

HOW TO EDIT WATERCOLOR ILLUSTRATIONS

by Maroon Baboon

Our watercolor bundle is editable on two programs -

- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator

Detailed below are a set of step by step instructions on how to edit any of our illustrations on either program.

PHOTOSHOP (the simple edit)

For those of you with less experience handling Adobe Illustrator or perhaps have much less time on your hands, the Photoshop edit is for you.

Each illustration can be edited in full in a matter of minutes, giving you a high quality end finished.

There are two ways within Photoshop that we would recommend using to edit these illustrations.

The General Edit

This particular technique will edit the entire color of the image. This is recommended for simple illustrations that contain one or perhaps two colours at most. For example, a single Pink Flower. For items with additional or heavily contrasting colors we would recommend using the custom edit.

Detailed below is a step by step guide for the general edit -

- Open Photoshop with the desired image you wish to edit
- In the layers panel ensure the illustration layer is selected. If you do not see the layers panel, click Window (at the top of your screen) then Layers. The panel should pop up, showing you the various layers included in your design. Only one should be present (Layer 1). Click this.
- Next, scroll down the layers panel to find the half black and half white circle entitled "Add new fill or adjustments layer". Click this, then click Hue/Saturation.
- A new adjustments panel should appear. Now simply draw the pointer left or right on the bar that says "Hue". This will edit the entire images color setting.
- If however you are noticing certain elements of the new colouring you dislike, you will need to use this second method, detailed on the next page.

