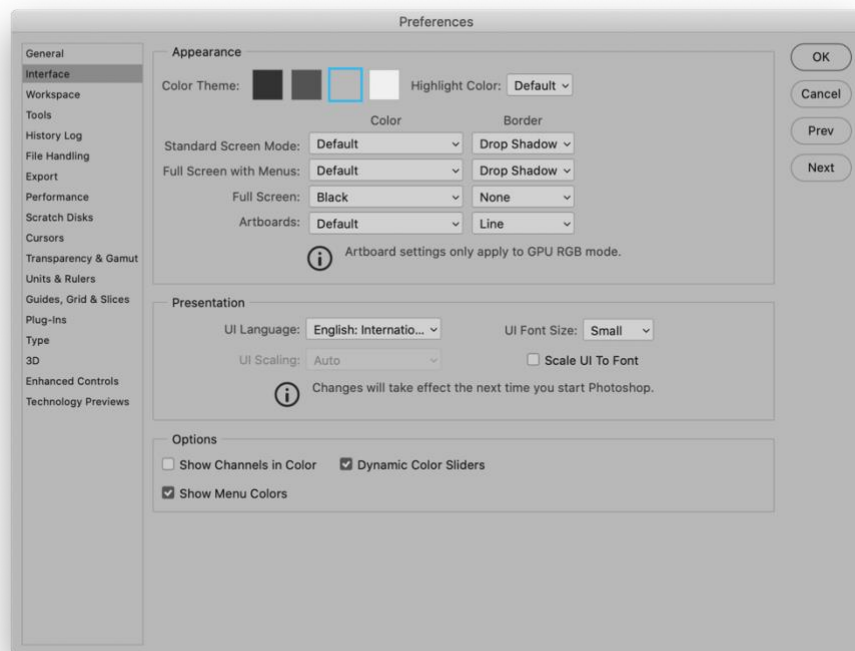


Hello!

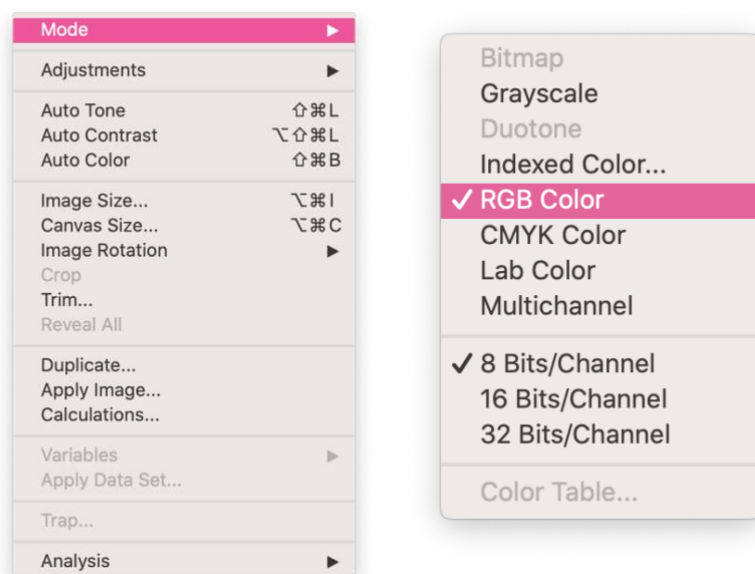
Below is a quick User Manual to prepare your Adobe Photoshop to using the **XPRESSION Photoshop Action**.

