Photoshop Layers: Paper Tutorial
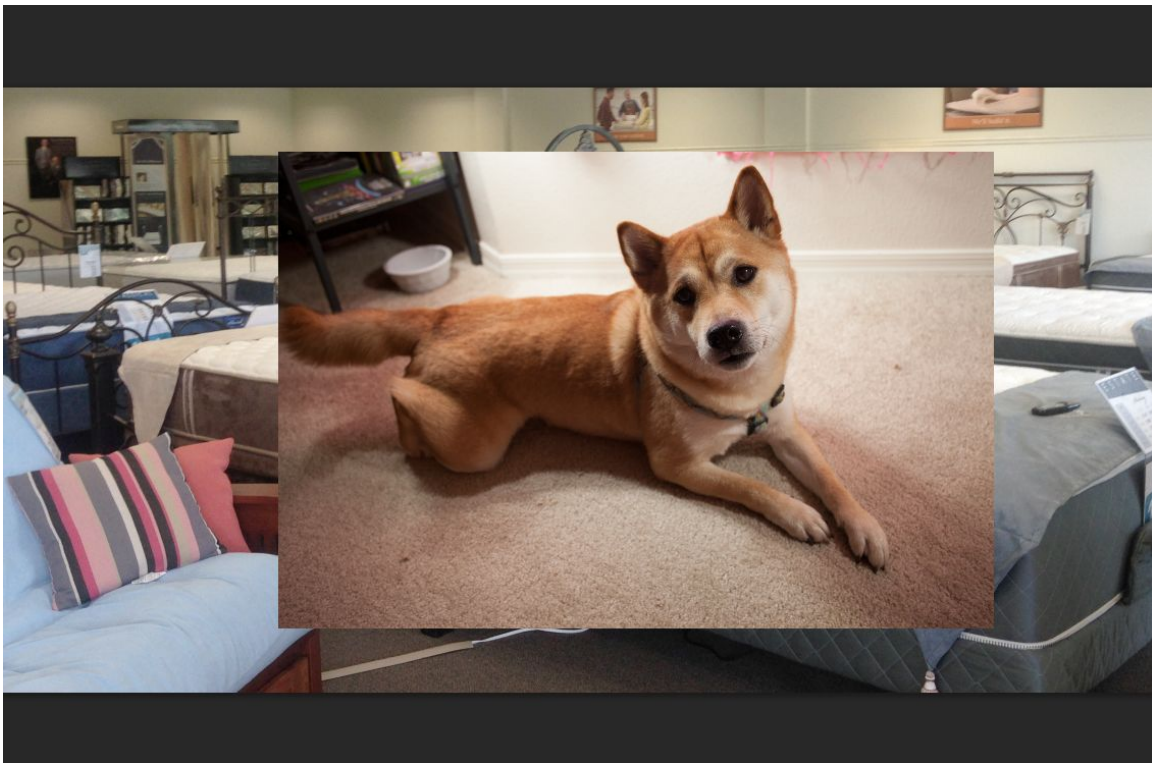### Uses examples of dog and cat, use your downloaded historical images.

1. Download your images.

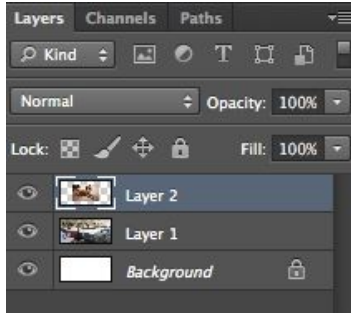Go to File > Open > Both your Background and Subject Photograph.

On your Subject Image hit ⌘A or Select > All
Then copy your image. ⌘C or Edit > Copy
Click on your background tab on Photoshop. And paste your animal either by ⌘V or Edit > Paste

So I have a Puppy on top of a mattress store. Don't worry now that he is the size of a whole bed. We can fix that later.

If you look at your layers palette, it should look similar to mine. Layers work like cellophane on top of each other. You can move them, lock them, adjust the opacity, and even blending modes. Layers are the key to most everything in Photoshop. When you adjust in Photoshop, be sure to double check each layer you are on. Before you work!
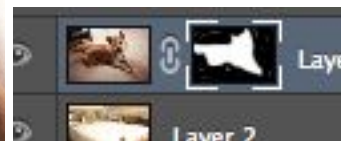
Using Layer Masks:
Note – there is a million of ways to do this. This is just how I do it. If you have another way, share it!

