

Creating Photoshop Brushes

By Lavica

Tutorial 2

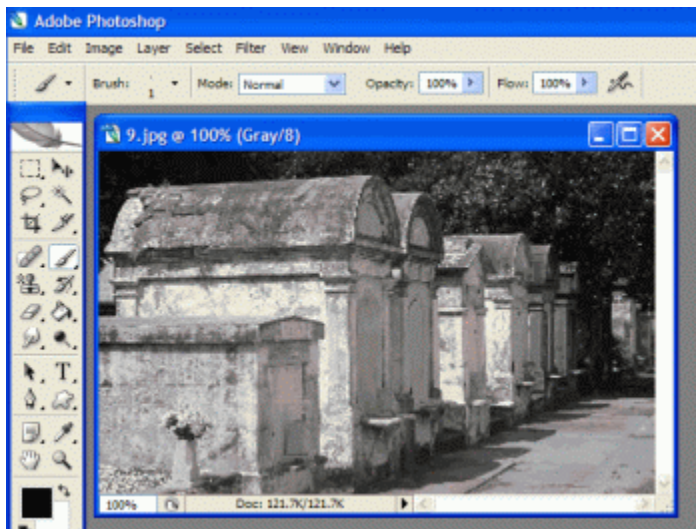
In the last tutorial we covered how to create simple Photoshop brushes. Now we'll take the next step to making slightly more advanced brushes. I've tried to simplify things as much as possible, as there's nothing worse when you're learning than being bogged down with lots of unfamiliar terminology.

What you'll need

1. An installation of Adobe Photoshop any version from 7 through to CS3.
2. A graphic of your choice to make the brush from.

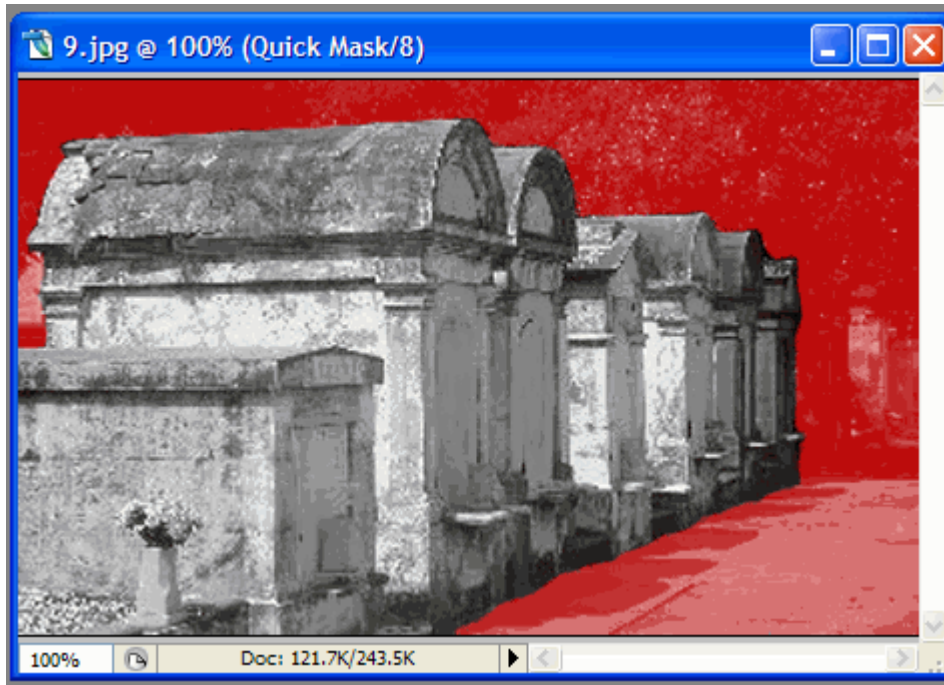
Step 1

Open Adobe Photoshop and then click on File and Open to choose the image you are going to use to make your brush. I have converted mine to grayscale as mentioned in the previous tutorial. The image size isn't too important so long as it's manageable. It comprises of only one background layer.