Please make sure that you are using the English version of Photoshop (CS3 – CC 2020). Please go to **Edit – Preferences – Interface** (on Windows) or **Photoshop CC – Preferences – Interface** (on Mac):

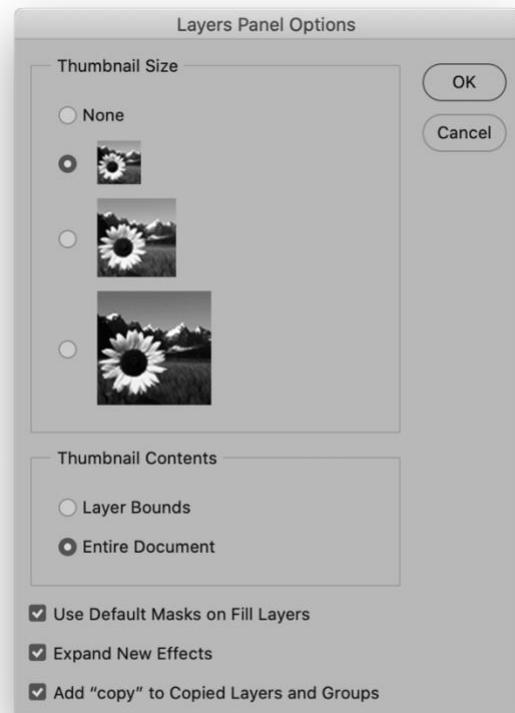
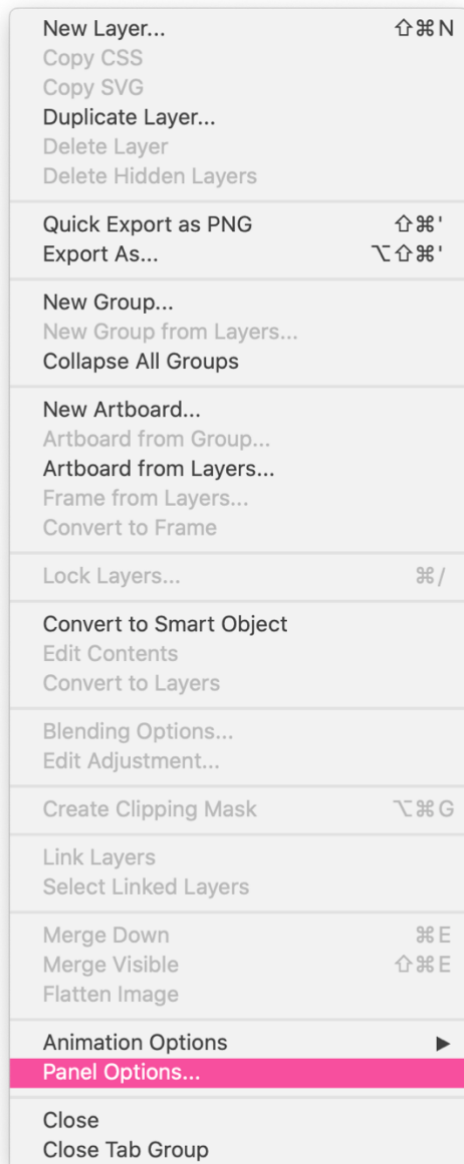


Select the **Brush Tool** and set brush opacity and flow to 100%.

Now open your image, use high contrast photos in 2000-4500 pixels. Please make sure that your image has an RGB format of 8 Bits/Channel. **Image – Mode:**

