



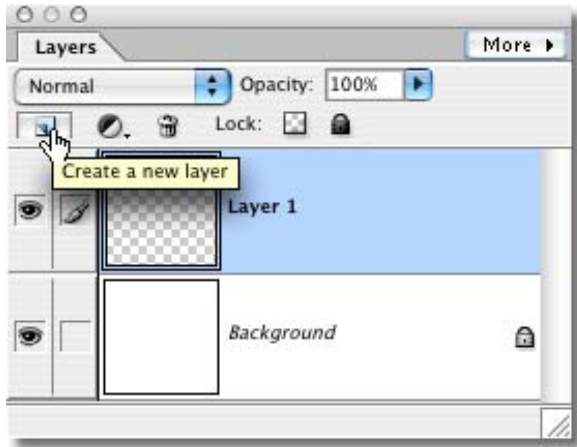
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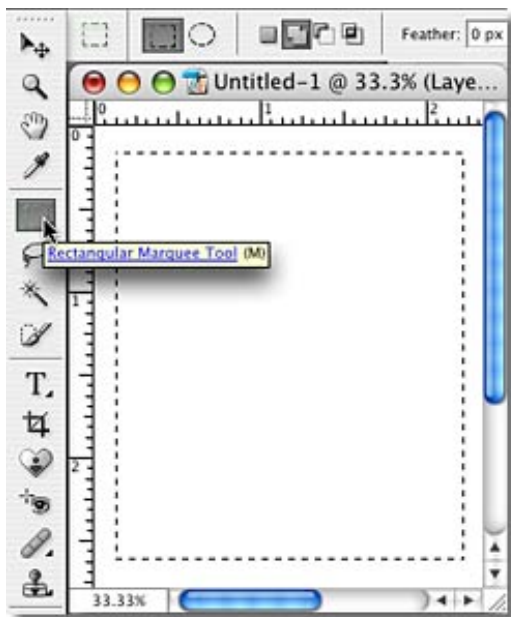


Elegant Embossing
By *Linda Sattgast*

Create a new document (File > New > Blank File) and click on the New Layer icon at the top of the Layers palette to create a new blank layer.



With your Rectangular Marquee tool, click and drag an outline the size you want your embossed card to be.



Click on the Foreground Color Chip and choose a color from the Color Picker, then click okay.

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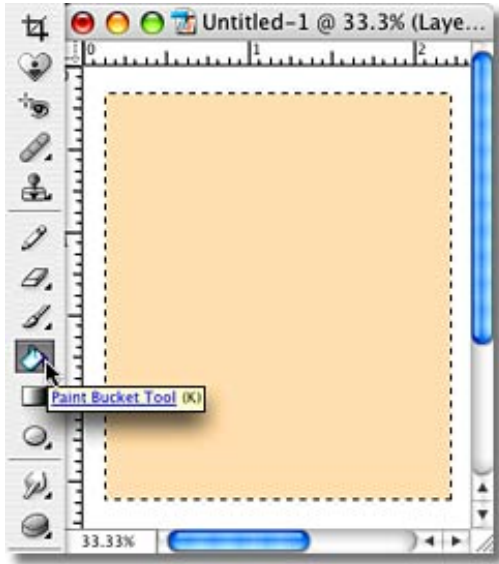
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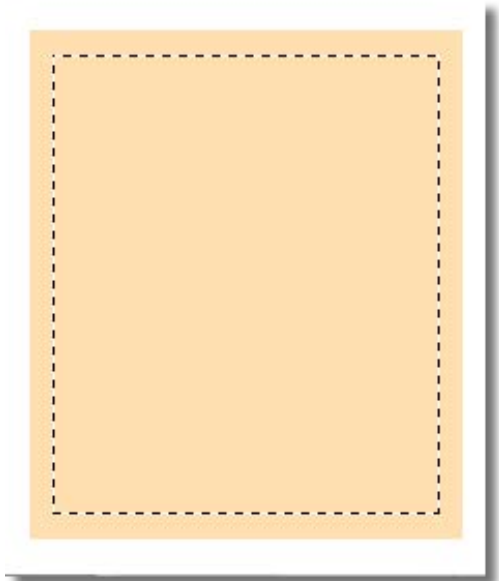
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Click on the Paint Bucket tool and click inside your selection to fill it with the Foreground color. To get rid of your selection outline, choose "Select > Deselect."



Create another new layer. Then click on your Rectangular Marquee tool and draw another outline slightly smaller than your colored card.

