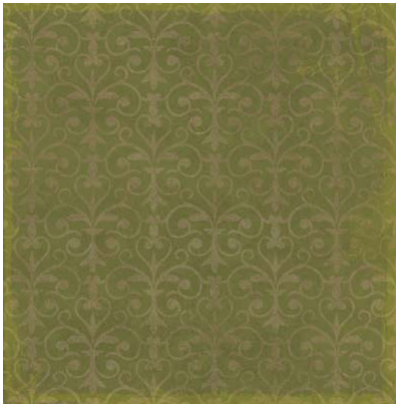


EDGE OVERLAYS

– *ENHANCE YOUR BACKGROUNDS AND IMAGES!*

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This tutorial includes instructions/screen shots for PSCS3 and PSE7, if you have other versions of PS or PSE it should work for you too. If you use another program, read carefully and you should be able to figure out which tools do the same thing in your program!

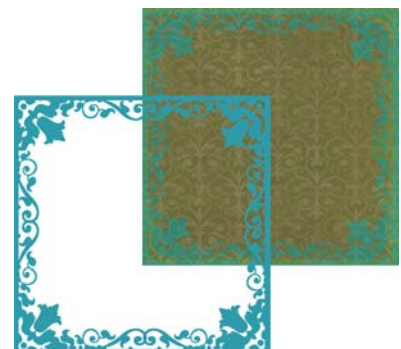


You see these in stores all the time – packs of edge overlays. Many are commercial-use products for designers use in making papers and other supplies, some are aimed specifically for use with photos. All of these overlays are very versatile and can change a layout from UGH to WOW!

THE BASIC OVERLAY

The most basic overlay will come as a black design on a transparent background. This is the most versatile of overlays, because you can do just about anything to it!

- Place it over a paper, and change blending modes to get a look you like:
 - To change Blending modes, go to your layers palette and pull down the menu at the top that says Normal and you will see lots of options! Click on Normal again, and you will notice that it stays highlighted. Now you can use your arrow keys to move down and back up the menu until you get a result you like!
 - Try changing the color of the overlay from black before blending. To do this easily hit CTRL+U to open the Hue/Saturation dialog,



check the “colorize” box, and adjust the sliders till you get a color you like. Then change the blending modes and see how different your results are from the first time!

- **Apply a style:** You can purchase style sets, or just use the style settings in the program. PSE has many pre-set styles, and if you don't like what you get, you can double click on the little fx to the right of the layer name (in PSE5 it's a sunflower) and adjust the settings with sliders. In PS, you can apply a bewildering number of style settings, play with these until you get something you like. Try the pattern overlay and the color overlay settings, these get overlooked a lot!



- **Run an Action:** there are some free actions that work pretty well. Many of the free ones are designed for web use or use on type, and are not scaled to print-sized work, so don't be disappointed if you don't get the results you like. There are many for pay actions, just be certain you are getting one that will work with your version of the program. If you are unsure, better ask. Not all PS actions work with PSE. AtomicCupcake.com has some of the best metals out there, and most of her actions come in PSE versions.



- **Cut out a paper:** Use a clipping mask to cut a paper out in the shape of the overlay. To do this, place the overlay on your layout, then drag another paper onto the layer above it. Hover your cursor on the line between the two layers in the layers palette and hold your ALT key. When you see the cursor change to two intersecting circles with an arrow, you're in the right spot, so CLICK. That will make it so the only part of the top paper that's visible is where the overlay is. You can still move the paper or the overlay to get the pattern to hit where you want it.



- **Add to it:** Add a word, or swirls, or a shape or something else in black and merge the layers. Be sure to save as a new document, to avoid overwriting your original.



- Subtract from it: Use the eraser tool with a grunge brush to erase parts of the overlay for a worn look, or with a cute shape to punch holes in it. Again, be sure to save as a new document, to avoid overwriting!



You can make these easily too! Open a file, get out some brushes, and start stamping. When you get something you like, save as .png to preserve the transparency and you have a new overlay!

Be sure to share your results in our gallery, we love to see how creative you all are! If you want to know more about how to work with these overlays and other advanced scrapping techniques take our Master Scrapper Class. Watch for the listing in the store or email us for upcoming dates.

Happy Scrapping!

Jenn