



---

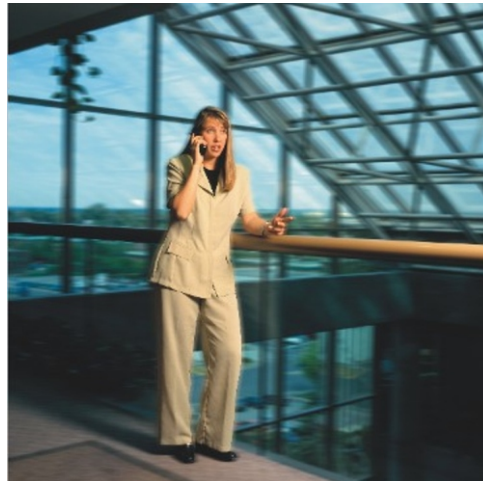
## Tutorial: Masking images

Welcome to Corel PHOTO-PAINT, a powerful bitmap image-editing application that lets you retouch existing photos or create original graphics.

### What you will learn

In this tutorial, you will learn how to protect part of an image by creating a mask. You'll do this by first defining a rough outline of an object and then fine-tuning your mask. When you apply a blurring effect to the image, you'll see how the masked portion of the object remains unchanged.

This is an example of the project you'll create.



You'll learn how to

- mask images
- modify masks
- invert masks
- apply effects to masked images

### Opening an image

You'll start by opening the sample file or your own file. You can acquire an image from a digital camera or scanner.

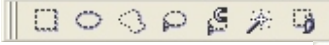


- 1 Click **File** menu ► **Open**.
- 2 Choose the folder where Corel PHOTO-PAINT was installed.
- 3 Choose the folder **Corel Graphics 11\Tutorials\Sample files**.
- 4 Double-click the filename **mask.jpg**.



## Masking an image

A mask protects part of an image, allowing you to control where an effect is applied on an image. You can mask any portion of the foreground or background of an image. In Corel PHOTO-PAINT, a mask is indicated either by the mask marquee or by a tint overlay that surrounds it.

Here you'll mask the woman in the sample image by drawing an outline around her. Later, you'll apply an effect to the background of the image, and the woman will remain unchanged.

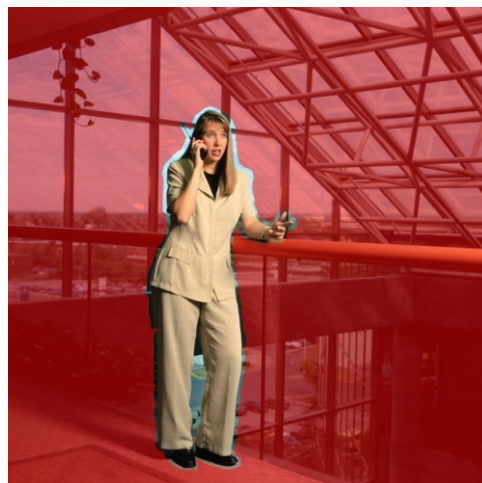
- 1 Open the **Mask** flyout , and click the **Freehand mask tool** .
- 2 On the property bar, click the **Normal mode** button .
- 3 Click a point beside the woman to set the first point in the selection.
- 4 Do one of the following:
  - Move the cursor to another location, and click to create a straight line segment between this point and the starting point.
  - Drag to create an outline around the woman.
- 5 Repeat step 4 until the selection is complete.

If you make a mistake while creating the mask, press **Esc** to remove the mask marquee and start over, or press **Delete** to remove the last anchor point without removing the entire marquee.
- 6 Double-click to finish the selection.

By default, the mask overlay displays as a red-tinted transparent sheet over the protected areas.
- 7 If the mask overlay displays, click **Mask** menu ▶ **Mask overlay** to hide it.

The mask marquee displays only after hiding the mask overlay.








This is what the image should look like.





## Modifying the mask




You'll now make changes to the mask, so it more closely follows the outline of the woman. Throughout this procedure, you may find it useful to zoom in or out to better judge your progress.

- 1 Open the **Zoom** flyout , and click the **Zoom** tool .
- 2 Drag across the upper-body of the woman to zoom in closer.
- 3 Open the **Mask** flyout, and click the **Brush mask** tool .
- 4 On the property bar, type **10** in the **Nib size** box  **Size 10** , and press **Enter**.
- 5 On the property bar, click the **Subtractive mode** button .

This lets you remove parts of the mask, so it more accurately outlines the woman.

- 6 Drag over the areas you want to remove from the mask.
- 7 When you are finished with the upper body, repeat step 6 to fine-tune the mask around the lower body. Pay close attention to the area between the woman's knees.

If you drag too far and the mask marquee passes through the woman's body, click the **Additive mode** button

 on the property bar, and drag over the area you want to add to the mask. You can see the entire picture by typing **100** in the **Zoom level** box  **100%**  on the standard toolbar.

This is what the image should look like.





## Outlining the hand

You'll now fine-tune the mask around one of the trickiest parts of the drawing: the hand resting on the railing. You'll achieve a precise outline by zooming in on the hand and adding to or subtracting from the mask as needed.

- 1 Click the **Zoom** tool, and click the hand resting on the railing until the **Zoom level** box on the property bar displays **500%**.
- 2 Open the **Mask** flyout, and click the **Brush mask** tool.
- 3 On the property bar, type **3** in the **Nib size** box.
- 4 Drag as close to the hand as possible. Pay special attention to the index finger and thumb.


You can use the **Additive mode** and **Subtractive mode** buttons on the property bar as needed. This is what the image should look like.



## Using the mask overlay

The mask overlay is a red-tinted, transparent sheet that displays over the areas that are protected from changes. You'll use the **Brush mask** tool to modify the mask by painting on the overlay.

- 1 Click **Window** menu ▶ **Toolbars** ▶ **Mask/Object**.

- 2 On the **Mask/Object** toolbar , click the **Mask overlay** button  .

A red tint displays over the area that is masked.



## Tutorial: Masking images

---

This is an example of what the mask overlay should look like when zoomed in on the thumb and index finger of the hand.



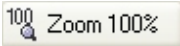

- 3** Use the **Brush mask** tool to make additional adjustments to the mask.  
You can toggle between subtractive and additive modes to modify the mask.  
This is what the image should look like.





## Inverting the mask

You'll invert the mask, so that it is the background that can be changed and the woman who is protected from applying any effects to it.

- 1 Click the **Zoom** tool.
- 2 On the property bar, click the **Zoom 100%** button  .
- 3 On the **Mask/Object** toolbar, click the **Invert mask** button  .

This is what the image should look like.



## Applying a motion blur effect


You'll now apply a motion blur effect to the background of the image. The woman is protected from the blurring effect by the mask.

- 1 Click **Effects** menu ▶ **Blur** ▶ **Motion blur**.
- 2 In the **Pixels** box of the **Motion blur** dialog box, type **10**.  
You can preview the results of the motion blur effect in the image window.
- 4 Click **OK**.



## Finishing the project

To finish the project, you'll remove the mask from the image and save it.

- 1 On the **Mask/Object** toolbar, click the **Clear mask** button  .
- 2 Save your project.

This is what the final project should look like.



## From here ...

Now that you've learned how to mask a part of an image and apply a blurring effect, you can use this technique to modify your images, and save, print, or post them to the web.

You can explore Corel PHOTO-PAINT further on your own, or you can learn more, by completing some of the other tutorials.

For more information about the topics and tools presented in this tutorial, you can refer to the user guide or the Help. To access Corel PHOTO-PAINT Help, click **Help** menu ▶ **Help topics**.