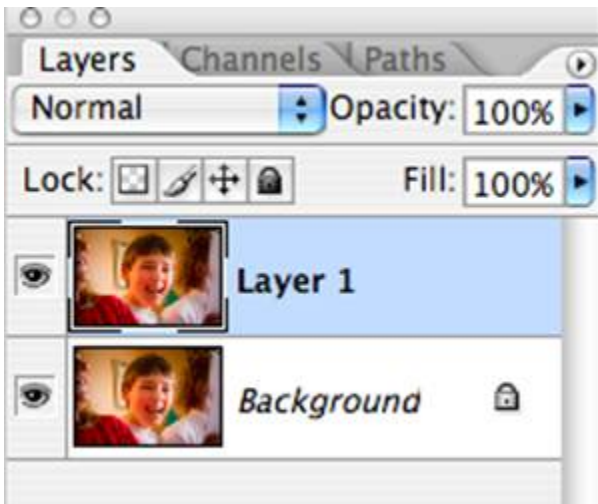


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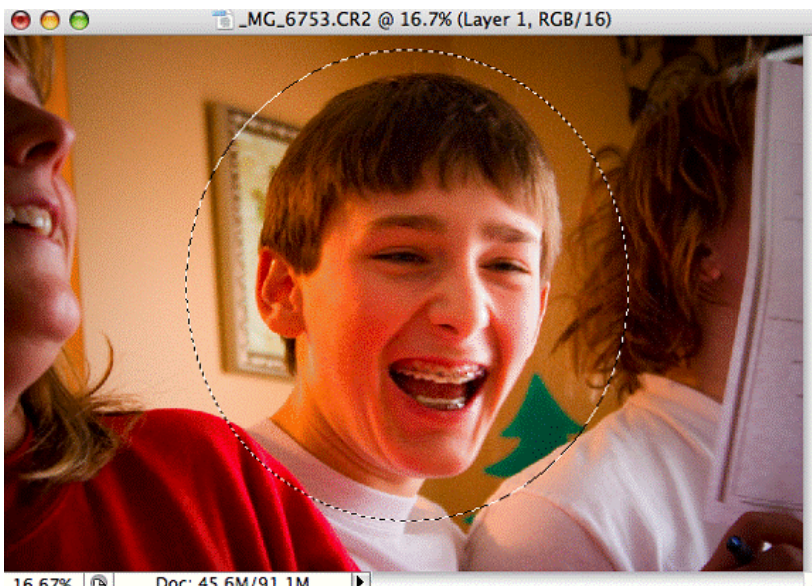
Applying a Vignette in Photoshop

The use of vignette has grown in popularity in recent photo galleries, both with white and black fades. While this can be accomplished in the Camera Raw dialog, this can also be done within Photoshop for those that do not shoot in raw, or own CS3. Today, I am going to show you how to apply both a positive (white) and a negative (black) vignette to your images.

We'll start off by opening the image, and creating a duplicate layer. The keyboard shortcut to do this is Command + J (in Windows it's CTRL + J) The result should show two layers in your layers panel, as shown:



Remove the visibility of the background layer by deselecting the eye on that layer. Now, with the duplicated layer selected, select the elliptical marquee tool from your tool panel (Shift+M if you're into keyboard shortcuts) and draw a marquee around the area of the image you want to bring attention to:

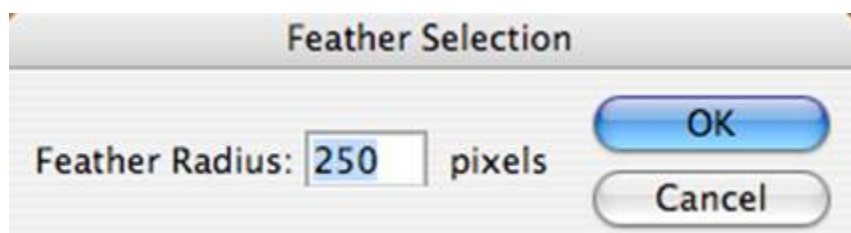


With the selection made, now go to the menus: **Select** and **Feather**

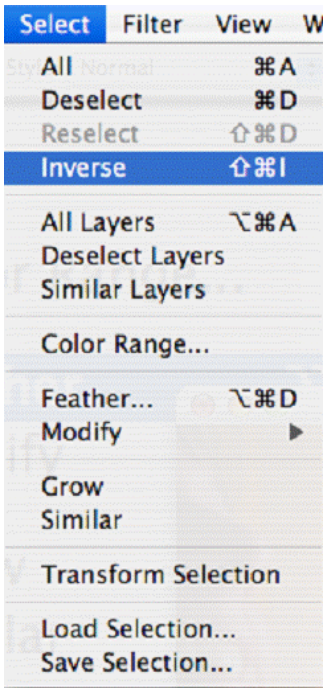


In the resulting window, define the feather range (the feather range should be dependant on your image resolution. I use the following table as a guide:)

