

# WORKING WITH GRADIENTS

– PERK UP YOUR EXISTING SUPPLIES EASILY!

©2009 Stan and Jennifer White/ScrappersWorkshop.com All Rights Reserved- Do not Reproduce in any method, digital or otherwise without express written permission of the authors.

*This tutorial includes instructions/screen shots for PSCS3 and PSE8, 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!*



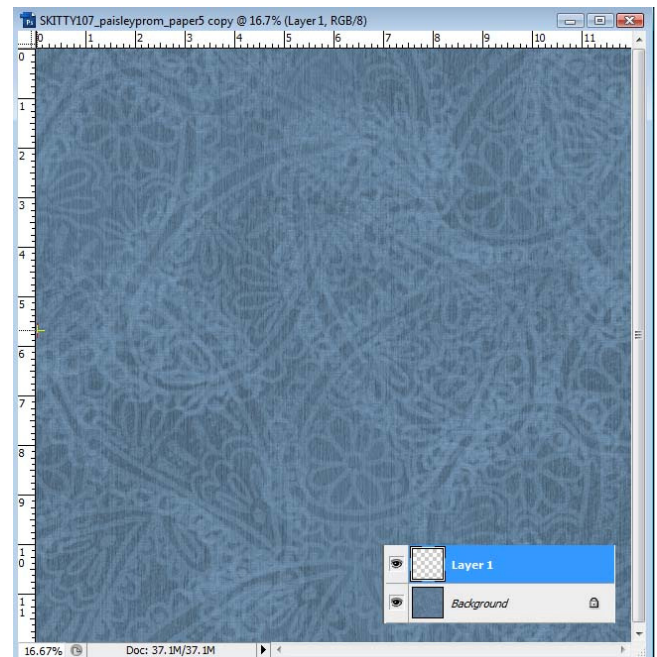
Everyone gets tired of the same old stash from time to time, or you have a paper whose pattern you love but the color is flat or boring. Maybe you have a flower or ribbon that could use perking up? Gradients are the perfect way to do that!

## MAKING A CUSTOM GRADIENT

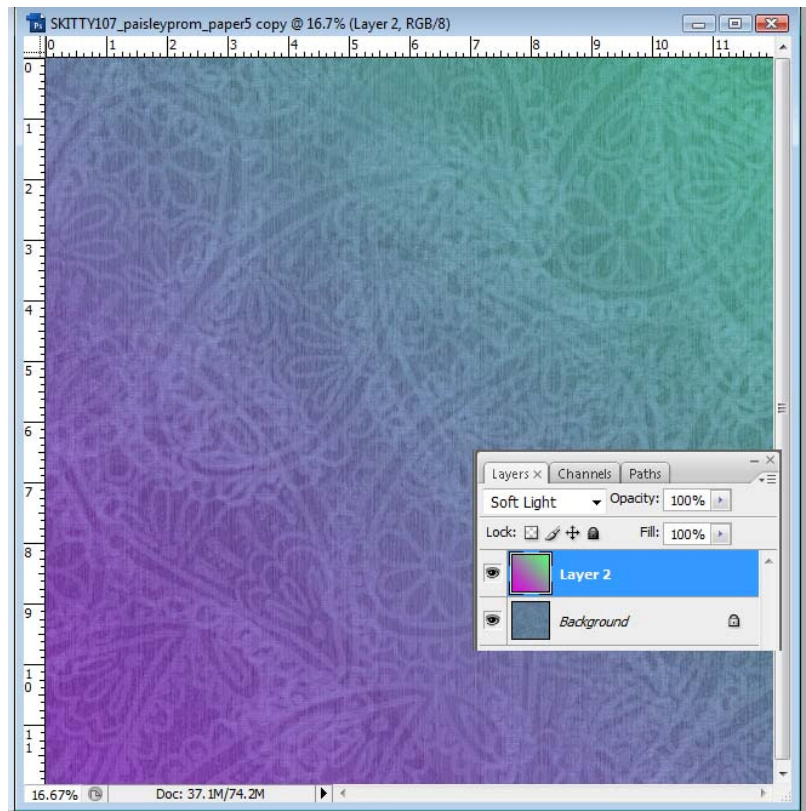
Before you do this, you will want to know how to customize gradients. See our tutorial here: <http://www.scrapkittydesign.com/tutorials/ChangingGradients.pdf> You will want to choose colors that harmonize with the paper you've chosen. You don't want to use the same color, as it won't show, but find colors that you think might look good. You can look to your photo for ideas!

