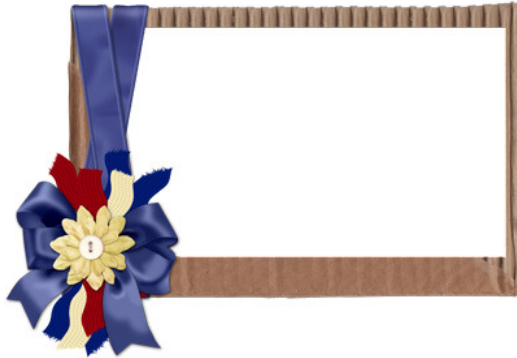


# RIBBON WRAPS

## – HOW TO WRAP RIBBONS *AROUND ANYTHING!*

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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!*



One of the hottest looks right now is to wrap things with ribbon! You can wrap photos, frames, tags, pretty much anything, quickly and easily if you know a few little-understood tools.

### GATHER SUPPLIES

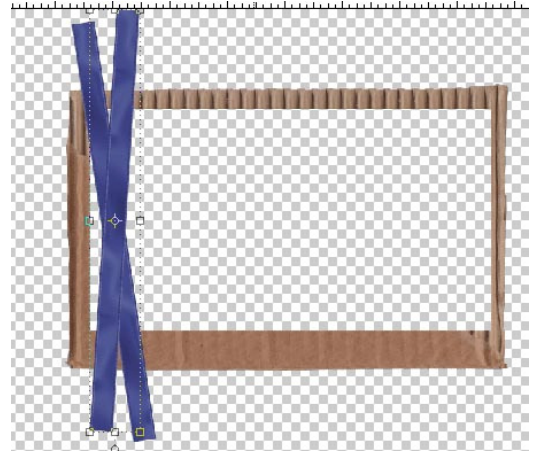
1. You will need the item you wish to wrap (in our case, a cardboard frame).
2. Find a ribbon you wish to wrap. Take into consideration its size, texture, and color so that it works well with your object (frame). Remember, you cannot size up a little half inch ribbon to be a three inch wide sash and expect it to look good. You may need to drag both the frame and the ribbon onto a new document to see how they relate to each other in size, since you can't really tell from the thumbnails.
3. Think about how you're going to 'finish' the wrap. Will the ends be 'attached' behind the object? Or will they finish in a bow or knot? You will need to find or create the bow, knot or cluster you wish to use to finish off the wrap. In the example above I created a cluster from a variety of elements in the kit.

### CUT AND PLACE

1. Drag your frame to a new document (or your layout). This will give you room to work.

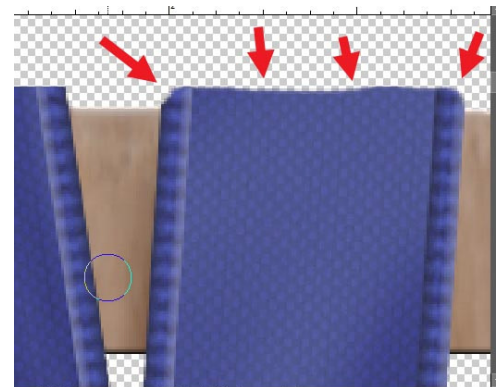
- Use your Marquee tool to 'cut' a piece of ribbon a little longer than your frame. Click and drag until you have enough selected, CTRL+C to copy, then place on your document by hitting CTRL+V.
- Repeat the process for another piece of ribbon if you like. I recommend you always choose the second piece of ribbon from a different place on the ribbon file, so that you don't look like you have two identical pieces. If you just copy the layer, it looks obviously fake because the shading and patterns are exact copies. Just move the marquee selection over a couple of inches and copy and paste again for more pieces.

- Using the Move tool, arrange the pieces of ribbon until you like the placement. Be sure the ends hang well beyond the edges of the frame. Be careful not to block too much of the image area, so that you can find a picture that will look good in the frame.