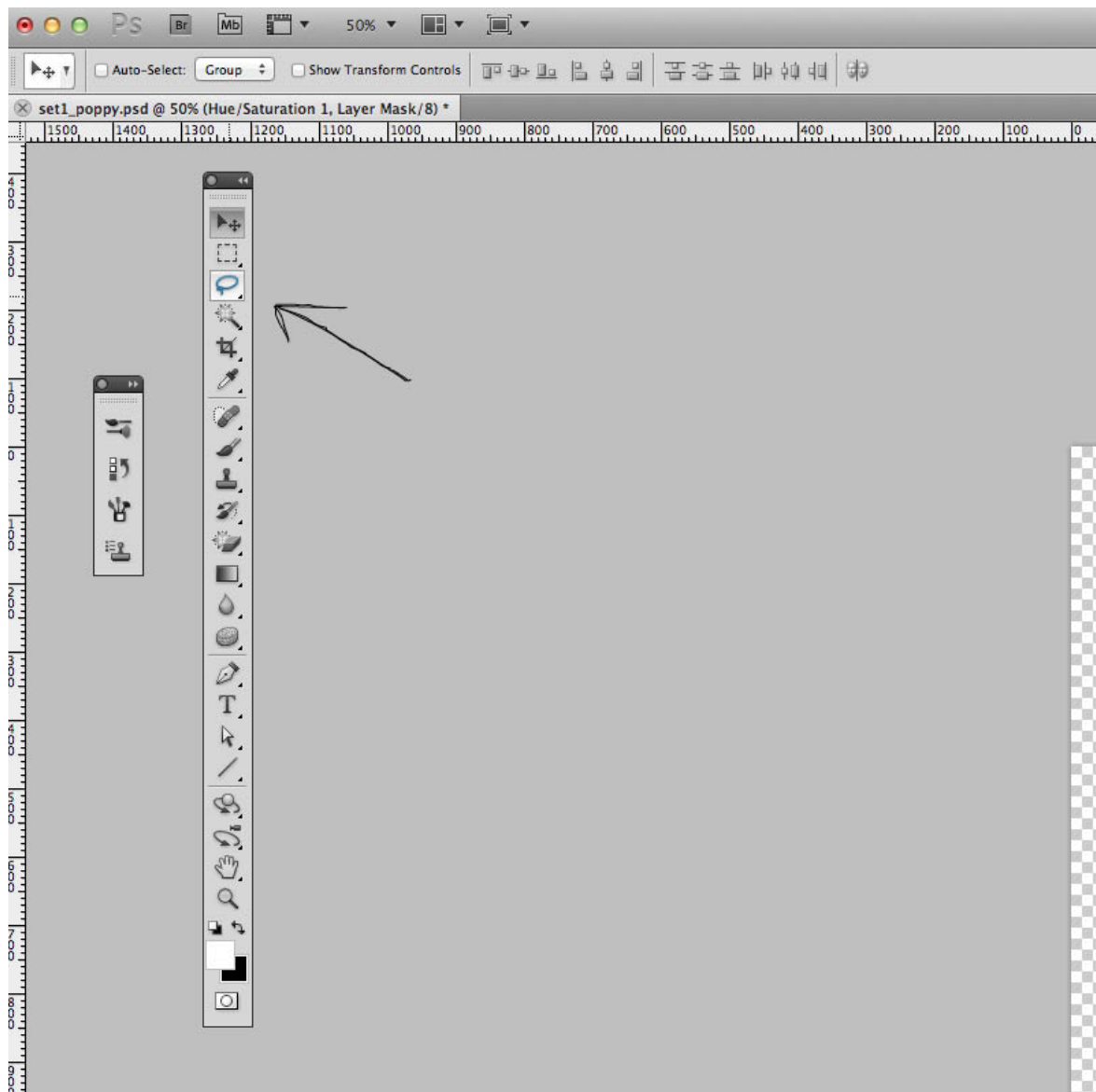
The Custom Edit

The custom edit allows you to control different areas of the illustration when editing colors. This method gives you much greater flexibility in what color scheme you are looking for.

For example, if you are editing a poppy and want the flower colour pink but the stem color to remain the same green.

- Open Photoshop with the desired image you wish to edit
- In the layers panel ensure the illustration layer is selected. If you do not see the layers panel, click Window (at the top of your screen) then Layers. The panel should pop up, showing you the various layers included in your design. Only one should be present (Layer 1). Click this.
- Next select the "Lasso" tool. This can be found in the left hand panel along with the Selection Tool, Text Tool, Shape Tool etc. The image looks like a thin rope and is three from the top on my Photoshop (it may vary on yours however). If you hold your mouse over this image, within a few seconds Photoshop will confirm this is the Lasso Tool with a small cream colored dialogue box.

See on the image below



- Now drag your mouse around the section of the design you wish to edit. Take your time and be sure to be exact. Once you join up the ends of the lasso tool and let go of the mouse click, the circle or selection you have drawn out will begin to flash or blink. If it doesn't you must ensure the starting point and the finished point of your lasso are touching to complete the circle.
- Ensure the correct layer (of the illustration) is still selected in your layers panel and press and hold Control and the letter U. If you are on a mac then CMD and the letter U.
- This will bring up the Hue/Saturation window. Here you need to drag the Hue tab either right or left to edit. This will edit the color of anything within the selected area, nothing else. Once you have found the correct coloring, click OK.
- If you wish to edit multiple areas of the illustration, simply click on the lasso tool again, cut around the new area you wish to edit and press control and U (or CMD and U on a mac).
- If you cannot quite find the color you require with the Hue tool, simply begin moving the Saturation and Lightness bars left and right. Every color possible is available in these three bars, sometimes it just requires a little playing around.

ILLUSTRATOR

Though editing on Adobe Illustrator is much more straight forward, it is much more time consuming as well. This method of editing is recommended more for those who are looking for very specific edits or detailed colorization changes.

The watercolor illustrations were created by hand, and vectorized into Adobe Illustrator. So specific difference in color is editable. On a single illustration there can be hundreds if not thousands of areas to edit. This can be a little time consuming.

All illustrations for Adobe Illustrator are vectorized, so we would recommend a close zoom when editing.

- Firstly open Adobe Illustrator with the relevant Illustration. Then zoom in.
- Then simply double or triple click on the area you wish to edit and a multiple of areas will become available for selection. Select the specific area you wish to edit and manually change the fill color as normal. If you cannot see the color panel, click Window then Color, and it will appear.

HOW TO EXPORT/SAVE YOUR EDITED IMAGE.

On either pieces of software we would recommend saving these illustrations as PNG files. This allows you to create a transparent background around the image allowing you to combine your finished piece with other illustrations or layer over a photo or colour without having a nasty white box the drawing.

Here is how you do it.

On PhotoShop

- Click File (top left hand corner of your screen)
- Click Save for Web & Devices
- A new window will appear. In the top right hand corner, there is a dropdown. select PNG-24.
- Under that ensure transparency is ticked.
- Click Save
- Select where you want to save, and include a relevant name.
- Click Save

On Illustrator

- Click File (top left hand corner of your screen)
- In the dropdown click "Export"
- In the new pop up, select PNG
- Ensure Artboard is NOT selected or ticked
- Select where you want to save, and include a relevant name.
- Click Export

If you have any questions, issues or problems please don't hesitate to contact us direct via email on info@maroonbaboon.co.uk

Thanks & Enjoy