

Swapping heads in photos

Just for fun, have you ever wanted to copy a head in one photo and place it into another photo? It's actually quite easy to do, and this tutorial will show you how.

In this tutorial, you'll become familiar with

- The Learning Center palette, and how to use it to open multiple photos
- The Smart Edge mode of the Freehand Selection tool
- Copying a selection and pasting it as a separate layer into another photo
- Using the Pick tool to resize and rotate a layer

Open the photos

- 1 From the Learning Center palette's Home page, choose Get Photos, and then choose Browse.
- 2 From the Browser palette, navigate to where you've saved the "Makeover_before.jpg" and the "Hula.jpg" photos.
- 3 Double click each photo's Browser palette thumbnail to open them in the Paint Shop Pro X workspace.



Display the Layers palette

4 If it isn't already displayed, display the Layers palette by choosing it from the Palettes drop-list in the Standard toolbar, or by pressing F8. Having the Layers palette open will help you later on in this tutorial.



Choose the Freehand Selection tool

5 From the Learning Center's Home page, choose Collage, and then choose Make Selections, and then choose Freehand Selection tool. The Freehand Selection tool will become active.



Set Freehand Selection tool options

6 In the Tool Options palette, choose Smart Edge from the Selection type drop-list. Set the remaining tool options as shown.



Select the woman's head

- 7 Make sure the "Makeover_before.jpg" photo is the active image. Select the woman's head:
 - Start by placing the Freehand Selection cursor just outside her hairline near her left cheek, as shown below. Hold down the left mouse button and drag the mouse a short distance upward, keeping the edge of her hair inside the box. Click again to complete that selection segment. A white path line appears, showing your selection segment.
 - Repeat this procedure, using short, precise strokes to carefully trace around her hair and under her chin.

Start the first selection segment here



Hold down the left mouse button and drag the selection box, keeping the edge of her hair inside the box. Click again to complete the selection segment.



Continue creating selection segments around her head and under her chin

Completed selection segments are _____ indicated by a white path



• When you get back to your starting point, double click. This completes the selection, as indicated by the selection marquee.



Copy the selection to the clipboard

8 Press Ctrl + C, or choose Edit > Copy to copy the selection to the clipboard.

Paste the head as a new layer in the Hula photo

9 Now make the "Hula.jpg" photo the active image, and then press Ctrl + L, or choose Edit ▶ Paste As New Layer. The head selection will appear in the center of the Hula photo. As you can see in the Layers palette, the head resides on its own layer, initially labeled "Raster 1."

Move, rotate and resize the head layer

10 From the Learning Center's Home page, choose Collage, and then choose Move

Collage Elements. This activates the **Pick** tool 😡 . You'll use this tool to reposition and resize the head layer (unless you've renamed it, the head layer is labeled "Raster 1" in the Layers palette).

11 Position the Pick tool cursor on the upper right corner handle of the head layer, hold down the left mouse button and drag the mouse to resize the layer symmetrically. Make the head approximately the same size as the hula girl's head.



- 12 Position the Pick tool cursor inside the resized head layer, and drag the head so it's next to the hula girl's head.
- 13 Rotate the head to match the angle of the hula girl's head. To do this, place the Pick tool cursor over the selected layer's rotation handle, hold down the left mouse button, and drag the mouse slowly upward until the head angles appear to match.



14 Now, the final step. Use the Pick tool to move the head layer directly over the hula girl's head. The hula girl should now look something like this:



Final notes about saving the composite image

- If you want to retain the layered composite image, be sure to save it in the PSPIMAGE file format. To do so, choose File > Save As, and in the Save as type drop-list toward the bottom of the dialog, choose PSPIMAGE.
- If you save your composite image in the common JPEG format, be aware that the two layers will be merged into one.