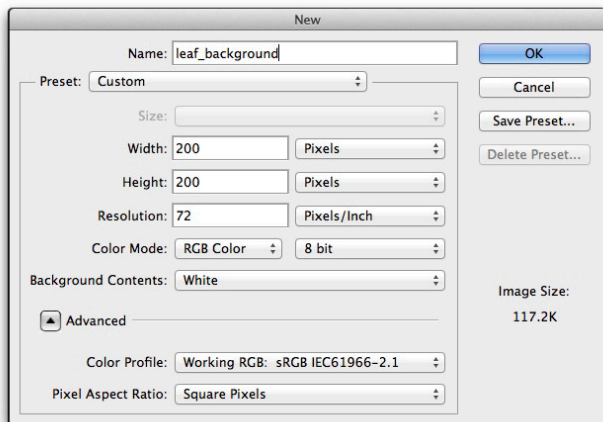


Creating a Tearable Background

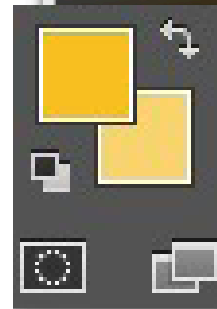
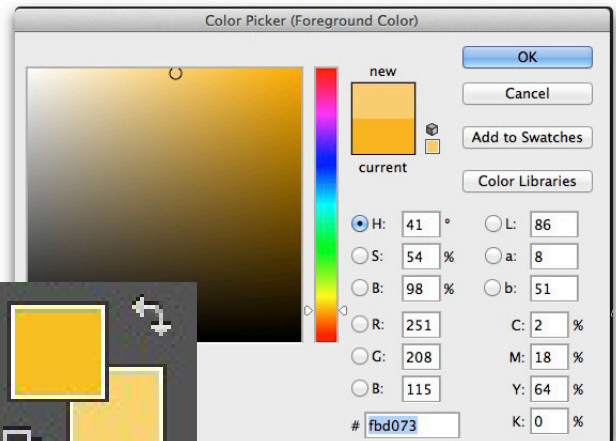
Using Photoshop for Web Graphics

by Carin Murphy

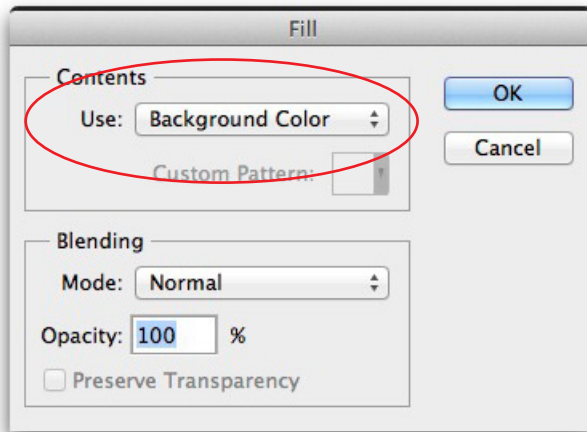
Creating tileable - or seamless graphic images to be used as repeating image for web backgrounds is quite easy with a key Photoshop filter. The Preview function in the Save for Web allows you to test your image before applying to a web page.



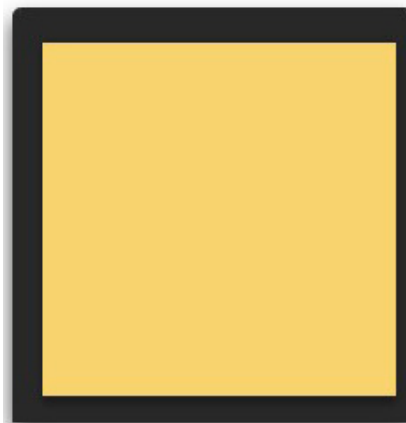
1. Create a new Photoshop document that is 200 px x 200 px.