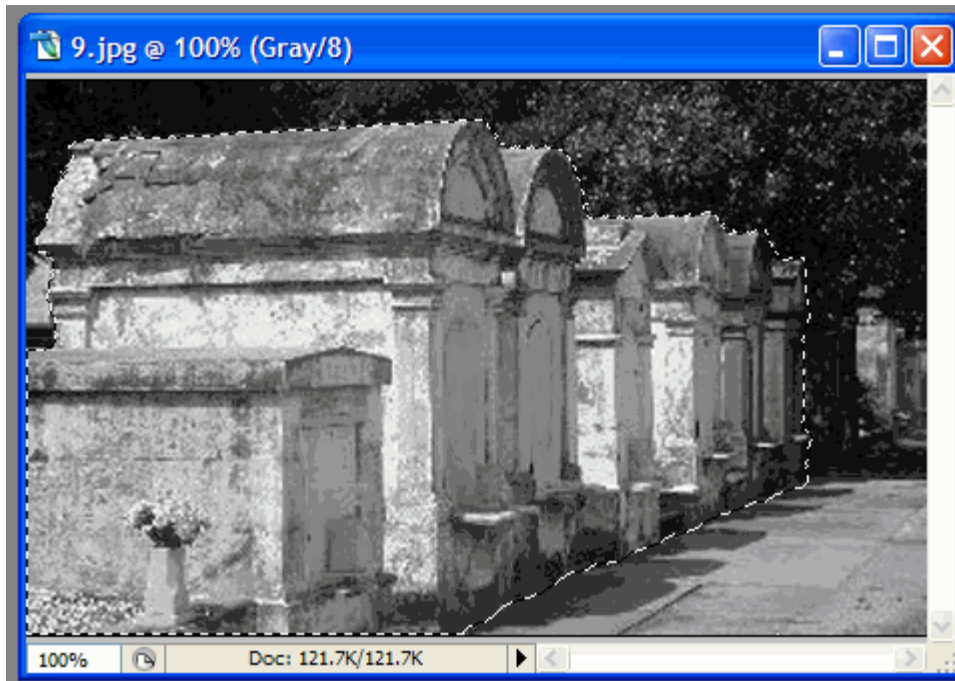
Step 2

Press Q on your keyboard. This will start off the masking process. Zoom to a size of image you are comfortable with visually and then choose your masking brush size from the brushes dropdown. Then colour in all the parts of the image that won't be in your final brush. As in the picture below.



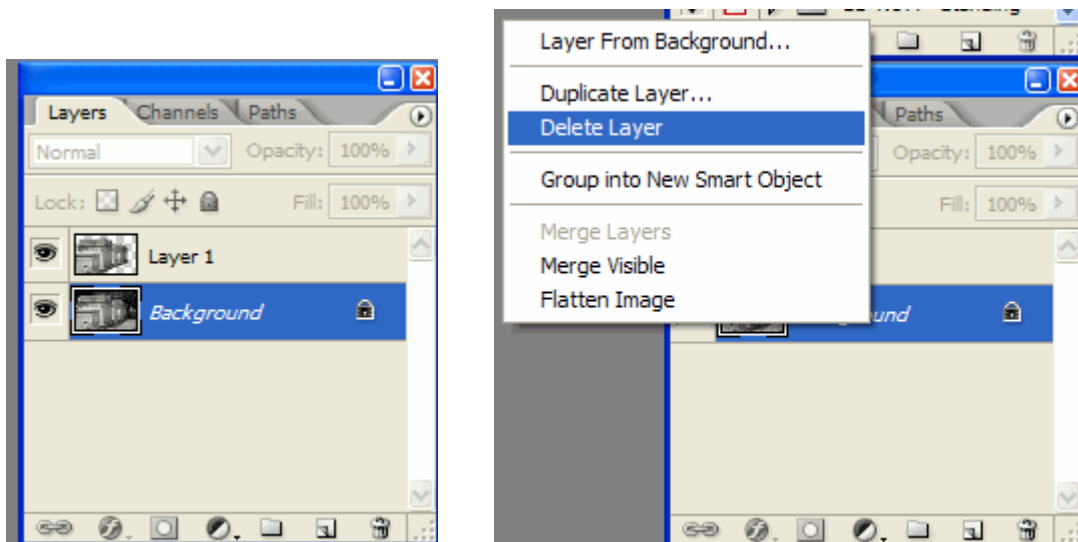
Step 3

When you are happy that you have masked off all the areas you don't want then press Q again on your keyboard. You will now be left with a selection in the form of a dotted line instead of the red mask. This area will eventually become your new brush. Next you must create a new layer from your selection.

