

Digital Matte Painting

Techniques, Tutorials & Walk-Throughs

Collected and compiled from a wide range of Online-Resources



Image by Yanick Dusseault aka Dusso

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Being in love with the art of Matte Painting, I collected these tutorials over one year from numerous online-resources and eventually compiled them into this document. Originally intended for personal use only, I thought that maybe some people out there might be interested too, so I decided to release them to the public. No big thing, and definitely nothing new – I just gathered these tutorials to have them all in one place. And if any – or all – of these tutorials happen to be new to you – even better!

A great thanks goes out to all the artist who put a lot of their time and energy into the creation of these tutorials.

Happy painting!

MBP aka Bass.T , 12/04



Image by Dylan Cole

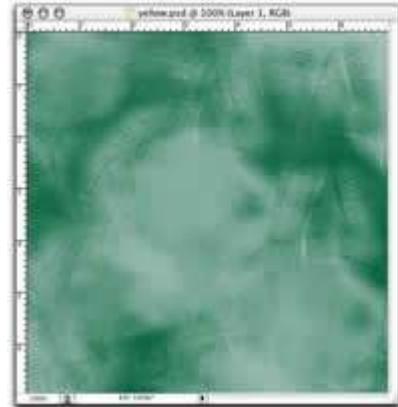
The Photoshop 7 Paint Engine

Part 1

Defining a custom brush tip shape
by David Nagel

Slap on your smocks and bust out your easels! We're getting down and dirty with some natural media effects in Photoshop 7's Paint Engine. Yes, this week we leave the timid realm of compositing for a while and kick off a new series exploring the sloppy side of digital art.

This new series was prompted, I suppose, by the overwhelming interest in the Nagel Series 1 Brushes I posted here on DMN a few weeks back. (My DMN subscribers can access the ad-free version of that story here.) Rather than answering every single "How'd you do that?" e-mail I've received on the subject, I thought I'd take the opportunity to walk you through the process and hopefully teach you some tricks with the Photoshop 7 Paint Engine along the way.

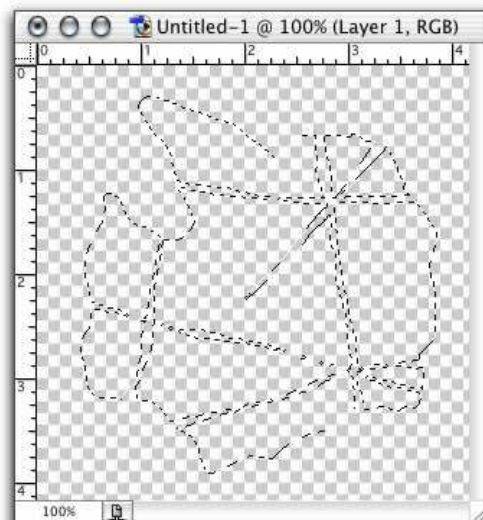


We begin today with a look at creating custom tip shapes for our paint brushes. Granted, the tip shapes are just minor details in the overall functionality of the Paint Engine. But they do constitute the first step along the way of creating your own brushes that can go way beyond those included in the default Photoshop 7 brush sets.

The basics

The creation of a custom tip shape can be as simple as placing a few dots on the canvas or as complex as generating recursive tips that build upon the foundation of a basic brush tip shape. For our example today, we'll look at the method used to create some of the "cloth" shapes used in the Nagel Series 1 Brushes. begin with a fairly large canvas--say 300 x 300 pixels--so that you can have some maneuvering room for the tip shape creation process. Then follow these steps.

1. First, define an irregular area on the canvas using the Lasso tool. After you've created the shape, hold down the Option key and use the Lasso tool to cut into the shape to create something of the effect of creases or gaps.



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