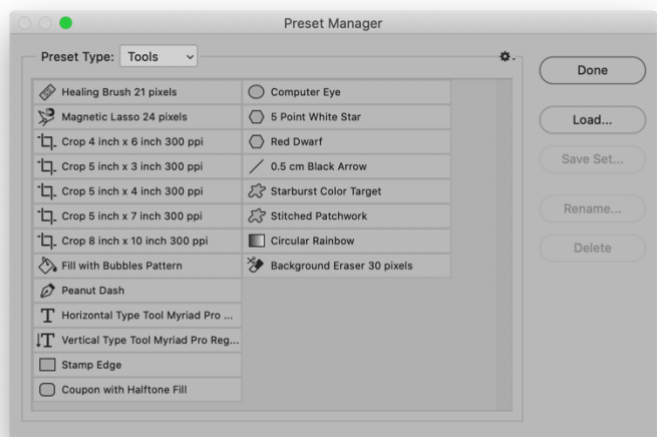
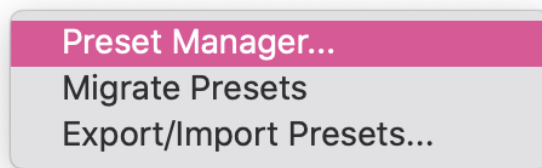
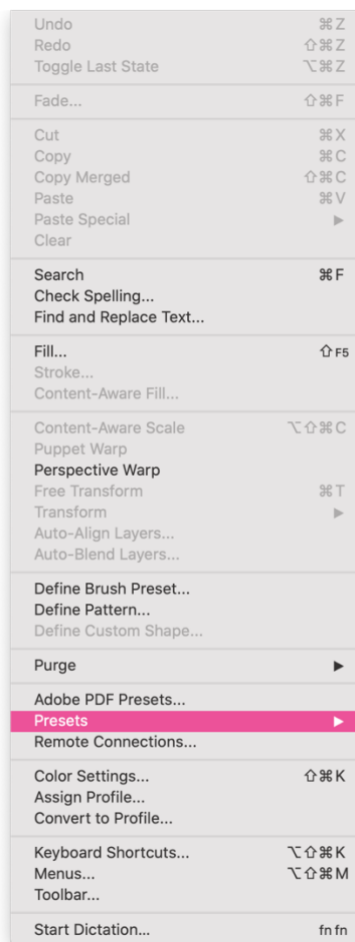


Then please go to the **Layers tab - Panel Options** to make sure that you have active 'Add "copy" to Copied Layers and Groups' checkbox:

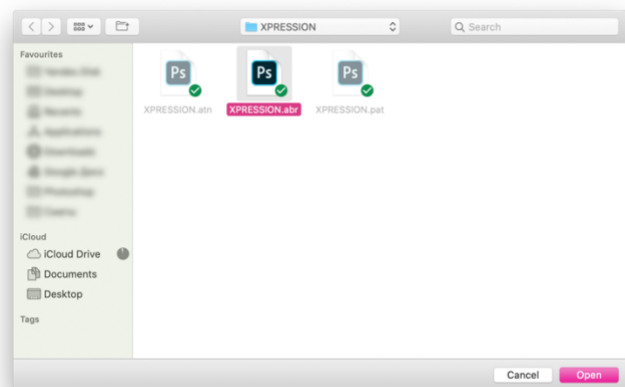
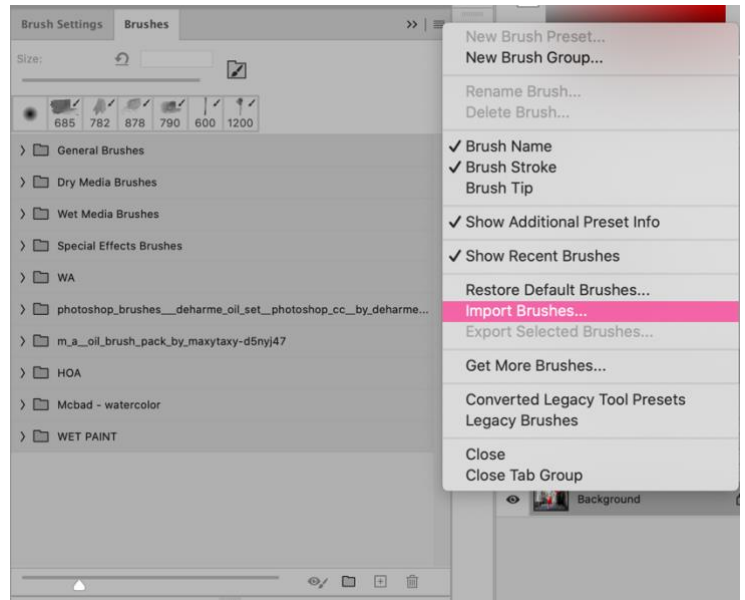


