

Build Your Portfolio

Replace Smart Object in Old Mat, Resize, and Re-Title

With time, your collection of images worth of merit will grow. Why not simply create a Photoshop template which quickly allows your to replace the old image with a new one, then change the title as well?

In a prior tutorial, we showed you how to create a unique matted image with Title, Copyright, and Contact info. We built a Photoshop template for future marketing images. Here we explain the easy steps to expand your portfolio...

Replace Object with a New Image

The template's Smart Object design allows modification of several aspects:

- Image.
- Title.
- Mats.

Smart Objects allow the user to easily change portfolio aspects.

The picture on the left has several distinct features. We have already placed a new image in the template. That's the image with the big X.

The layers palette started with 3 layers; Bisti image, Title, Copyright, and the Contact, and Inner and Outer Mats. The big image showing the X was put on top of the Bisti

image using CS3's File>Place command. Place brings up a dialog box so you can find the new image somewhere on your HD.

Clearly, the incoming image covers the original image, inner border mat, and contact info. But, it has rather special properties... as a Smart Object, it can easily be moved and scaled.





Sizing the New Image

First, we click on the upper left corner. We then pull the cursor down until we have that part of the image inside the inner mat. As a second, smaller downsize, we pull the lower right corner up and inside the inner mat. Notice the edges of the original image appears (slight color change) between the inner mat and the new image.

Navigation Keyboard Shortcuts

Several keyboard shortcuts allow you to move quickly around a scaled up page.

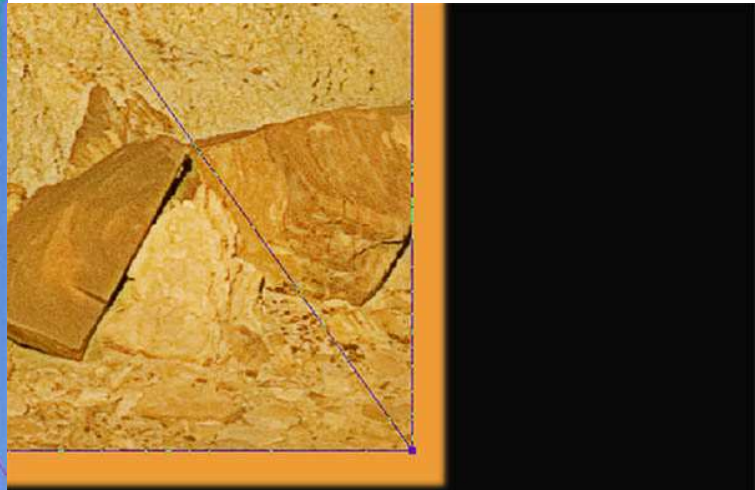
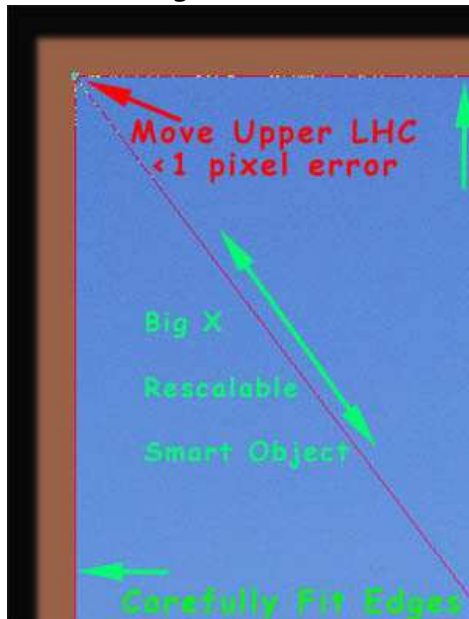
<i>Navigation Shortcuts</i>	
<i>Operation</i>	<i>Shortcut</i>
Scroll image with handtool	Spacebar + drag
Scroll up or down one screen	PageUp or PageDown
Scroll left or right one screen	Ctrl+PageUp (R) Ctrl+PageDown (L)
Switch upper left screen	Home
Switch lower right screen	End
Zoom to 100%	Ctrl-Alt-0 (zero)
Fit Image on Screen	Ctrl-0 (zero)
Zoom up	Ctrl-+
Zoom down	Ctrl--
<i>These shortcuts are for Windows. See McClelland for Mac.</i>	
<i>Photoshop CS2 Bible, ©2005, McClelland and Fuller</i>	

Fitting the New Image within Inner Mat

I also use Ctrl-Alt-0 to quickly scale the window to 100%. All CS3 Place changes during moving, sizing, and edge placement need to occur on the same image; when you click the check mark or hit enter, Place is done. If it's not a perfect fit; too bad! You get to do it again.

