HOW TO CREATE A DROP SHADOW BORDER IN PHOTOSHOP

Not only will this give your image a striking border – it will also increase your confidence using layers

1. It is recommended, if it isn't already, to flatten the image before you start. If you need to do this resave the image with a different file name to preserve the layers in the original.

2. Set the Foreground / Background colour to Black / White. Shortcut – press **D** on the keyboard.

3. Create a new layer – then using the **Paint Bucket Tool** – fill it with Black. Don't worry when the image turns Black. Rename this layer "Drop Shadow".

4. Now select the Background layer and Right Click then select **Layer From Background**. Rename this layer "Image". This stage will unlock the Background layer so the Drop Shadow layer can be moved below it.

5. Now drag the "Drop Shadow" layer below the "Image" layer. The image will now reappear.

6. Create another new layer and rename it "Background". Now increase the canvas size by 2 inches all-round by going to **Image > Canvas Size** – tick the **Relative** box, change the **Units** to inches via the drop down and type 2 into both the **Width** and **Height** boxes. Drag this layer to the bottom in the layer order. Now fill this layer with White.

7. Click on the "Drop Shadow" layer and by using the **Move Tool** you will be able to drag the Black area so it becomes visible along the bottom and right hand edges.

8. Now go to **Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur** and adjust the **Radius** until the desired shadow effect is achieved. The shadow can be further refined by adjusting the **Opacity** of the shadow layer.

9. Reposition the Drop Shadow if required.

A "Drop Shadow" Border

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