# BEFORE YOU START

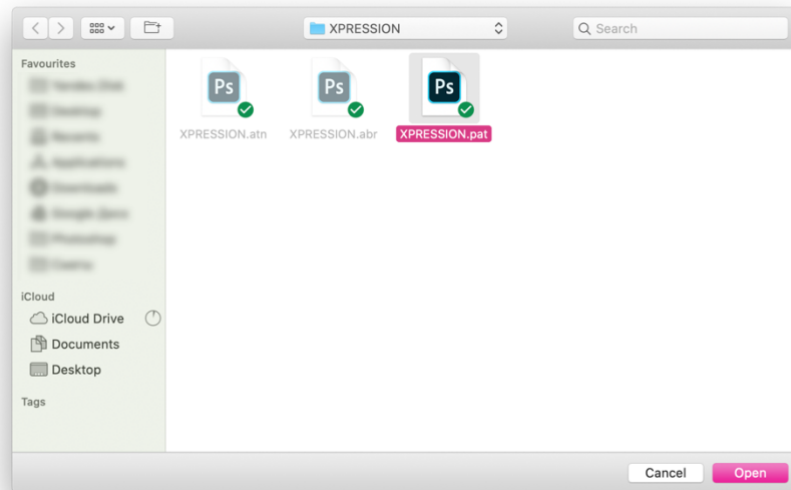
Please note, before using the action, you need to upload the included Patterns and Brushes into Photoshop Preset Manager (Photoshop CS3 – CC 2019). Go to the **Edit - Presets - Preset Manager** menu section. Please select **Preset Type – Brushes**. Press **Load** and select **XPRESSION.abr** file to upload:



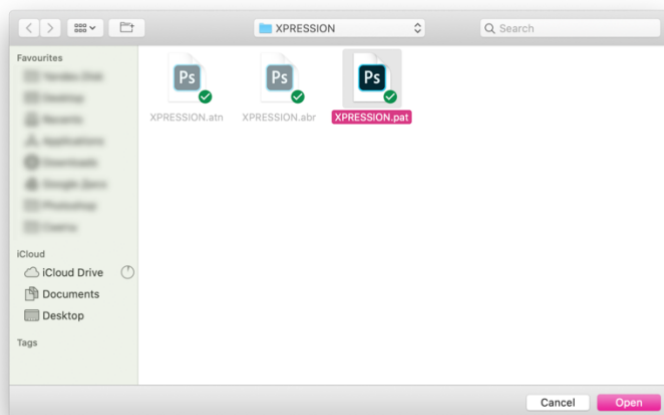
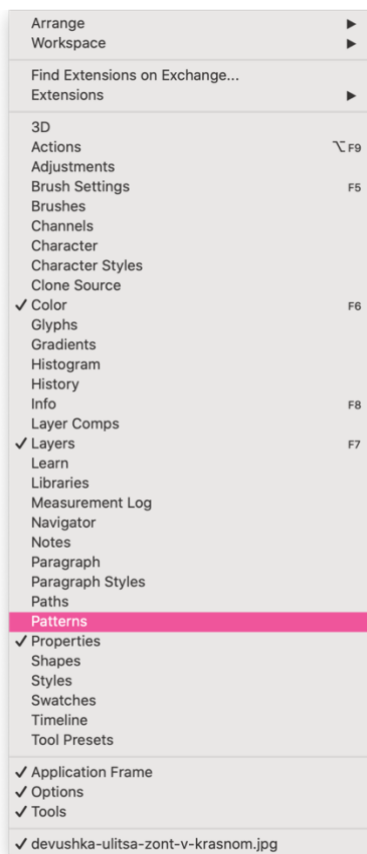
In Photoshop CC 2020 open **Window** menu, select **Brushes - Import Brushes**:



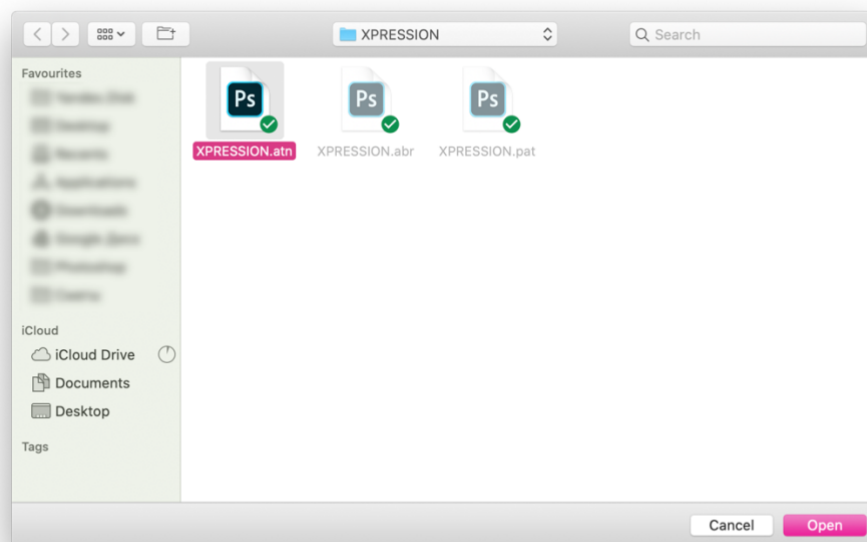
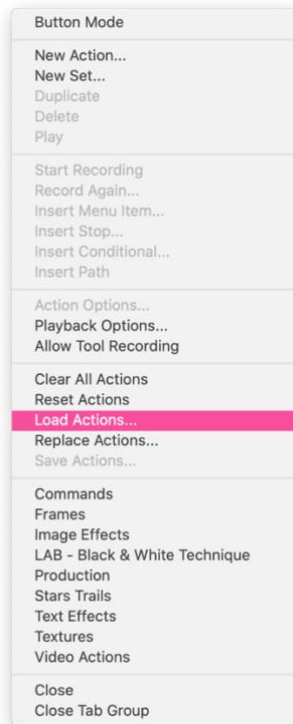
Then select **Preset Type – Patterns** (Photoshop CS3 – CC 2019) and load **XPRESSION.pat**:



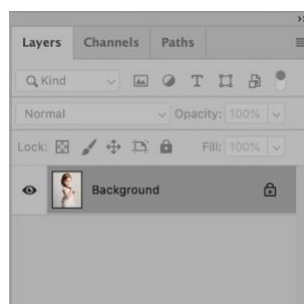
In CC 2020 **Window – Patterns – Import Patterns.**



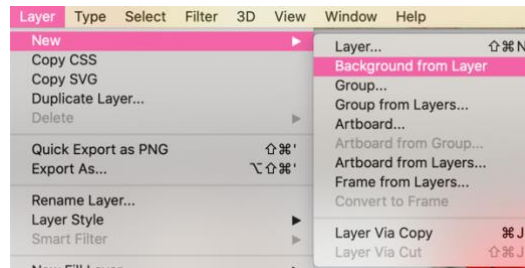
Finally, please go to the **Window – Actions**, click the icon in the upper-right corner of the **Actions** panel, select **Load Actions** and upload **XPRESSION.atn**.



Please make sure, that there is only locked 'Background' layer in the **Layers panel**.



If you are using, for example, PNG image, you may have 'Layer 0' instead of required 'Background' layer. To fix this issue please go to the **Layer menu** and select **New – Background from layer**:



Then save the image, close and reopen it.