On my Dog layer I click the "Layer Mask Icon"
And My layers panel will look like

When I am on the "White Box" of Layer 1 I am adjusting that layer without deleting the original contents. I can just use a brush colored black to "brush away" areas I do not want.
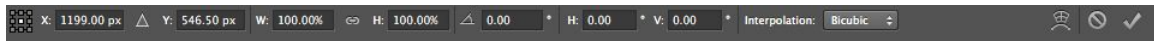

See how the Layers Icon looks??

Zoom in and check layers often.

Free Transform
Free Transform helps you change the size of your Layer, rather than your actual canvas.

I find this to be very helpful when working with my images if for web or for print.

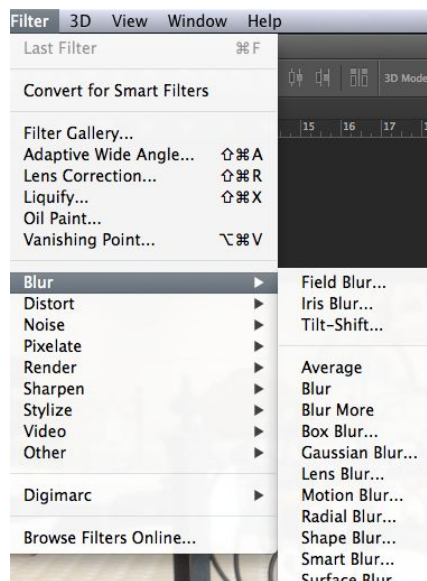You can find it Edit > Free Transform or the shortcut ⌘T

You will have a bounding box around your Layer you can Drag it, or input number on the top bar. You can even "warp" it by the wavy box on third from the right. When finished, make sure to use the Check mark to save the altered layer.

You can Click on the link in the middle to "Maintain Aspect Ratio". This makes sure your pup will stay a size relational to the original.

Final Touches
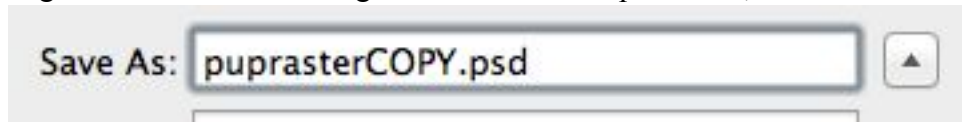You can play with Filers to make him appear more realistic or even layer properties.

You can also go to Image > Adjustments to play with some more affects.

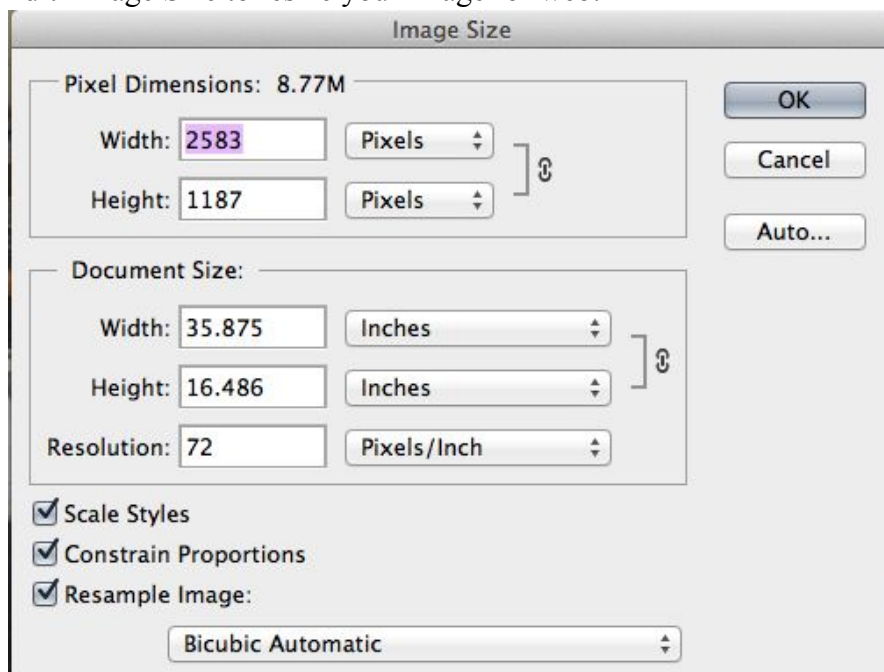Sometimes changing a tone of something makes it appear more believable.