In the left image (below), major elements of the image are noted along with their placement. First, I hit Home - to move to the upper left corner of image space. Then, I precisely place the upper left corner exactly within to the inner

mat edge. By exact, I mean you want the new image edges to be within a pixel of the mat edge. You can see when this has happened; the edges of the new image change slightly (turn red) as they overprint the mat edge.



Second, I hit End - to move to the lower right hand corner of image space.

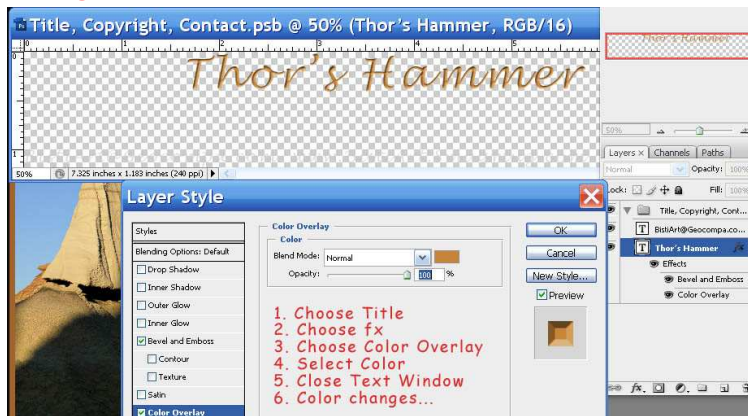
Now find the small square handle on the lower right corner. Click and pull it up to the edge of the right inner mat. Again, be precise to within a pixel.

OK, you've got a new image. Click the check mark to set your image.

Now, delete the old image layer from the prior image. If you save it, is just going to take unnecessary space on your hard drive.

END
Place Handle inside Mat
Lower Right Hand Corner

Change Your Title



Double-click on Title, Copyright, and Contact Smart Object icon to change the title. A transparent text box opens; click the Text tool, select the entire title, then type the new name of your additional portfolio image.

Click the check box.

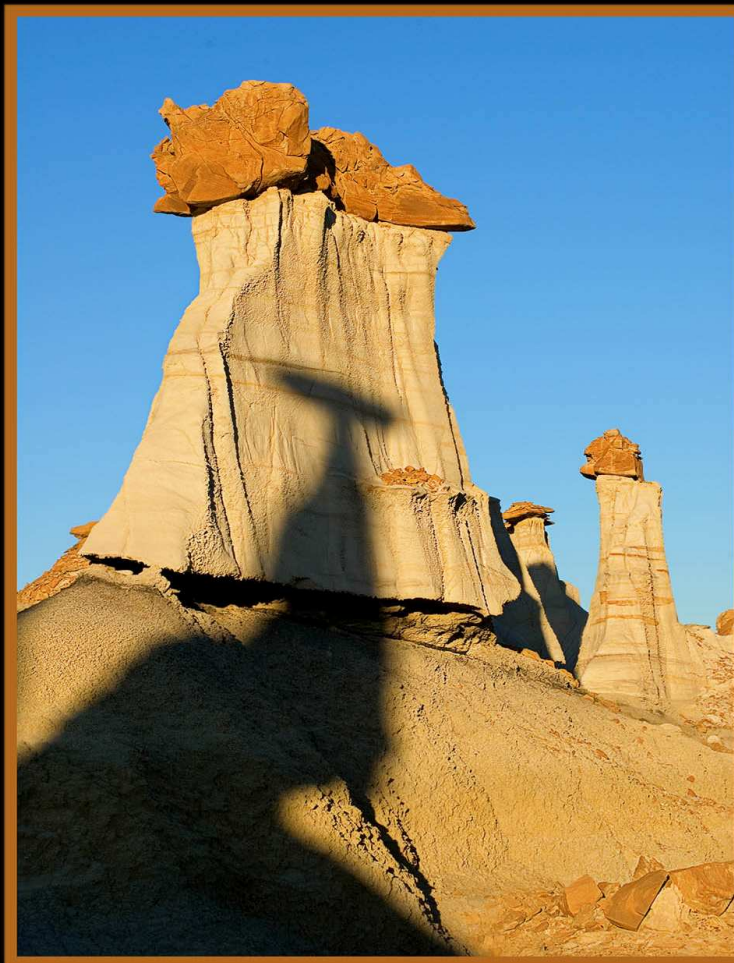
Click on the big red X to

close the text layer. Then say yes to save the new title. You will quickly see the name at the base of your matted portfolio change to the new name.

I save this file as a maximum size jpg so it can be printed for marketing brochures. I usually make a smaller copy to include it in tutorials.

You may find other jpg sizes suit your needs better...

Voilà...



Thor's Hammer

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