

Blurring Backgrounds in Photoshop

1. Open Image
2. Crop to 2X3 or 16X9
3. Process: In Layers: Denoise — Sharpen — Detail - Retouch as needed.
4. Save as a PSD and Name it.
5. Flatten Layers
6. Quick select all parts of the Flower and stems.
7. Save the selection (Mask) name it “Flower”
8. Hit: Command “J” to put the flower on it own Layer. The Mask Selection will disappear.
9. On Background Layer, Pull Down Select— Load selection. This will re-load the flower mask.
10. In Layers list select “background layer” then hit select: Inverse. This will outline just the background.
11. Hit Command “J” this will put the background on its own layer with a with hole where the Flower used to be.
12. Save as PSD again.
13. Delete the Top (Flower Layer) and the Bottom (Background) Layer. This leaves only the center Background with white hole in it layer.
14. Pull down Select- Load Selection again.
15. Pull down Select - Modify - Expand - Expand Selection by “35” Pixels.
16. Pull down Edit - Content Aware Fill - a Box will shoe a sample of the “Filled in Background” Hit OK
17. Pull down Select- De-Select to remove the Selection ants.
18. Flatten the layers. Then Save As: Background Filled as a Tiff. Un-Check ‘Alpha Channels”
19. In the “History List” Click on “Layer Via Copy (Save)”. This will re-load your layers from eariler.
20. Drag in the “Background Filled” Tiff you just saved. Place it in the Header bar as another photo, then drag it down on the page as a second image.
21. Using the Move Tool, Grab the Flower from the Top Layer and drag it off the page and onto the Background Filled Image Photo.
22. Position as needed. Now you should have Flower & Background each on its own layer with no Halos.
23. You can now Darken and Blur the Background on its own Layer.
24. You can now Sharpen just the Flower on it own Layer.
25. Save as PSD Final Image
26. Flatten Image.
27. Retouch any masking errors.
28. Spot check for blemishes.
29. Save as Tiffs & Jpegs in all aspect ratios.