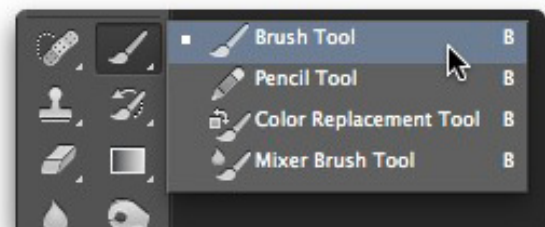
2. Use the color picker to create background and foreground colors. For a subtle effect, keep the colors similar.

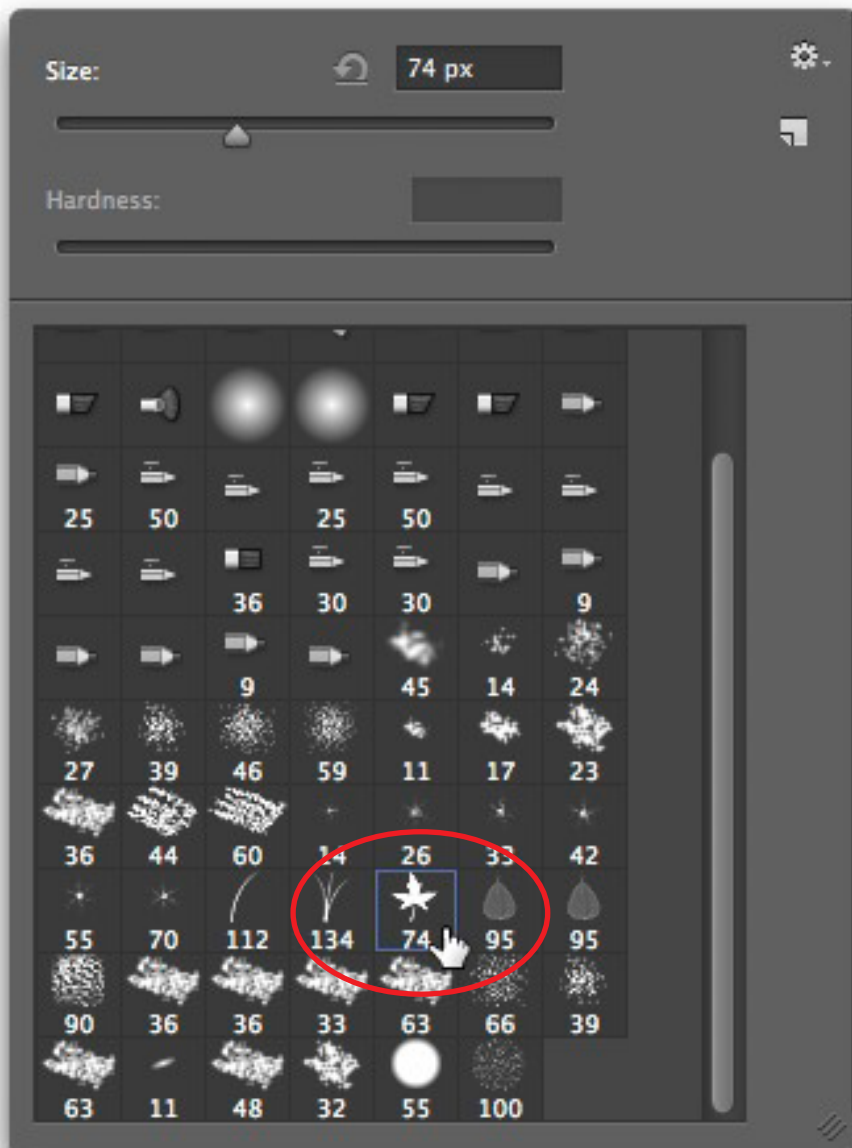


3. Go to Edit>Fill, and fill the content with the Background Color.



4. In the Tools palette, access the Brush tool.