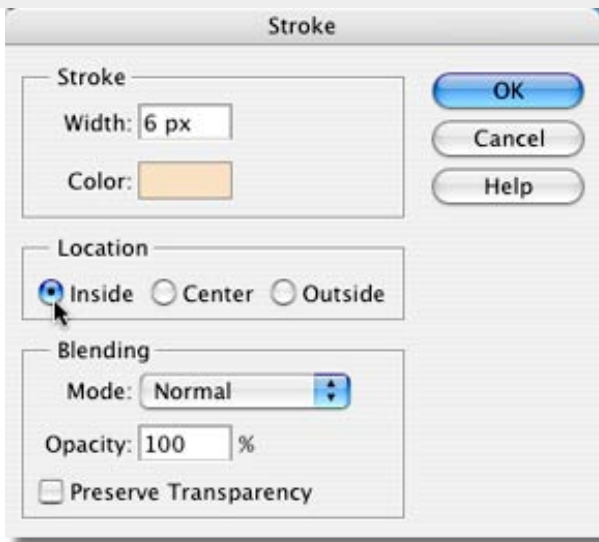


Without changing your Foreground color, choose "Edit > Stroke (Outline) Selection" from the Menu Bar. Enter a pixel number of at least 6 if your document resolution is 200 ppi, more if your resolution is higher. Choose "Inside" for the location That way your corners will remain square. Click okay.

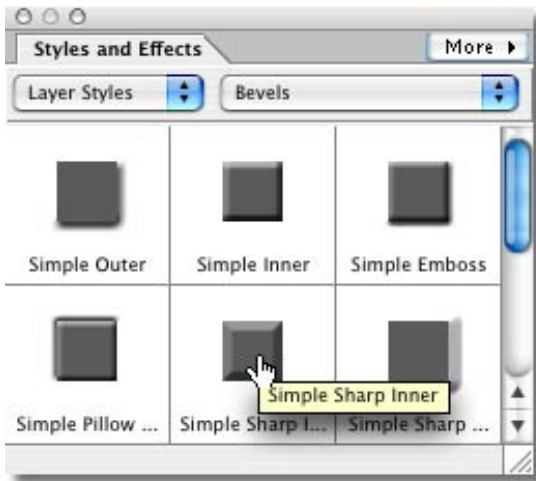
→ Inspiration of the Week

They say, "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." It's also happens to be one of the oldest methods of learning. Many of history's greatest painters started their training by copying the paintings of earlier artists. Now, I'm not saying you should try to copy a Van Gogh using Photoshop Elements, but there is a museum of great work by your peers – it's the Image Gallery. So take a look through the gallery and pick out some projects that you like and then try to duplicate what they did using your own photos. You might even improve on the original!

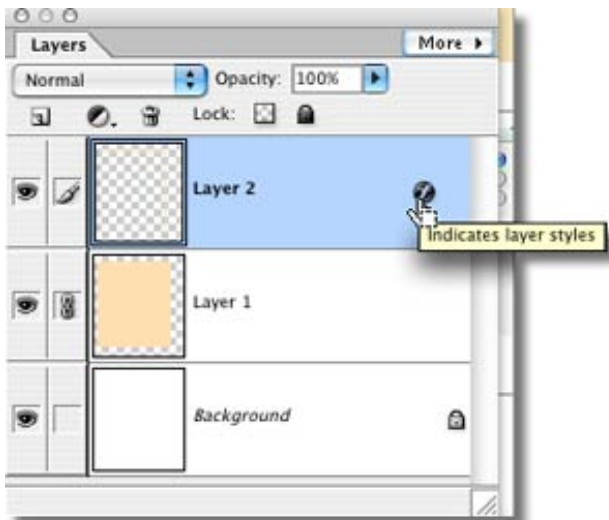




When you deselect, you won't be able to see anything because the color of your stroke is the same as the color of your card. To see your stroke, go to your Styles & Effects palette, choose "Layer Styles" from the upper left menu, and choose "Bevels" from the upper right menu. Then click on Simple Sharp Inner (the 5th icon).



Go back to your Layers palette and double click on the "style effects" circle that is now on the Stroke layer.



Reduce the bevel until it has an understated embossed look. (I used a distance of 2 pixels.)



To enhance your card, you can add a shape from the Custom Shapes tool using the same color and bevel style to create an elegant look.



Once you apply the bevel and emboss style to your first shape and make your adjustments, that style will appear in the Options Bar and will get applied to subsequent shapes, unless you change it.



To create a border that looks embossed, simply add more shapes.



You can also use this technique with type or with designs you draw yourself with the Paint Brush. When you add type, a new layer is created automatically, but when you paint with the Brush tool, don't forget to create a new layer first.

The key to this technique is to use the same color as the layer below. Then, when you add a bevel and adjust the distance, it looks like it's embossed



I like to use this technique on scrapbook pages where I want a simple, elegant look, such as a wedding page.



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