

CLIPPING MASKS – “Formerly known as” Clipping Groups



1. Open an image you want to put into text. Double click the background to make it a layer.
2. Using the Text tool; a large, “fat” font and any color except white, type your desired text. Resize and reposition your text as needed. Click the check mark in the options bar when done. Note that your Layers Palette now has a text layer.
3. Click on the bottom image layer and drag it to the top of the Layers stack. (Text disappears).
4. Press the Alt/Option key and move your cursor on top of the line between the top layer and the text layer. The cursor will change to a double circle. Left click and your image will pop into your text. (I don’t include a keyboard shortcut because not all PS versions are the same).
5. With the image layer active (click on it), use the move tool and then click on the image inside the text. You can now move it around and position it where you like.
6. To make the text stand out, you need to add a Layer Style. Click on the Text layer to activate. Click on the “f” at the bottom left of the Layers Palette to bring up Layer Styles. Experiment. For the images in this tutorial, I applied a drop shadow and a bevel and emboss.

That’s all there is to it!

CREATIVE TIPS: Add a color or texture layer to the bottom of your layers stack).

OR: Use another image for the background



For this example, first I followed the above tutorial and then I dragged in another image of fall leaves making sure it was the same size and resolution as my document. (Tip: hold the shift key while dragging to assure the image will be centered). Then I dragged this new layer to the bottom of the Layers stack.

To make the text stand out even more in this AUTUMN image, I lowered the opacity of the new image layer.