WRIT 4260/5260

Stroupe

**Simplified Illustrated Detail**

**from a Photograph**

|  |
| --- |
| **1**. **Open the photograph in Photoshop, or copy the desired details using a screen shot. To take a screen shot on a Mac:** |
|  | **A**. Bring up the image on your screen in any browser or other software.**B.** Choose Command+Control+Shift+4**C.** Drag diagonally to make a selection from an image viewed (selected pixels will be saved on the computer’s clipboard).**D.** In Photoshop, open a new image (Command+n)**E.** In the new image, paste in the selected image details (Command+v) |

|  |
| --- |
| **2**. **Crop image to focus attention on the key aspects, and to fit into the design of the intended project.** |
|  | **A**. From the Tool Palette, choose the Crop Tool**B**. In the document, the image will be framed by handles on all sides and corners. Drag any of these handles inward to choose the new dimensions of the image. **C**. Hit “Return” to make crop.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **3.** **Eliminate extraneous background details.**  |
|  | **A.** Select the portions of the image you want to keep. One all-purpose method is the Tool Palette’s Polygonal Lasso Tool, nested under the Lasso Tool: **B.** With the Polygonal Lasso Tool chosen, click on the edge of what you want to select to set an anchor point.**C.** Move your cursor to another point along the edge of the intended selection and click again to set another anchor point**.** You will see a thread drawn between the two. Continue outlining your intended selection, setting anchor points as often as needed to create a smooth edge.**D.** Trace entirely around your selection. When you click on your starting anchor point, the thread line will turn into a selection (a circle of marching ants). **E.** Choose Select > Inverse (this reverses the selection so all the pixels outside your original selection are selected instead). **D.** Hit “Delete” |

|  |
| --- |
| **4.** Simply the photograph by reducing the details and halftones |
|  | **A**. Choose Image > Adjustments > Posterize**B.** Be sure the “Preview” box is checked. **C**. In the setting for “Levels,” experiment with moving the slider or replacing the number in the box to give you as few halftones as possible while keeping the details you want. Note: Alternatively, you can try using one of many filters available by choosing Filter > Filter Gallery… |

|  |
| --- |
| **5.** Make the image black and white (if necessary). |
|  | **A**. Choose Image > Adjustments > Black and White**B**. Click “OK” |

|  |
| --- |
| **6.** Place the remaining details against a solid-color background that matches.  |
|  | **A**. From the Tools Palette, select the Magic Wand Tool**B**. In the Options Palette at the top, be sure the “Contiguous” box is unchecked. **C**. In the document, select a detail of the image (as opposed to the blank background). The Magic Wand will select all the pixels on this layer of the same color. **D**. If some details are still unselected, hold down the Shift key and click them with the Magic Want cursor. **E**. If details are selected you don’t want, you can hold down the “Option” key and click them with the Magic Wand. **F**. With all the details you want to keep selected, choose Command+c to copy them. **G**. At the bottom of the Layers Palette, click the New Layer icon:  **E**. Paste the copied pixels onto the new layer (Command+p) **F**. In the Layers Palette, make the layer with the original image on it invisible by clicking the eye icon (layer visibility icon) to deselect it: **G**. Also make the background layers invisible by clicking its eye icon. **H**. Make a new background layer of the color you want by doing the following: **i**. At the bottom of the Layers Palette, click the New Fill Layer icon: **ii.** From the drop-down menu, choose “Solid Color” **iii.** Use the Color Picker to select an appropriate background color: either on that matches the larger design the image will be used in, or just to provide high contrast to the pixels of your image. If you know the RGB color code of the color you want, you can enter those numbers in the bottom right. Click OK to close the Color Picker. **iv.** In the Layers Palette, if necessary, drag the new background layer down in the stacking order so it is below the layer with your image on it.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **7.** Erase unwanted details.  |
|  | **A**. In the Layers Palette, select the visible layer with the new image on it (as opposed to the background, or the invisible layer with the original image on it).**B**. From the Tools Palette, Choose the Eraser Tool: **C**. In the document, draw on any details you want to erase them. From the Options Palette at the top, adjust any settings of the Eraser Tool as desired.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **8.** Reduce the saturation of less important details to focus attention on the most relevant aspects.  |
|  | **A**. In the Options Palette (with the Eraser Tool still selected from the Tool Palette), click the “Opacity” menu, and move the slider to 25%**B**. In the document, draw across any details you want to gray out slightly to deemphasize them. If you want a different degree of opacity, choose Edit > Undo Eraser (or Step Backward), and then change the opacity setting to the different %.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **9.** Copy the image into the project where it will be used, either with the background or without it.  |
|  | **A**. With the layer selected, choosing Control+c will copy only the layer with the details on it. Paste the layer into the new project. **B**. To copy both the details and the background, choose Command+a (or Select > All) to select the entire image, then choose Edit > Copy Merged. Paste the copied image into the new project.  |