- Resolution of 250+ - feather range of 250
- Resolution of 150-249 - feather range of 150
- Resolution of 100-149 - feather range of 100
- Resolution of 99 or lower - feather range of 72



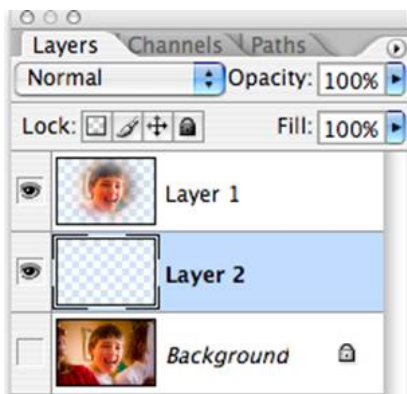
With the feather range defined, now go back to the Select menu and choose **Invert** (Shift + Command + I) This will switch the selection from being your subject to the surrounding area that will be faded out by the vignette.



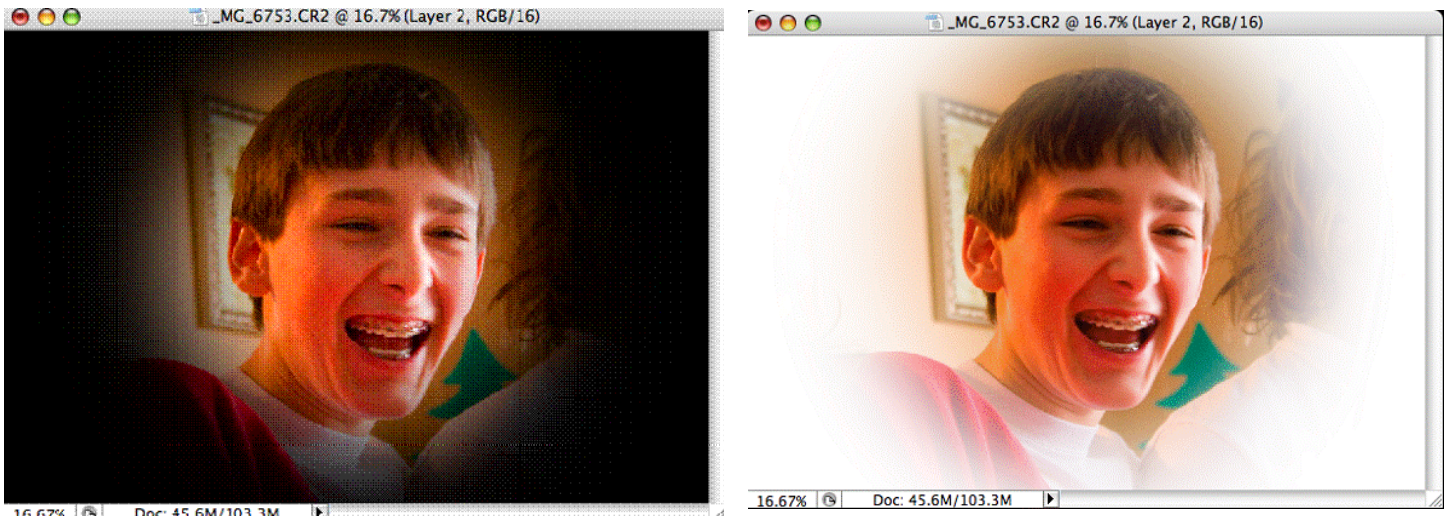
Now, simply cut the selection (Command X).



With the cut done, you now will want to fill in the blank pixels with either a positive or negative vignette. To do that, create another empty layer (Command + Shift + N) and drag it so it's underneath the faded cut layer.



With the blank layer now active, simply fill with white or black to get the positive or negative vignette.



The result here is pretty obvious, but the low resolution for the web and PDF doesn't really show the fade too well on the black vignette. It's also a matter of personal preference and taste, but here I think the white vignette works better. The selection could be a bit better too, but for the purposes of the tutorial, it works. Otherwise, that's it! You're done! For a more advanced version of this where multiple vignettes are implemented on several layers, check out the video tutorial here:

[Flash Video](#) [Downloadable video](#)

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