

Adding Motion to Images

Welcome to the *Adding Motion to Images tutorial* . This tutorial was designed to teach you how to bring photos and static imagery to life by adding the illusion of motion. Blurring an object will make it appear as if it's moving, the amount it's been blurred defines the speed at which that object is traveling. Follow along and find out how easy it is! If you need help with it, or find it confusing, don't hesitate to e-mail me, the information is at the bottom of the page.

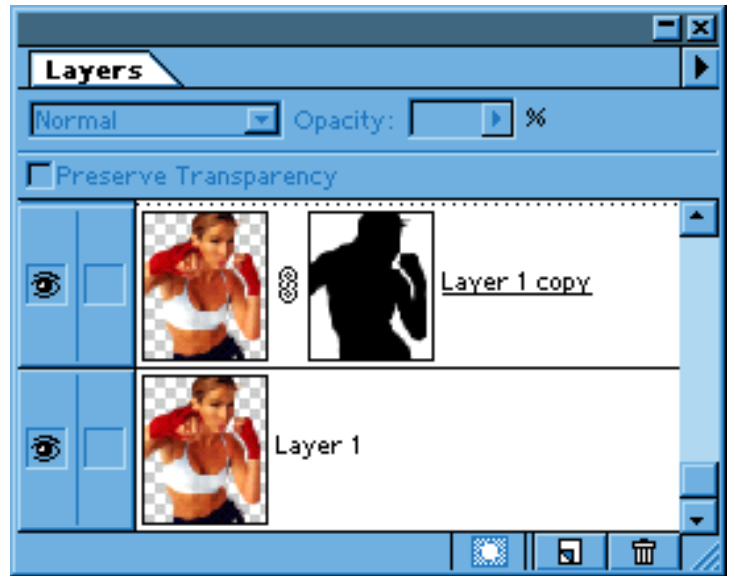
Note: You need to know how to use the Extract feature in Photoshop, you can find out how from my [Background Blurring](#) tutorial, or click [here](#) to find out even more about it.



