

The Vignette

To apply a very subtle contrast vignette to your photo after **duplicating** the background layer you can use the following technique:

1. Go to the **rectangular marquee tool**.
2. Draw a marquee one inch inside all four sides of your picture.
3. Go to **Select>Feather** and choose 250 pixels. This will round the corner of your selection. Click **Enter**.
4. Go to **Select>Inverse** and when you click **Enter**, the selection will be around the outer edges of your picture.
5. Copy all the visible pixels (instead of only those on a single layer) by going to **Edit>Copy Merged**.
6. Go to **Edit>Paste** and the pixels from the clipboard will be pasted on a new layer.
7. Click on the **Blend Mode** box and a drop-down menu will appear. From this menu choose one of the following: **Multiply, Darken, Screen, Lighten, Overlay** or some other mode.
8. If the blend mode you've chosen is too dark, go to the **Opacity** slider and adjust the vignette to make it lighter.

Hair Mask

The object of the Hair Mask is to darken the white cloth behind the hair of the Red-Hair Clown (or other case where you want to select around hair). Go to the Dropbox to obtain a picture of the Red-Hair Clown.

1. Create New Layer: **R.^ “Background” layer, choose “Duplicate Layer”**. Rename the layer or keep the default name. Stay on this layer for the rest of the process.

2. Darken the cloth behind the Red-Hair Clown's left side (our R.) Go to: **"Enhance/Adj.Lighting/Brightness-Contrast"** and darken the whole picture to the shade you want the cloth (and pillars) to be when the process is finished. **Click OK.** Don't worry. The rest of these steps is to preserve the original brightness on the remainder of the picture (= all except the cloth and pillars).
3. In the following steps we're going to make that "remainder" black so when we apply the black mask, it conceals the darkened picture to its original brightness, i.e., the Background brightness – and leave the cloth and pillars to the shade we made them in step 2. Go to: **"enhance/adj.color/hue.../Master=red/Lightness= -100"**. **Click OK.**
4. Make the rest of the "remainder" of the picture black: **Click the Black-White squares in the lower left of the screen** to make the foreground color black. **Select the paintbrush** and, with **100% opacity**, **paint the "remainder"** of the picture, face and all. If your picture includes the pillars, select the Quick Selection Tool and select the pillars and cloth. Then invert the selection. Don't worry that the hair is not accurately selected. We're not going to be near it. Switch back to the Paintbrush and paint the area around the pillars black. The black won't go into the pillars because we inverted the pillar selection.
5. The blackened Clown picture should now be in the thumbnail of the layer. Go to: **"Select/All" then do an "Edit/Copy"**. That should put marching ants around the entire work area and paste it into the scratch-pad memory.
6. Create a mask for the layer: In the line of icons above the words "Normal" and "Opacity", ^^ **the icon= blue rectangle with a hole in it.** An empty white square should now appear in the layer mask to the right of the clown thumbnail.
7. With the mask still selected (blue boarder) do an **Alt.^ in the mask**. The work area of the photo should turn all white.
8. Do a **"Edit/Paste"** to place the previously-selected picture of the work area into the mask. (the Edit/Copy of step 5) *How cool is that!*
9. Do an **Alt.^ on the clown thumbnail of the layer (not the mask)**. Voila! The work area now contains the picture we want. The mask concealed the darkening we originally did (the layer we created) and restored the "remainder" of the picture (= the black of the mask) to the original brightness (of the Background layer).