

## Photoshop Tutorial - 'The Great Train Robbery'

We start with 5 photo : [track.jpg](#)  
[train.jpg](#)  
[fog.jpg](#)  
[model.jpg](#)  
[sky.jpg](#)

### Start

Open a new document.  
Open the photo 'track.jpg' and import it into the main document.  
Re-size and position to suit.  
Select the 'clone tool' from the left toolbar and fill in the foliage at the top of the photo.

### Train

Open the photo 'train.jpg'.  
Select the 'magic wand selection tool' from the left side toolbar, make sure 'contiguous' is unticked and select the sky.  
Select>invert.  
Select the 'quick selection tool' from the left side toolbar and select the rest of the train, you may have to nudge the selection into place (remember 'shift' adds to the selection, 'Alt' removes from the selection).  
Select>Modify>Feather - 1 pixel.  
Place the selection on it's own layer by pressing 'Ctrl+j'.  
Import the selection into the main document.  
Re-size and position to suit.  
Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the 'Layers window' and select 'hue and saturation' attach this to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them.  
Reduce the 'saturation' slider to about -20 and 'lightness' slider to about -70.  
Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and position it under the 'train' layer.  
With a soft black brush paint in the train's shadow - reduce 'opacity' to suit.

### Fog

Open the photo 'fog.jpg' and import it into the main document.  
Re-size and position to cover the whole document.  
Copy this layer by pressing 'Ctrl+j'.  
Leave the top 'fog' layer at the top of the 'layers stack' but turn it off by clicking it's 'eye' icon.  
Move the lower 'fog' layer to be just above the 'background' layer.  
Click the 'Add layer mask' icon at the bottom of the layers window.  
With a soft black brush set at 10% paint over the whole mask so you can just see the image below.  
Paint away the bottom part until you create the depth of the fog.  
Select and turn back on the top 'fog' layer by clicking it's 'eye' icon and do the same as before to this layer but this time paint over the train until it looks like it's emerging through the fog.

### Lights

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window.  
With a white 90% hardness brush - match the brush to the size of the top train light then 'click' to turn it on, do the same with the lower lights.  
Double click the 'layer' the bring up the 'layer style' window, select 'outer glow' - make the colour white to transparent - 'opacity' 50% - spread 50% - 'size' 150 pixels.

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window.

With a soft white brush - make the brush larger than the train light then 'click' to paint in the glow of the light, do the same with the lower lights.

Reduce 'opacity' to suit (about 90% should be ok).

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window.

With a soft white brush - make the brush larger than the previous train light glow then 'click' to paint in the bigger glow of the light, do the same with the lower lights.

Reduce 'opacity' to suit (about 80% should be ok).

## **Model**

Open the photo 'model.jpg'.

Filter>Camera Raw Filters

Adjust 'temperature' to remove the redness

Select the 'Quick selection tool' from the left side toolbar and use it to select the model.

Click the 'Select and Mask' icon at the top.

Select the 'Refine Edge' brush (second from the top on the left toolbar) and brush around the model's hair.

'Feather' by 1 pixel.

'Shift edge' to -15%.

Tick the 'Decontaminate colour' box.

Click 'OK'.

Import the 'cutout' layer into the main document.

Resize and position to the suit.

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the 'Layers window' and select 'hue and saturation' attach this to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them

Reduce the 'saturation' slider to about -20 and 'lightness' slider to about -50.

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and position it under the 'model' layer.

With a soft black brush paint in the model's shadow - reduce 'opacity' to suit.

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and position it above the 'model' layer and attach it by 'Alt+clicking' between them.

With a soft white brush paint the highlights around the model - reduce 'opacity' to suit.

## **Steam and Rails**

Open the photo 'sky' and import it into the main document - re-size to cover the whole photo.

Click the 'Add layer mask' icon at the bottom of the layers window.

With a soft black brush set at 100% paint over the whole mask (or press 'Ctrl+I' to invert the colours).

With a soft white brush set at 100% paint back some 'sky' around the train.

Reduce 'opacity' to suit (around 25%).

Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and position it at the top of the 'layers stack'.

With the 'polygonal' selection tool, select the top of the rails - paint white into the selection.

Select>Deselect

Filter>Blur>Gaussian Blur - about 10 should do it - reduce 'opacity' to suit (about 50%).

## **Finishing**

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the Layers Window and select 'Gradient Map' - select a black to white gradient - change the 'blending mode' to 'soft light' - reduce 'opacity' to suit (round about 30%).

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the Layers Window and select 'Levels' - move the 'black' and 'white' pointer in a touch to increase the contrast.

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Click the 'Add new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and position it at the top of the 'layers stack'.

With a very large soft black brush set at 20% paint in a vignette.

[Finished](#)