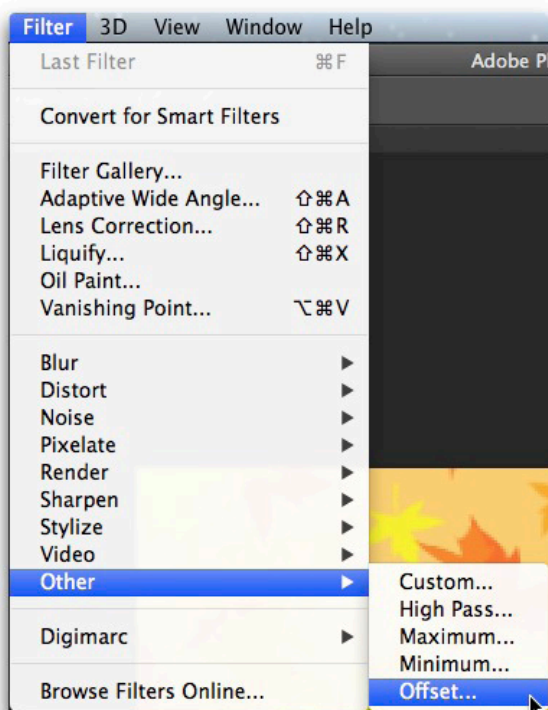
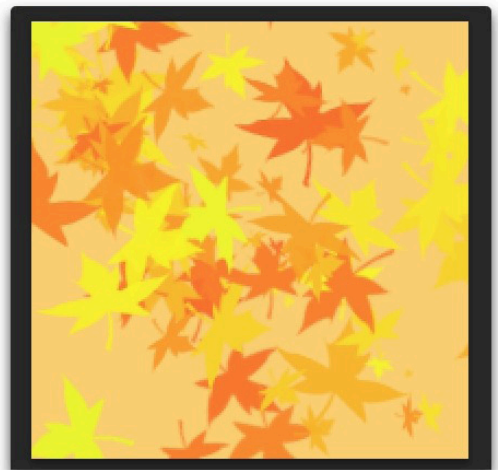


5. In the Brush Tools options (at the top of the menu bar) select a brush and size.

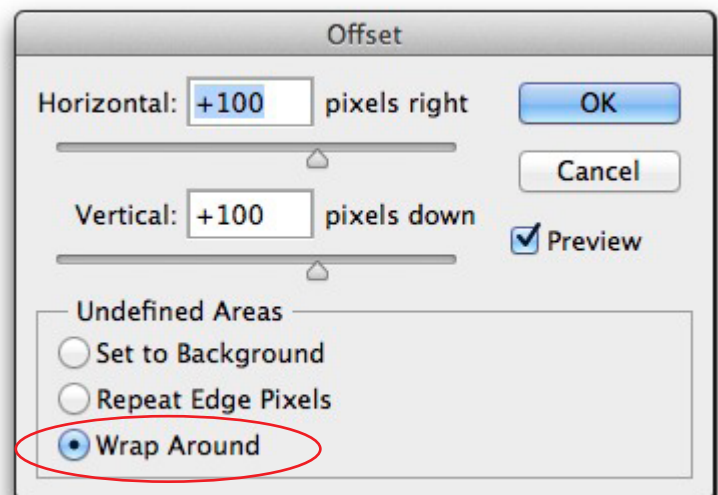
There are hundreds of brushes which to choose. Experiment with various brushes and sizes.

