

## **BEYOND BASIC: Additional Notes**

Rather than provide notes, I have explored tutorials on the web. These are some of the best I could find. The CS /Elements version might be older but the method remains the same.

### **Replacing Sky**

#### **Notes:**

1. Please remember foreground and sky should match! If you have a sunny foreground, you need a blue /sunny sky. If you have a dull foreground, use a stormy or cloudy sky.
2. There are a number of ways to replace a sky. Depending on your image, one method will probably work better than others.
3. Strong architectural images will be easier than those with 'fiddly bits' like trees.
4. Some tools are only available in CS. Each method will indicate which software can be used
5. If you plan to enter a competition with a different sky, it must be a sky you have taken.

#### **Replace using a selection using Colour Range (CS only)**

Very effective and easy method to select the sky. Also includes additional steps to better integrate your sky and foreground using hue and saturation & gradient tool adjustments (7.5 mins)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcJhVpx\\_1jg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcJhVpx_1jg)

#### **Replace using Blend If (CS only)**

It explains this method very well and includes additional steps you can do to fine tune your blending. She uses a tree (which is always difficult!)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJssJWZ2t\\_Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJssJWZ2t_Y)

There is a part 2 if you are interested

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cctJs0JV37k>

#### **Replace using Multiple Blend mode and Gradient Tool (Elements /CS)**

Stay with this as its excellent explanation of using these tools to blend sky and foreground. (8 mins)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtJRBU1Ae7E>

#### **Replace sky using Magic Extractor (Elements)**

Good explanation on how to use magic extractor and Similar Adjustment. (8 mins)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhJGIC2k\\_9U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhJGIC2k_9U)

#### **Related to skies but if you are interested in brushes**

An excellent tutorial on how to make your own cloud brushes. They could be useful if you have a bland sky and just want to add the odd cloud or two (rather than replace the whole sky)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSIZdV-R8vg>

### **Using Textures Overlays**

#### **Notes:**

1. Texturing can be overwhelming – there are so many choices, blending modes etc. So try and look at examples to see how you might want your image to look
2. As you begin texturing try:
  - a. matching colour of the texture with the photograph
  - b. matching the strength of the texture with the subject. So - soft texture for flowers but stronger textures for structures

- c. Look for textures that add interest to any empty spaces in the image
  - d. Find textures that help sculpt the light (e.g. texture with darker area to help darken skies)
  - e. Modify textures so there are no distracting areas on main area or focus of image
  - f. Don't over-texturise! It should enhance an image, not overwhelm.
3. If you plan to enter a textured image in competition, it must be with a texture YOU have made
  4. There are loads of free textures on the web. There is a list at the end of this section.
  5. There are numerous sites where you can purchase textures. Again, there is list at the bottom.
  6. Remember that any textures not your own will have some form of common licence applied to it (i.e. restrictions on how and when you can use the texture)

#### How to apply Texture to an Image ( Elements)

This is a good basic introduction on different ways to place your texture on an image (3 mins)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0JqGKUsM\\_w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0JqGKUsM_w)

#### How to Add Texture Overlay (Photoshop but can be applied to Elements)

Tutorial by a vendor but still good explanation of how to use texture overlays and masking techniques

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2M95qhgD2GE>

#### Adding Texture to Photographs (Photoshop)

Excellent tutorial on expertly using textures to add impact and emotion to your images. Also includes using blending modes to change character of a texture. (12mins)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyxmEgyn90Y>

#### More Advanced Users (Elements but appropriate for CS as well)

Good tutorial on using textures with advanced masking and editing techniques. (8 mins)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iP9jOxdN1W4>

Want you make your own textures? These might be interesting:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/skeletalmess/4401327187/in/set-72157622794823052/>

<http://lostandtaken.com/blog/2011/2/15/how-to-create-subtle-grunge-textures.html>

<http://everydayelementsonline.com/2011/01/creating-textures-in-photoshop-elements/>

#### How to apply textures to your Photographs (written tutorial for Photoshop but ok for Elements 11)

If you want a read how to do it – here is a useful site

<http://digital-photography-school.com/how-to-apply-textures-to-your-photographs>

#### Good Sources for Textures (please do search to find website)

DeviantArt (mostly free )	Flickr(free)	Shadow Creation (free)
French Kisses Textures	Jessica Drossin	Flypaper Textures
Photomorphis	Seasalt Paperie	Kim Klasson
Coffee Shop Blog (free)		