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# Cryptomatte Node

The Cryptomatte node uses a [Cryptomatte image](#) to create a mask for one or more objects or materials. The input matte is typically generated by Blender itself (see the [Cryptomatte render pass](#)), but can also come from other software that supports the standard.

## Inputs

### Image

A color render of the scene. Only required for the *Image* output to work; if only the grayscale mask is needed, this input can be left unconnected.

## Properties

### Source

The source of the Cryptomatte image.

#### Render:

Use the Cryptomatte render passes of a certain View Layer.

#### Image:

Use a Cryptomatte image from multilayered OpenEXR file.

### Scene

Scene from which to take the Cryptomatte. Only available when Source is set to *Render*.

### Image

Image to use for the Cryptomatte. Only available when Source is set to *Image*.

### Cryptomatte Layer

The image layer to use. This is typically a combination of a View Layer and a Cryptomatte type (Object/Material/Asset).

### Matte ID

The comma-separated names of the objects or materials for which to create a mask. While these can be typed manually, it's easier to use the + and - buttons next to the textbox; see [Typical Usage](#) below.

## Outputs

### Image

The color image from the *Image* input with the mask applied so that only the selected objects/materials remain. Everything else is made transparent.

### Matte

A grayscale mask of the selected objects or materials.

### Pick

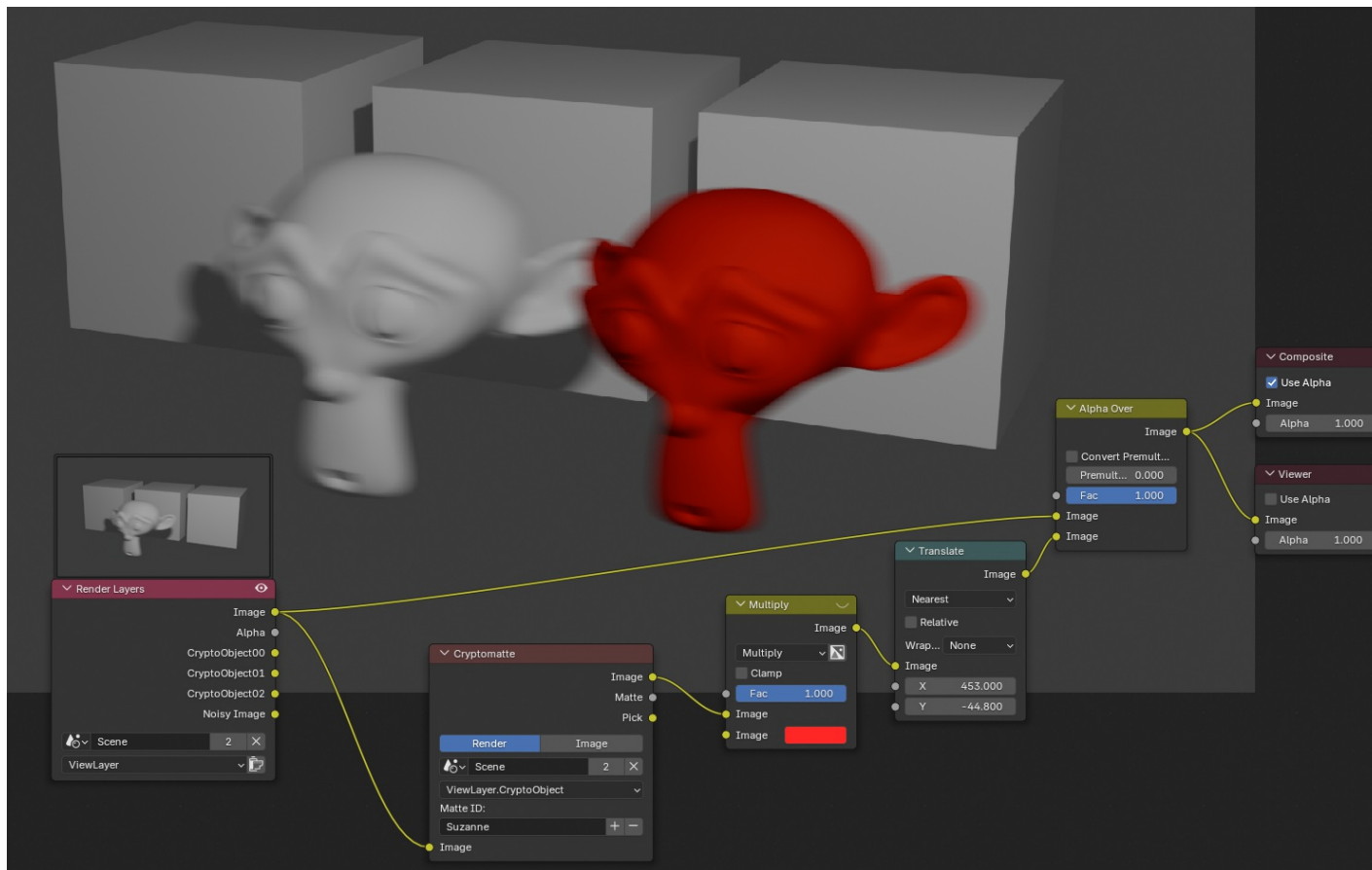
A colored representation of the Cryptomatte which can be used for picking objects or materials.

## Typical Usage

1. Enable the *Cryptomatte Object* render pass in Properties • View Layer • Passes and render the image.
2. In the Compositor, create a Cryptomatte Node and a [Viewer Node](#).
3. Connect the *Image* output of the [Render Layers Node](#) (or the *Pick* output of the Cryptomatte node) to the *Image* input of the Viewer node.
4. At this point, the rendered scene (or the Cryptomatte) appears in the Compositor background. If it doesn't, make sure the *Backdrop* option in the header is enabled.
5. Click the + button in the Cryptomatte node, then click the object you want to include in the mask. Repeat for any other objects.
6. Use the *Matte* output of the Cryptomatte node to retrieve a mask for the selected object(s). Alternatively, connect the *Image* output of the Render Layers node to the *Image* input of the Cryptomatte node, then use the *Image* output of the Cryptomatte node to retrieve a masked version of the render.

## Example

The example below extracts the white Suzanne monkey head from the render, colors it red, and composites it back onto the render at an offset. Notice that the motion-blurred edges get handled correctly (when rendering with Cycles). Also notice that the *CryptoObject* render passes are not connected to Cryptomatte node; this was needed with the [Cryptomatte Node \(Legacy\)](#), but not any longer.



## Limitations

- Cryptomatte sidecars (metadata files) are not supported.
- The Cryptomatte node cannot be used in node groups.
- [Volume Objects](#) are not supported.

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