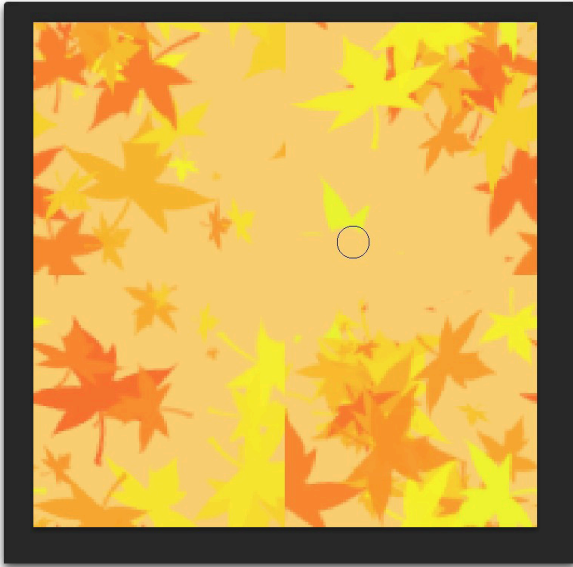
In this example we used the leaf brush at a medium size.

5. With the brush tool click on the inside of the canvas and apply the brush as desired.



7. Go to Filter>Other>Offset. Apply a +100 offset both horizontally and vertically. Be sure to check Wrap Around. This feature is what makes the edges seamless.





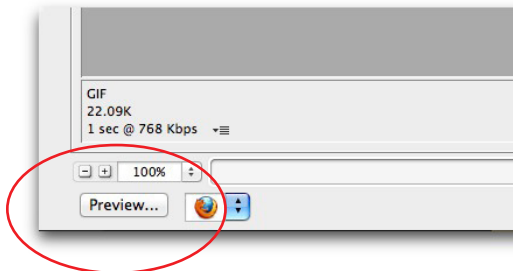
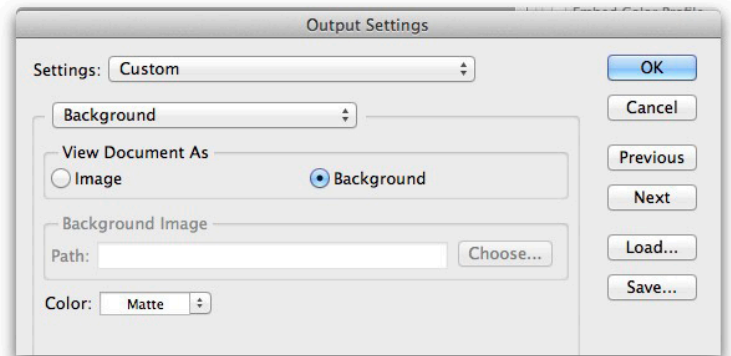
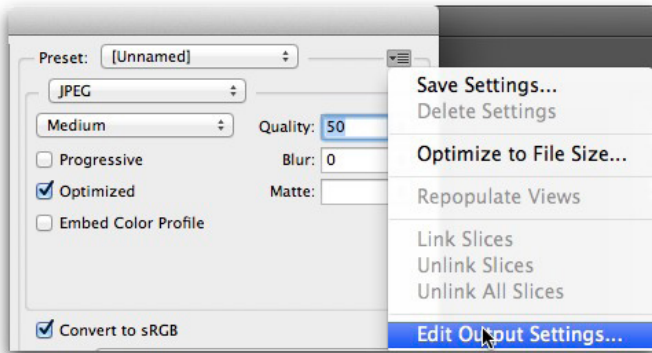
8. You may now see some straight edges. With the eraser set to brush mode, erase the straight edges and reapply the brush in the empty areas. ***Then reapply the offset filter.*** Keep repeating this process until you don't see any hard edges in your design.

Preview as a repeating background

Photoshop has a fantastic feature that allows you to preview your graphic images as a repeating background so you can make adjustments as needed.

9. Go to File>Save For Web & Devices. In the options settings, choose Edit Output Settings.

10. Go to File>Save For Web & Devices. In the options settings, choose Edit Output Settings. Choose Background from the pull-down menu and check the Background radio button.



11. In the lower-left corner click the Preview button to preview in a browser. This will tile the image. If it appears OK close out of the browser and save the image in the proper file format. Gif or jpeg.

If the background seems "tiled" and not seamless, go back and continue editing. Keep retesting until the image appears seamless in the preview.