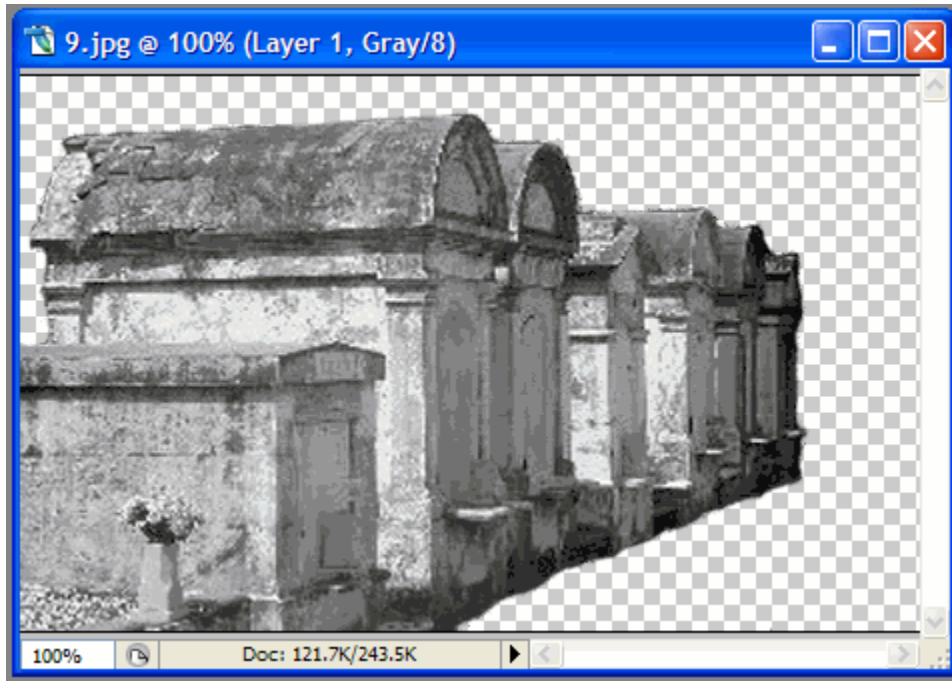


Step 4

To create your new layer press the following on your keyboard Ctrl + c and then Ctrl + v. You will now notice in your layers window that you have a new extra layer as shown below. Now right click on the layer named Background and choose to delete it as shown in the second picture.

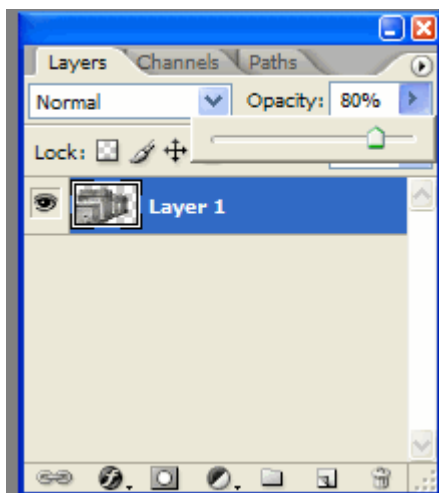


The next picture shows what you should be left with after you delete the background.

