Instructions for Holiday photo

We are learning:

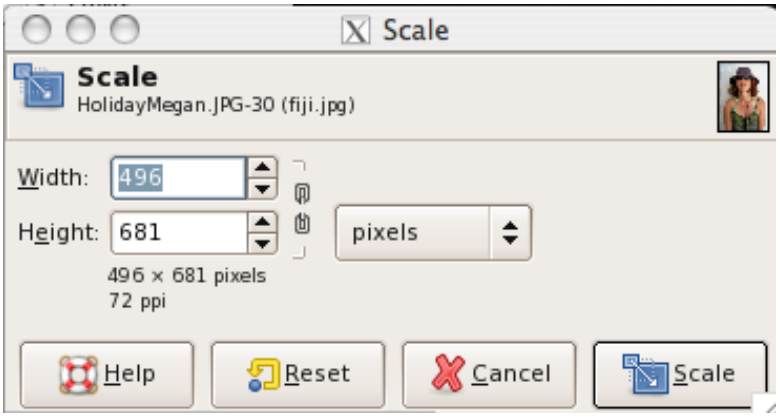
- About Gimp and photo editing software
- To import a picture on a new layer.
- To scale an image to make it smaller or larger
- To use the magic wand tool to take out unwanted colour
- Change the tolerance on the magic wand
- Move layers
- Magnify in order to work close up on the image.

1. File – Open – load the photo of the background that you have selected. Good holiday photos can be found at www.trekearth.com (choose highest resolution photos – see wall chart for explanation on pixels and resolution)

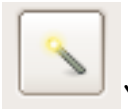
2. File – Open as layer - (Find the picture of the person's face – taken with a blank background – take in the biotech room in front of the whiteboard so that no flash needed). You can rename the layer if you wish to make it a more meaningful title by double clicking in the layers window on the name, next to thumbnail of the image.

3. Double Click on the scale tool Double click on the actual layer you want to change (see the layers window). Choose dimensions similar to the size of the background photo (height x width), It will probably distort the picture. Then grab the edges and drag to the right size. Make sure that you click the "scale" button or it won't change.

Click on this button!



4. *Now take out the white background on the layer with your face:*

Double Click on the Fuzzy select tool.  You can change the threshold number (default is 15 but if you want more, then put it up to 30 for example) if it does not select all of the colour that you want to take out. Alternately, you can hold the shift key and then click on the colour that is not yet selected to add it to the selection. You will notice a little plus sign will appear next to the magic wand cursor, showing you that it is now adding to the selection. You will see marching ants around the selected areas.

5. In the box where the photo is being shown – click edit – clear. This will take out the background and you will see the layer behind it.

6. You will need to keep doing these steps in order to get rid of every little extra detail

from the face that you don't want. A useful tool to use is the magnifying tool  for blowing up the picture so that you can get rid of all unwanted areas neatly. You can also use the lasso tool to select areas that you wish to erase.

The difference between a great, well edited image and an average one, is the amount of time that you spend on getting rid of fuzzy edges around the head and hair.

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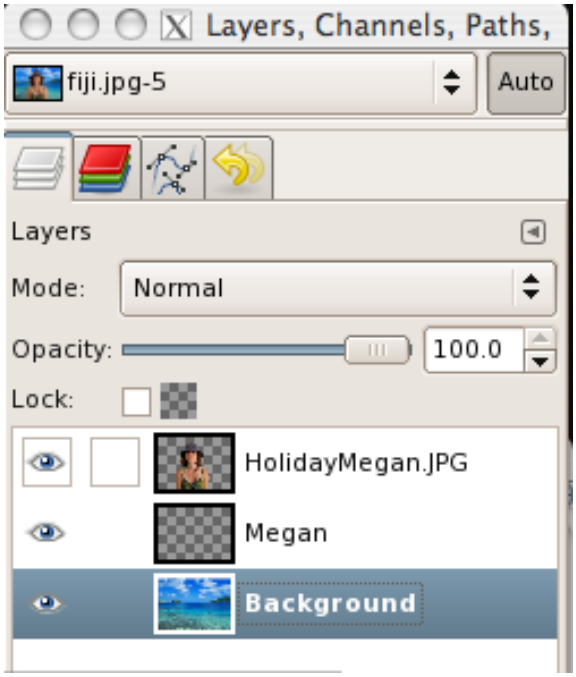
7. To move the photo layer click on the move tool 

8. If you wish to crop the background in any way – choose the background layer in the Layers, Channels, Paths window. Next, choose the rectangle select tool 
Then in the photo window: choose image – crop to selection.



