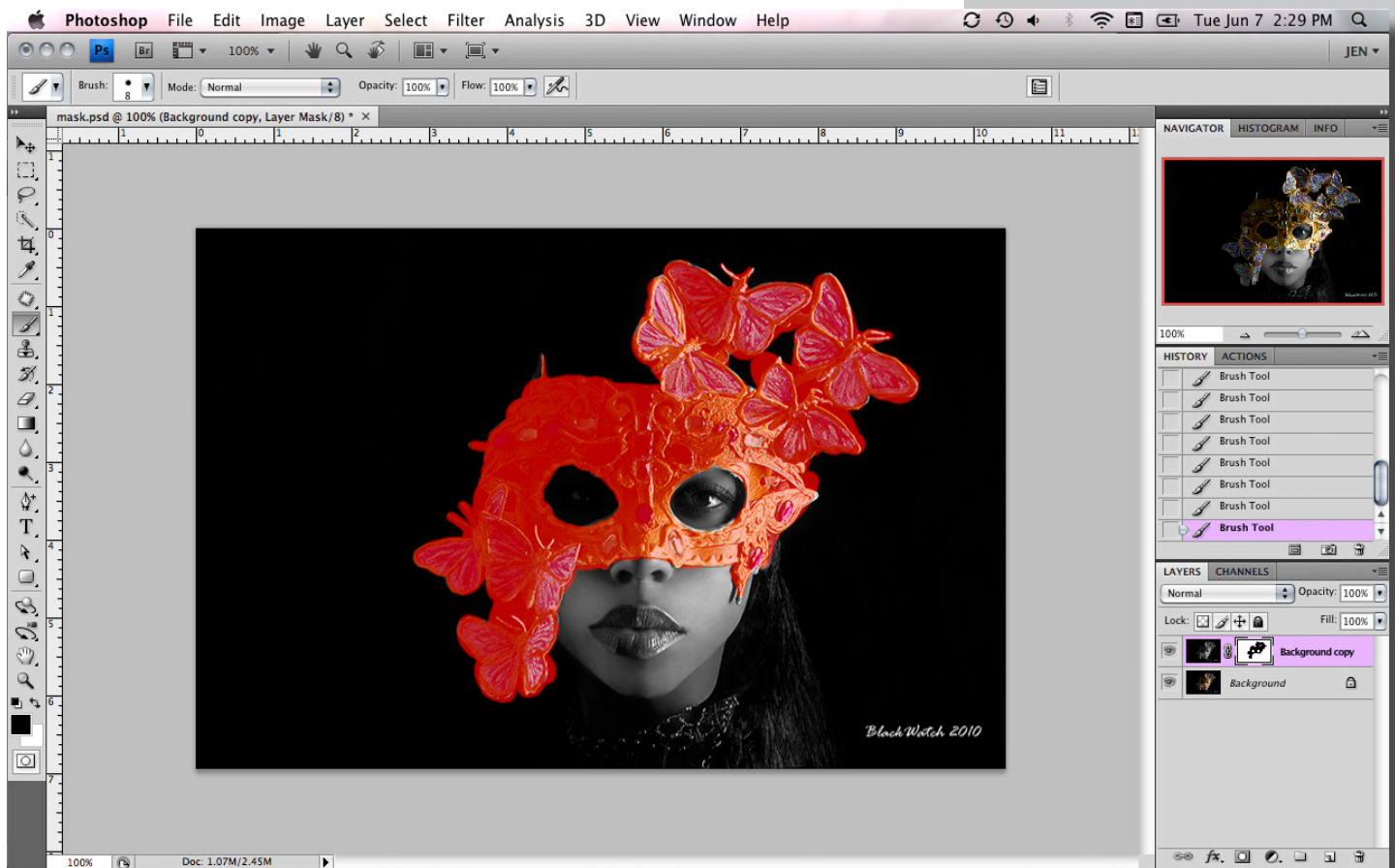
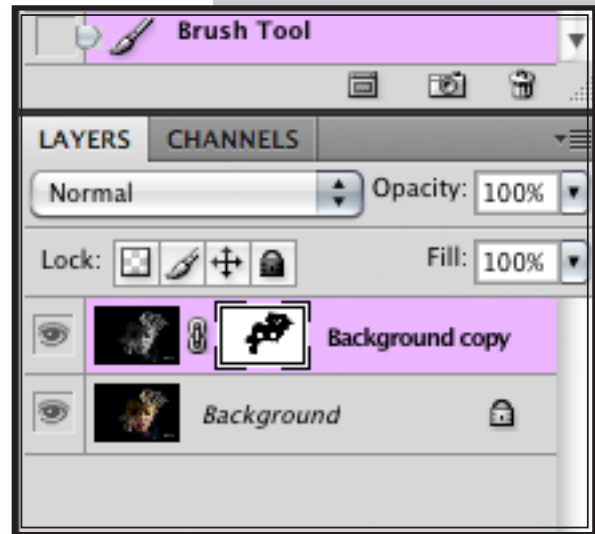
Click on the Arrow next to the Brush shape and a brush pallet will appear. Select “Hard Round 19px” to start, you will want to adjust the size of your brush as you go closer to edges, or into smaller areas. This can be done by sliding the “Master Diameter” on the brush pallet, or by using the “[“ key to make the brush smaller or ”]” to make it bigger.

Masking an Image (continued)

By painting with the black paint onto the mask over the layer, you will reveal the color from the layer underneath. Black reveals, white conceals.

9. Continue to paint over the area of the image you would like colorized, in this example, we are coloring over the butterfly mask, the model's lips and eyes.

10. An easy way to see what areas you have masked, and what you may have missed is to press the “\” (back slash) key. The masked areas will be highlighted with a red overlay. You can continue to paint over the area with Black or White paint to tidy up your masking job. Click the “\” again to return to normal viewing.



Masking an Image (Continued)

Use Zoom tool
to magnify area
of image



You may want to zoom in using the magnifying glass/zoom tool to be able to fine tune your edges. The closer you zoom in, the better control you will have over your edges.



The final image is revealed