Resizing your image
Sometimes the image you download or used from a photograph is GIANT! Which is great for printing. However showing for web may not be the best. I always keep a original sized PSD. So if I go back and need to print later, I can.
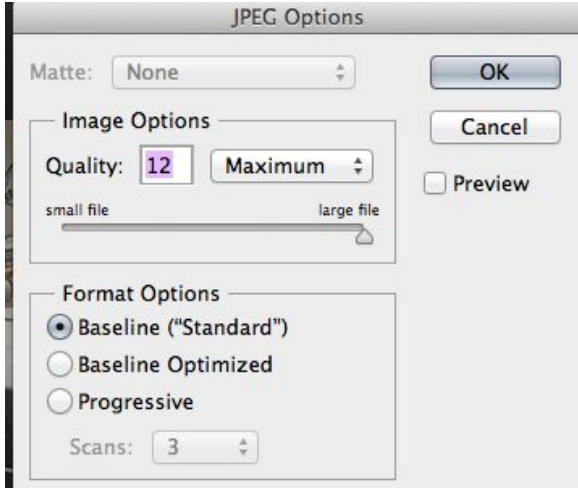

So I save an extra PSD as COPY, or EDIT1 or whatever you want. So If I make additional edits, I have the first one.
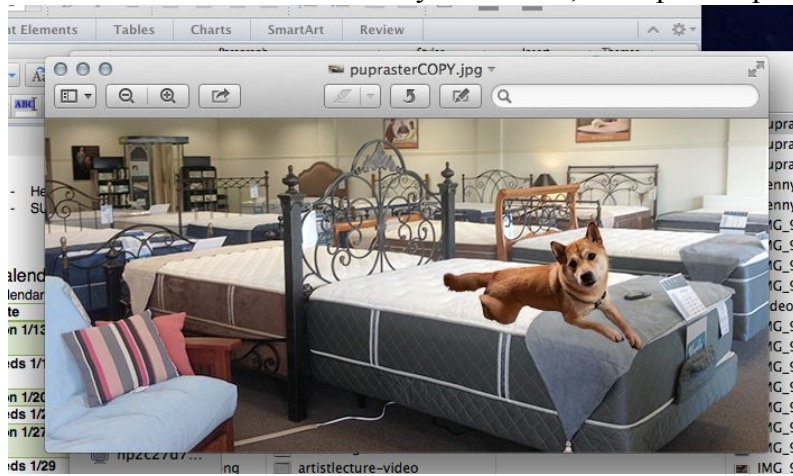
Edit>Image Size to resize your image for web.

Right now my image is huge. 72 DPI is great for web pages images, not print. If I go to the drop down box for Inches, I can go to "Percent" Since it is so big I am going to do 25% of the original size.

Then File Save As .JPG

I up my quality to the best I can. This will mean a larger file size, but I want whoever to see my work, see it as it's best.

Then I see where the file is in my hard drive, and open it up.

It seems a bit small, so I go back into Photoshop.
Open up my first file, OVERWRITE my copy PSD. And keep playing around with a size that I think is just right. I want if large enough so I can see detail, but not to small where if I want to zoom in, I get pixels.

5   Art 116 - Intro to Digital Media - Alison Sweet - Created by Samantha Aasen

Here is my final Image.
Instead of "export" as in Illustrator - in Photoshop we do a "Save as"
Under the "Save as" Option you can change your file type to JPG for upload to weebly.

REMEMBER TO SAVE YOUR PSD OFTEN AS PHOTOSHOP LIKES TO CRASH!

Extra Tutorials are readily available online.
If you want to do something! LOOK IT UP!