TO SAVE YOUR WORK:

If you still need to work with layers, save as a **.xcf** file.

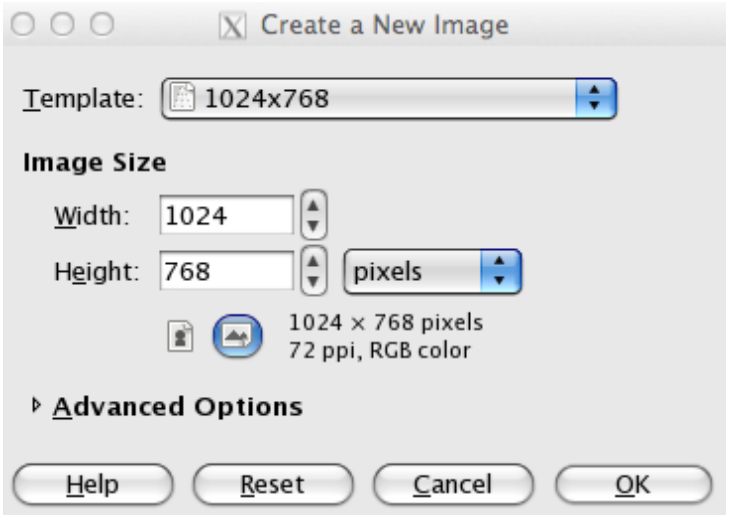
If you are finished, ready to print, save as a **.jpg** file. This is a compressed file and will merge all the layers. **You will not be able to change it once you have saved in this format.**
Click: save as… Your name.jpg
Export
Quality: move the slider to 100

Using masks & layers

We are learning to:

- Set up a canvas
- Add a layer mask
- Use the paintbrush tool in a variety of ways

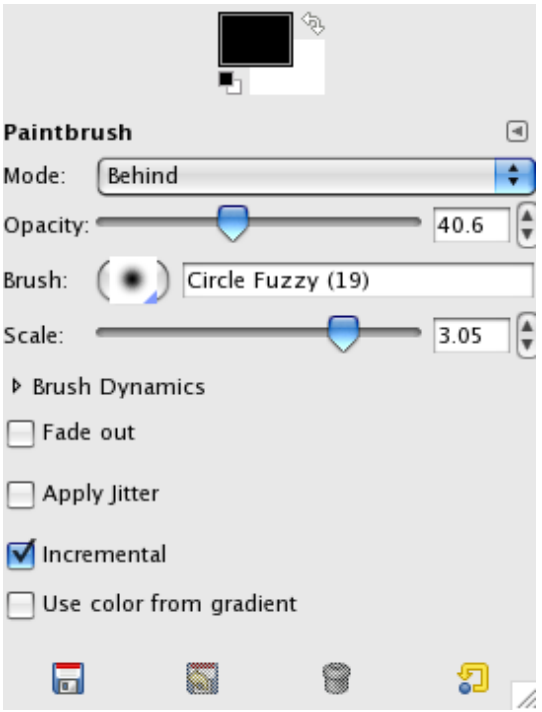
1. File – New – Template: 1024x768
Select if you want portrait or landscape setting.



2. Open as new layer – choose the files you wish to merge. You can choose which layer you are working on by looking on the layers, channels box and highlighting the layer you want to work on. You can open several layers at the same time by clicking **Ctrl** and each picture you wish and then add.

3. Layer – Mask – Add Layer Mask White – Full Opacity. This means that the mask is completely see through. When you delete what looks like parts of the picture, parts of the mask will disappear and you will see the picture layer underneath.

4. Click on **Paintbrush** 



5. Change brush type (Circle Fuzzy 19) by clicking on the round dot next to Brush: (this will give you a soft melting edge, so that it will not be obvious where you have painted).
When painting on the mask, check you are working on the mask not the actual image. If you do not see anything happening it is because you are painting on the wrong layer.

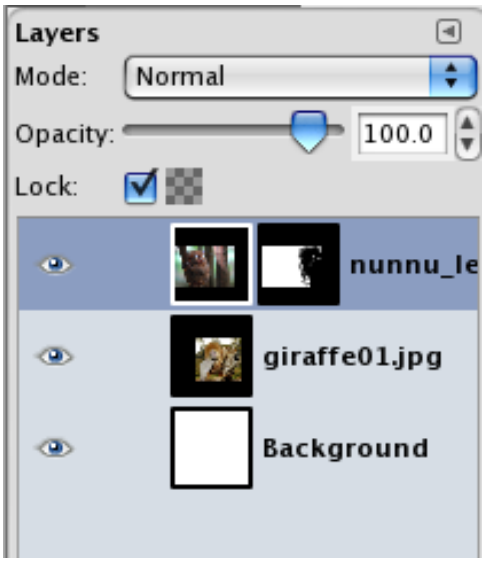
6. Change Scale to about 5.0 (brush size changes).