## PAPERS

1. Choose your paper. Pretty much any paper will do, but you'll get best results *usually* from papers with patterns that are low contrast. Papers with too many colors in them can sometimes have one color come out really great and the others nasty ugly!
2. Create a new layer above your paper.
3. Change to the Gradient tool.



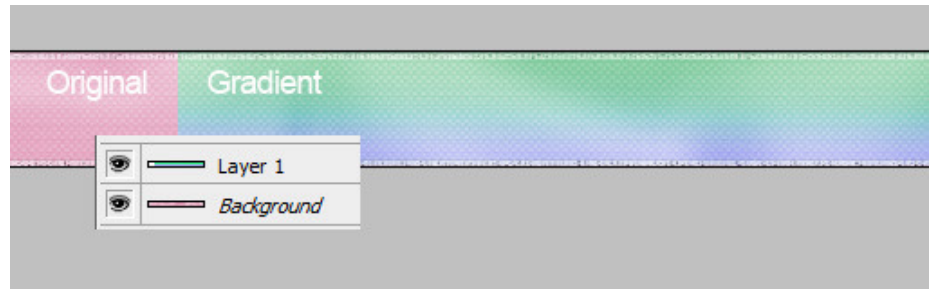
4. Click and drag across the new layer.
5. Change the layer blend mode until you get a look you like! (that's the drop down menu in the box at the top of the layer palette!)
6. Save as a jpeg under a new name, and you've got a new paper!



## ELEMENTS:

### Ribbons

1. Choose a ribbon to work with. I find satiny ribbons work well, but you can try any ribbon you have. You will want to work with a straight ribbon though.

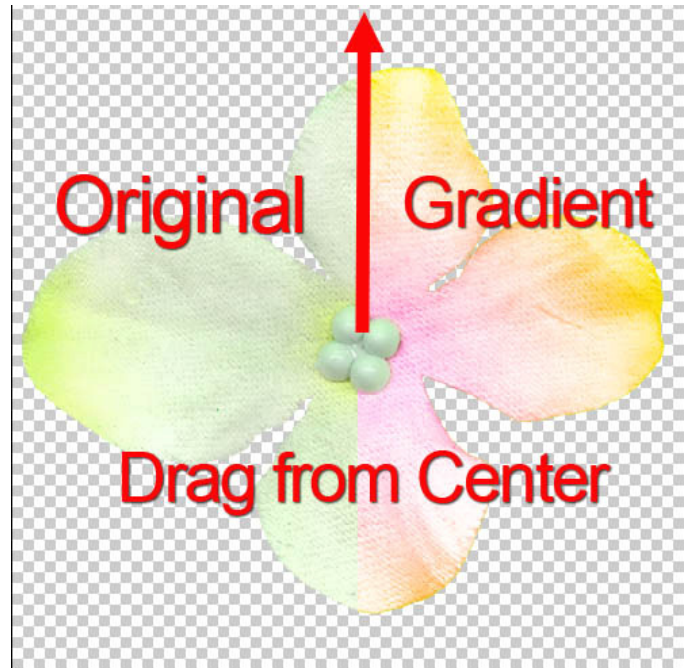


2. Create a new layer above the ribbon layer.
3. Change to the gradient tool
4. Click and drag to fill the new layer with your gradient.
5. Change the blending mode of the new layer until you get a result you like!
6. Save as a new file with a different name.

### Flowers

1. Choose a Flower to work with.

2. Create a new layer above the flower layer.
3. Hold the CTRL key and click on the thumbnail on the flower layer. This will surround the flower with marching ants and so the background doesn't get filled in.
4. Choose the Gradient tool, and click on the radiant gradient option.
5. Click at the center and drag out.
6. Change the blending mode of the new layer until you get a result you like!
7. Save As a new .png file with a different name.



#### TIPS AND TRICKS:

- Don't be afraid of strong colors, with the right blending option they may seem pastel as in the flower at right!
- Try the different gradient options, you can get very different results.
- You can drag right off the page for a different result.
- You can re-drag right over your last attempt if you don't like it.
- You can erase through the gradient layer to show the color from below like I did in the flower example above.
- Instead of doing the CTRL+click on thumbnail thing you can use a clipping mask to preserve transparency. Fill the entire top layer with the gradient. Hold your ALT key down, then click on the line between the two layers. The gradient will disappear where there isn't a flower below it!

Don't forget to show us what you've done in our gallery!

Happy Scrapping! *Jenn*