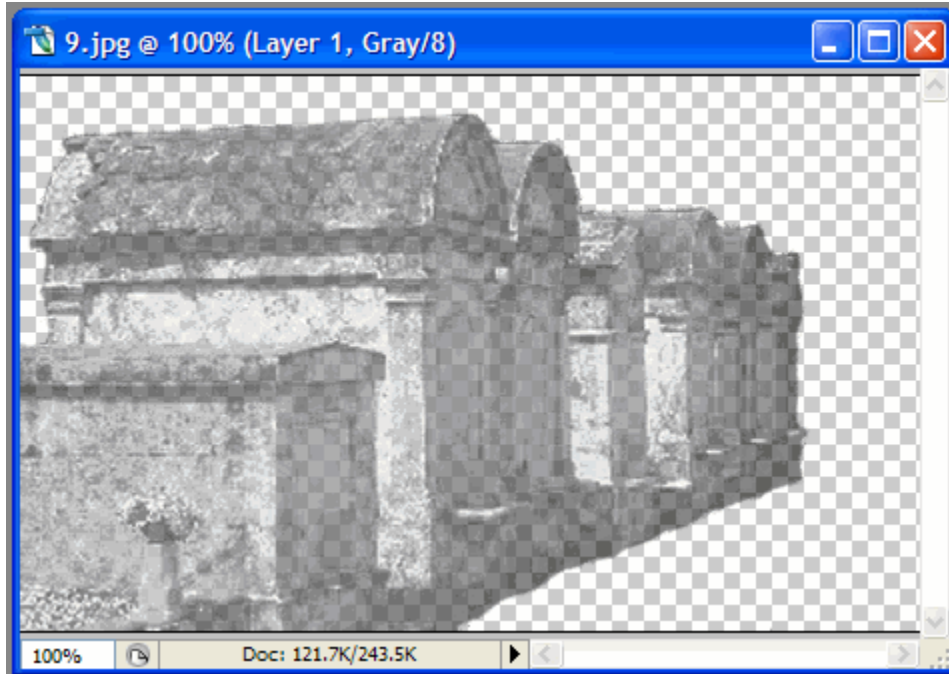


Step 5

Next we are going to select an opacity level for your brush in other words how solid or see-through it will be. About 70 or 80 are good levels. You can do this in the same box where you deleted the background layer as shown in the picture below.

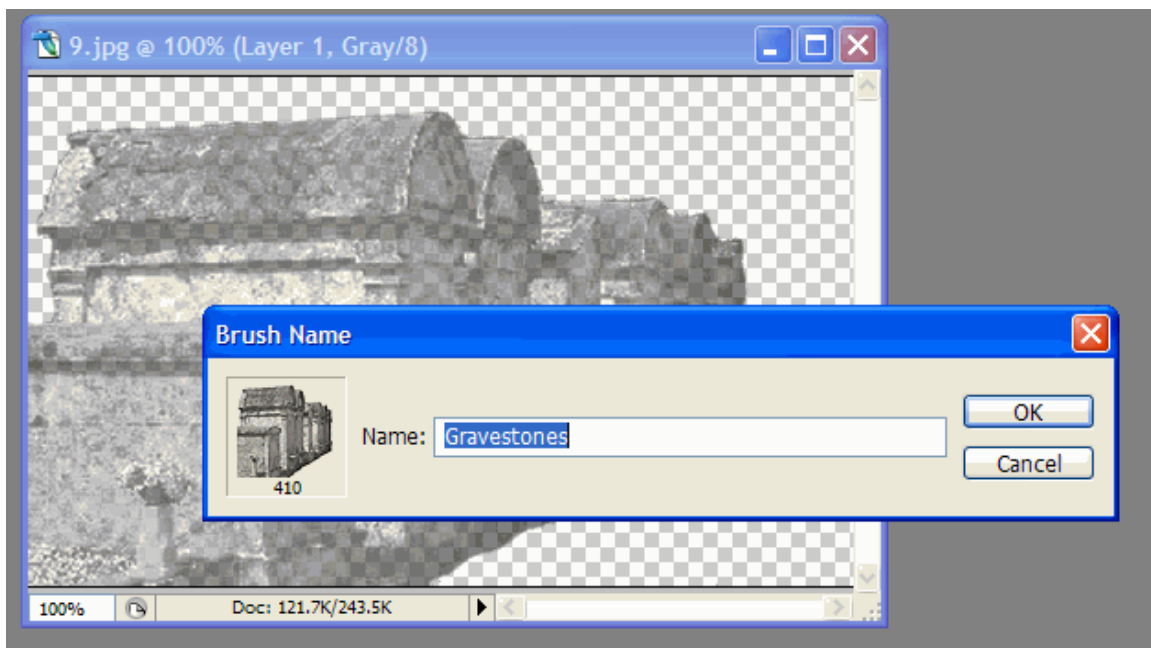
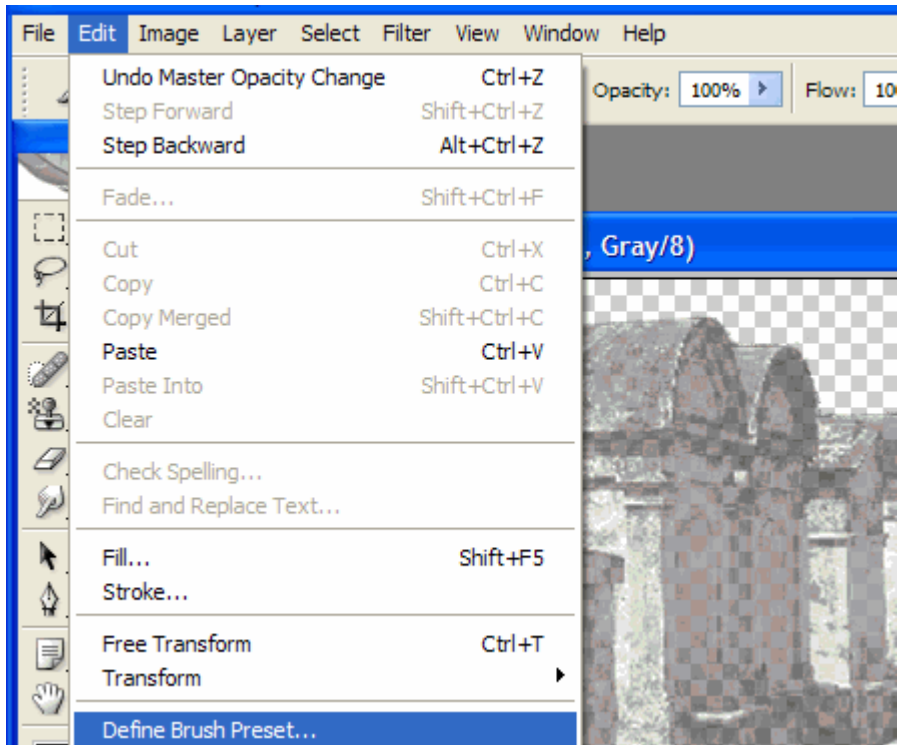