- Using whatever selection tool you like (I prefer the marquee or polygonal lasso tools for nice straight lines) select the ends of the ribbons that hang beyond the frame. **\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** do not cut right against the edge of the frame. The ribbons should have some thickness, and thus will stick out beyond the edge of the frame. Leave a very small part of the ribbon hanging off, this is what makes the 'wrap' part.

- Using the eraser tool with a hard edged brush, round over the corners ever so slightly. For a more realistic look, you can also soften the harsh edge of the ribbon so it looks a little uneven. When ribbon is pulled taught, the center will dip down and the edges stay a little high because of the selvages.




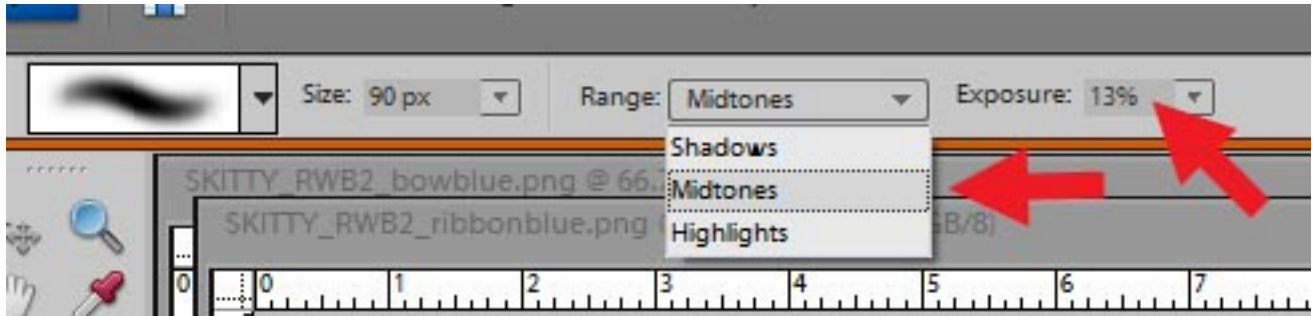
- Do this on all ends of the ribbon that will be visible.

## SHADING

This is what will make your ribbon wraps look realistic. We will use 2 new tools – the Dodge and Burn tools. These tools get their name from old darkroom techniques that

photographers used to darken or lighten areas of their photos while they were being exposed in the darkroom. They work very similarly here.

1. Choose the Burn Tool.  In PSE it is at the bottom of your tool bar, in PS it is near the middle, 3 spots down from the Eraser. You will notice your tool options bar gives you some choices:



2. Set the Range to Midtones and your exposure very low. I use 9-14%. Choose a soft brush that is small enough for you to run along the 'cut' edge of the ribbon. You may need to experiment with brush size a little until you get used to eyeballing this.

3. Run the Burn tool over the 'cut' edges and you will see them darken. Keep this very close to the edge for flatter frames, you can have a larger dark area the deeper or thicker the frame is. This creates the shadow you see when the ribbon curls over the edge of the frame. Keep using the tool until the darkness is how you like it.



4. Switch to the Dodge tool. It is directly under the Burn tool (click on the Burn tool and hold to reveal). Change the tool options bar to the same settings you used on the Burn tool.
5. Run the Dodge tool just next to the shadow you just made. This is the highlight where the ribbon curls up onto the flat of the frame. This will require fewer passes than the burn tool did, don't overdo it!

## FINISH

Add your embellishments and you're done! Since you did all this work, I recommend saving your new embellished frame in the kit folder, so you can use it again if need be. If you were working on your layout, you will want to turn off all the layers that are NOT the frame and ribbons, then save as .png. Usually, I will work on a blank document, then save. Then I can click and drag onto my layout.

This is just a simple wrap, you can get as complex with them as you wish adding twists and knots. It's just a matter of bending your ribbons and adding the appropriate shading and highlights.

So go try wrapping up a frame or a photo, and put your ribbons to work for you!



Happy Scrapping! *Jenn*