7. If you want to take out large sections of colour:
(a) Click on the image thumbnail (not the mask thumbnail) use the magic wand (select tool).
The image thumbnail is selected here

(b) Select the mask thumbnail. Click on the bucket tool and click in space where you want the colour to disappear.

The mask thumbnail is selected here

8. If you need to move the layer which has a mask on it,



before you use the move tool,  , check that you have clicked on the actual image thumbnail in the layer window, so that it is surrounded by white (see ->

9. Change the **opacity** levels to merge in the pictures seamlessly so that they sort of ghost into each other.

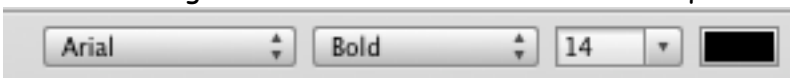
10. If you rub out something on your mask and you get a hole in your layer that you don't want, then you can make it come back by clicking on the paintbrush tool and swapping the colours from black to white in the foreground.

Click on the little arrow in the right side. This will make everything come back again, so change back once you have got what you wanted back.

ing Pages

- We are learning how to use the Inspector to work with Pages files and to set up our calendar.
- How to access the server via Smart Login to download a calendar template.

To change the font of all the numbers:
Select the edge of the table so that the select "squares" appear in the corners:



SAVE YOUR WORK REGULARLY!
Command + S = shortcut for save.
If you have problems with tables / months moving around and disappearing, then save the file as a new name
Save as…. (Calendar month)
Then fix only the page that you want. We will print just that one page from that file.

Alternatively:
You can select the item that keeps moving around and in the Inspector – click on the 3rd tab on the top (Object placement) and check that it is *floating* (NOT inline)

You may end up with several files with different month names saved.

To bring a picture into the file:
Find the picture on the desktop, or in the finder. Click and drag into the Pages document. To put in behind the text: Arrange – Send to Back.

To put a picture behind the months:
Click on the Table Inspector then down the bottom of the box choose image fill and **scale to fill** or **stretch**.

If you want to make the picture more transparent, so you can read the numbers better – go to the Graphic Inspector and change the opacity.

To change the colour of the background of the month table or to make it transparent:
Click on the day in the table that you want to change. If you want to select all the days, or a group of days, hold the SHIFT key down.

Click on the Inspector button at the top right hand corner. Click on the Graphic Inspector. Click on the Fill box and change the setting as you wish it. There are other special effects that you can also investigate, like alternate line / row colour in the Table Inspector.

Research Acvtivity - Technological systems:

A computer consists of two main parts, which work together – the **hardware** and the **software**.

Hardware is the physical stuff that you can touch and helps **input** information into the system (eg a keyboard, mouse) and to **output** information (monitor, printer). The hard drive on your computer stores the information. The hardware exists, but is not able to do anything until the software tells it what to do.

The software on a computer is like the brain. It is often called a **programme**. It **processes** information, and **transforms** it, according to the needs of the user. If you want to be entertained, you may buy games software. If you wish to keep accounts, you will use accounting software. If you want to edit photographs, you will use a photo editing programme.

A computer runs on a basic background platform, which is called an **Operating System**. The operating system connects all the hardware together and tells the software how to access it. There are 3 main operating systems which computers run on today. Two of them cost money, and one is essentially free. **Microsoft Windows** and **Apple MacIntosh** are the 2 main operating systems that cost money, and have been designed with the user in mind who knows very little about computers. **Linux** is a free operating system that you can download from the internet, and is the preferred operating system for many computer programmers and experts. There are many versions of each of these operating systems in existence today.

Control mechanisms in a computer help to enhance the efficiency and make sure that the output is suited to the user's needs. In a laptop computer, the battery pack enables the computer to deal with fluctuations in power and to keep the unit running should the power fail.

Provide some examples of other control mechanisms and how it influences the transformation process. Record your answers below:

How would you:

1. Control the brightness of the screen?_____

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2.Transfer files from one computer to another (many different ways of doing this – explain 2 ways)

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3. Show all the applications / programs open on your apple computer?

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4. Move the dock to another part of the screen?

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5. Think of some of the tools in Gimp… Are they control mechanisms? How do they transform the image?

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