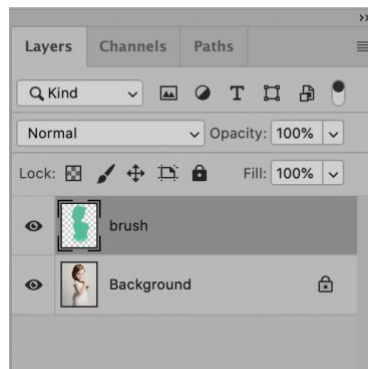
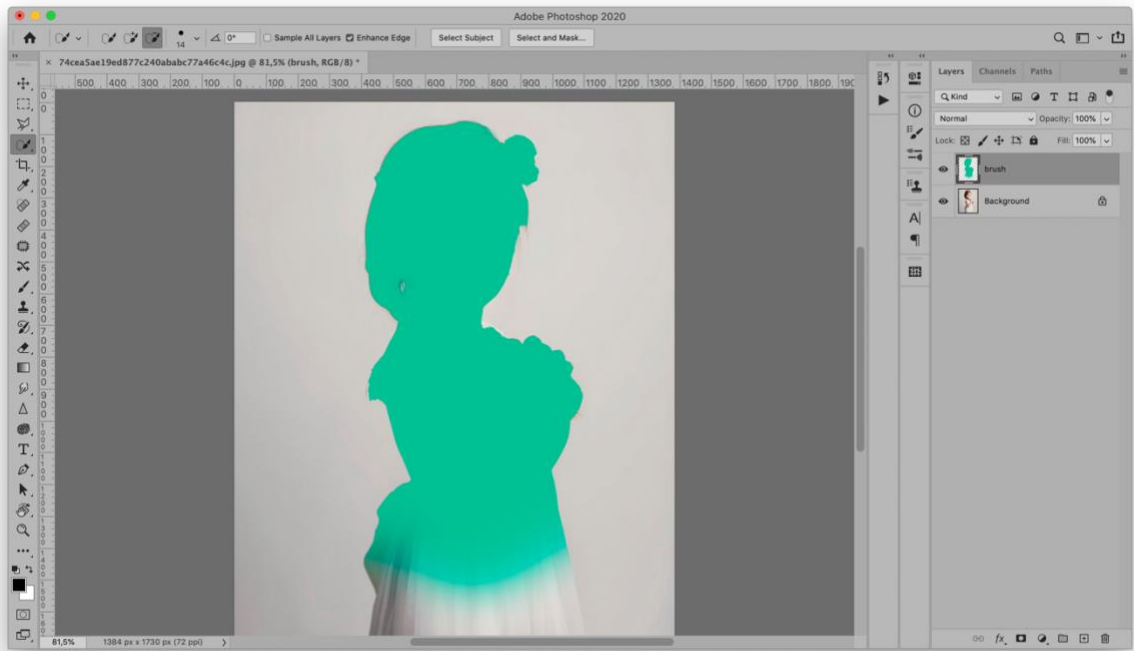
**Please note that the product uses Art History Brush and works correctly only with original images that have not been edited in the current working session. If you need to pre-edit the image, for example, resize it, please do it, save the result, close the file and then reopen it. Then start the action.**

## USING THE ACTION

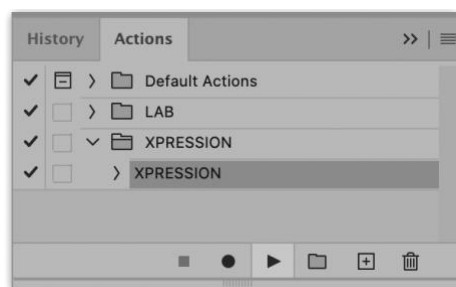
On the **Layers panel** click '+' button and create new layer with name '**brush**'. Select **Brush Tool** (use a soft brush) and paint the area (color doesn't matter), that you want to highlight.



Also, you may use the **Quick Selection Tool**, create a layer via copy and then rename it to 'brush'. This is the best method.