Opacity is a matter of personal preference so play around with the percentages till you are happy. The picture below shows what the image would be like with an opacity of 80%.

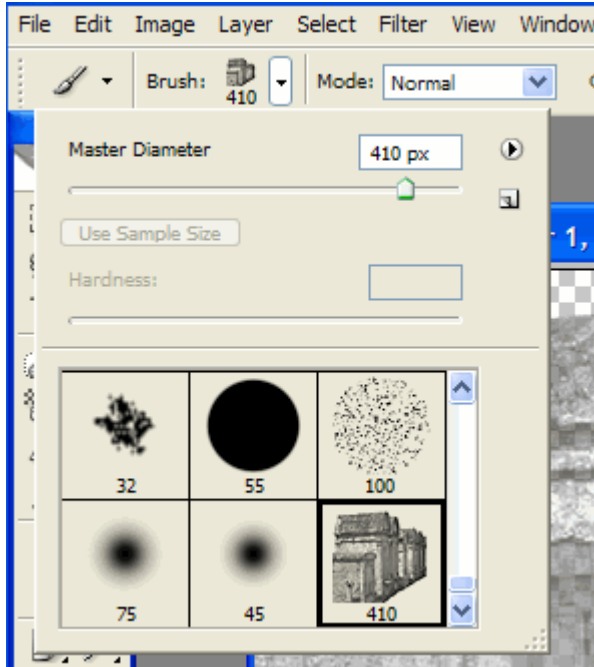


Step 6

Finally as in the previous tutorial when you are happy with your brush it's time to create and save it. In the top left hand corner click on Edit and then Define Brush Preset, as in the picture below. Then you will choose a name for your newly created brush and save it to a set and it's as simple as that. Also it's worth mentioning in the previous step you could also play with the image using filters etc... to get it just how you want it.



The final picture underneath shows the brush with your other presets.



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial and it will inspire you to create your own brushes.

Lavica

If you would like me to make an avatar or a signature for you or some other kind of graphic you can mail me at:

lavicagfx@gmail.com

and I'll do my best to help you...