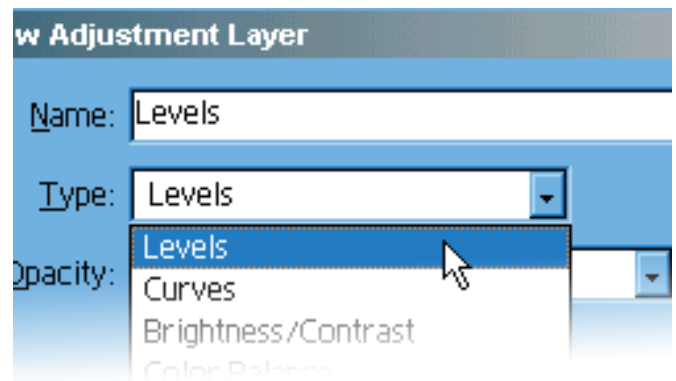
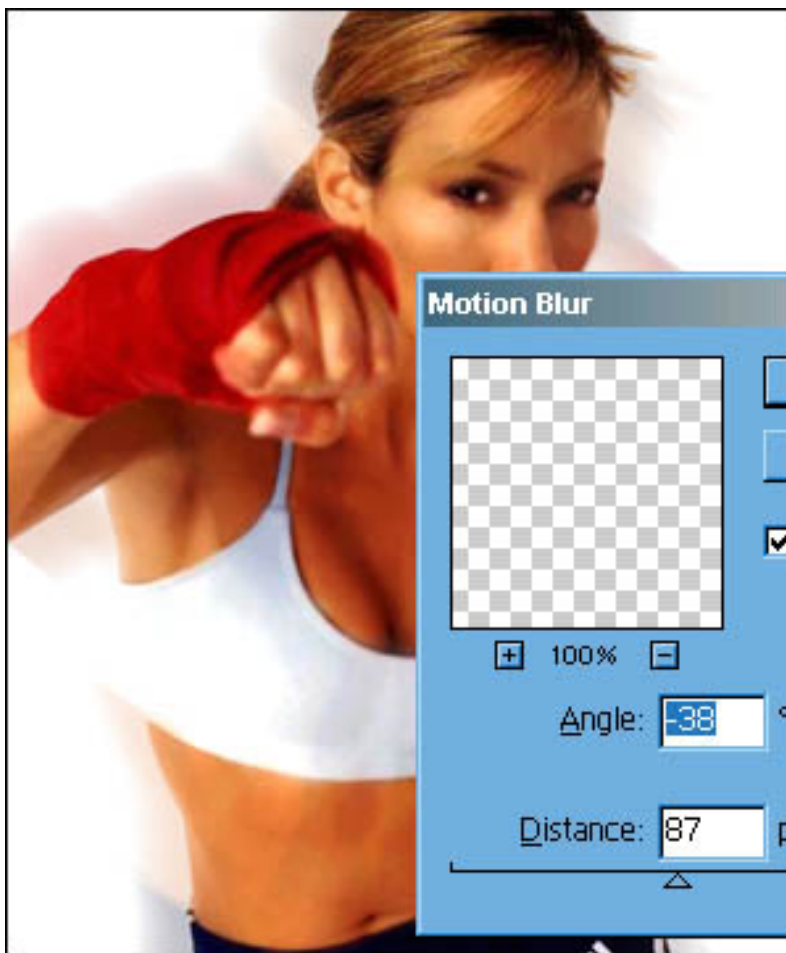
1 The image to the left is a perfect candidate to use for this tutorial. If you have any images of people running, or objects falling use them! Obviously a picture of somebody sitting on a park bench won't do, if you can't find any images use the image to the left, just click on it to bring up the larger version. Right-click on the image and choose **Save As** from the menu. To get better results we'll select Jennifer, you can use paths if you want, but since the background doesn't have any detail, it should be fairly easy to extract her using the Extract command. Choose **Image>Extract** and extract Jennifer from the background.



2 Once you have Jennifer's Transparency Mask (selection) you can start blurring. **Select + Drag** the Jennifer layer onto the **Create New Layer** button (📄) in the Layers palette to create a copy of that layer. **Ctrl + Click** on the Layer if the selection is not already loaded, press **Ctrl + Shift + I** to inverse the selection, or simply choose **Select>Inverse** from the main menu. Now press the **Add Layer Mask** button (👤) at the bottom of the Layers palette.



3 Select the copied layer. Add a motion blur, **Filter>Blur>Motion Blur**, I chose a setting of 87 pixels at -38° to give the illusion that Jennifer is swinging towards the camera with a large force. Now add an Adjustment Layer to make the blur stand out a bit more. **Ctrl + Click** on the Create New Layer button (📄) at the bottom of the Layers palette. Choose either **Levels** or **Brightness/Contrast** as the type and adjust the sliders until the effect of the blur is much stronger. Use the image in step 4 for reference.



4 Your final image should look similar to the one to the left. You can of course take this a few steps further and enhance the blur to make it look a lot more realistic, remember an image is never done until **you** are satisfied. Doesn't she seem a lot "faster" now. Know why? We've created the illusion she's in motion as the shot was taken, meaning she was moving so fast that the camera couldn't keep her in one solid shape when it took to picture. Kind of cool hey?

Use this effect on race cars, sports pictures, even someone typing real fast could work well.

Hope you enjoyed the tutorial, and oh yeah, "Congrats, you're done!"

Discussion

If you have any questions, or there are any steps that I can further elaborate on, don't hesitate to e-mail me using the information below. Due to the amount of e-mail I get, you'll get a quicker response if you use the discussion forum. Post your question in the tutorials forum. Click [here](#) to go to the discussion forum.

Dan Caylor

<http://www.thinkdan.com>

E-mail: dan@thinkdan.com

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