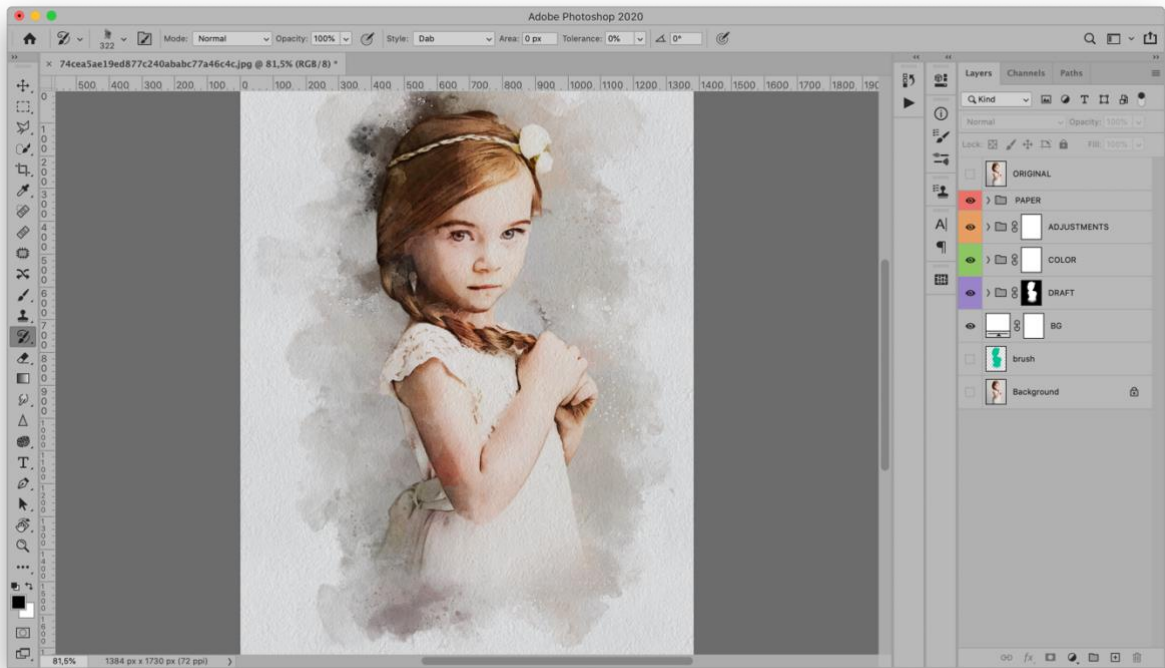


Start the action.

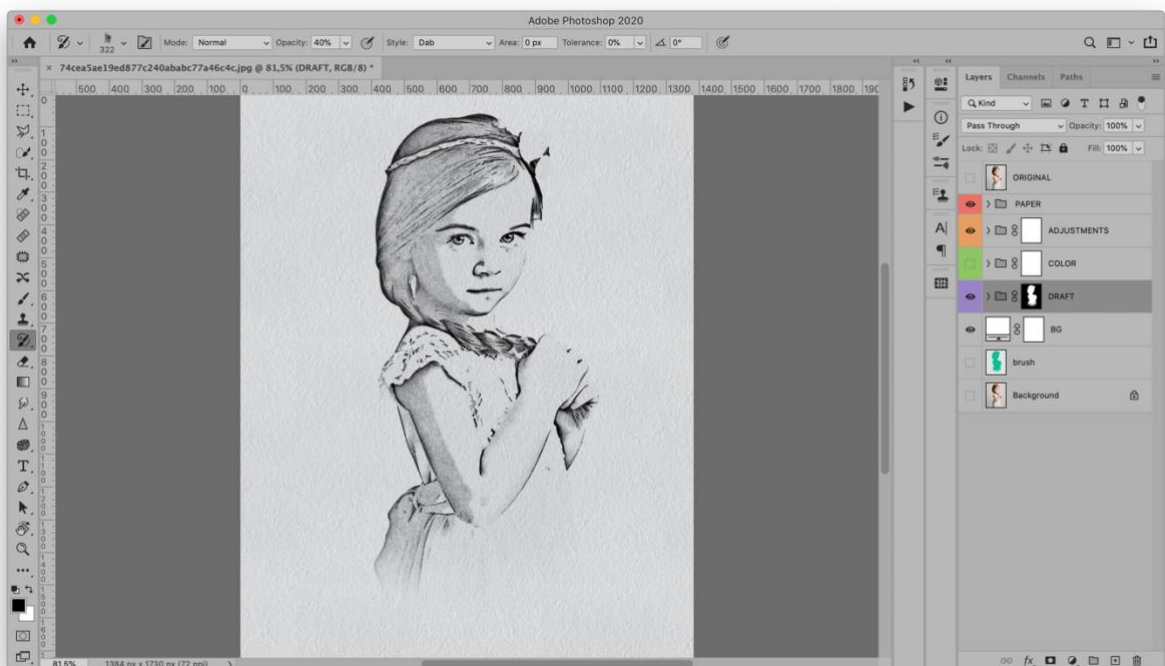




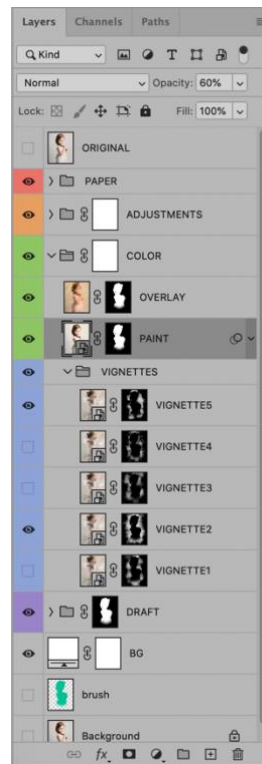
Wait until it processes the image (about 20-40 seconds).

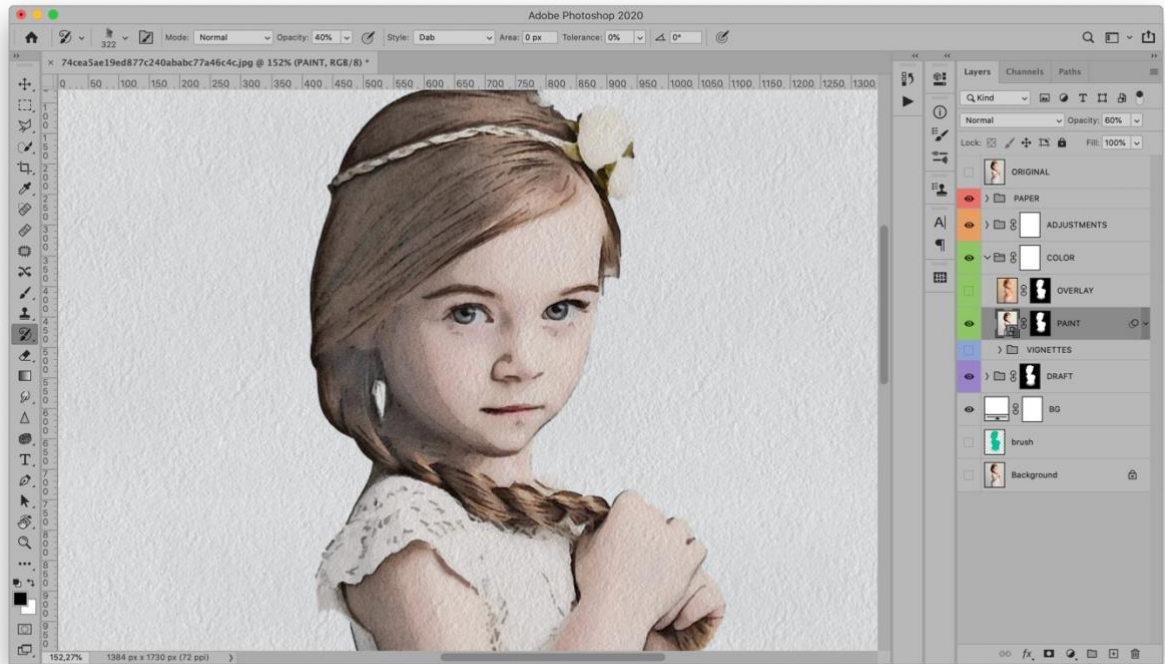


On the **Layers panel** you see 4 groups of layers + white background. The 'DRAFT' group contains B/W sketch, on top of which is applied coloring.

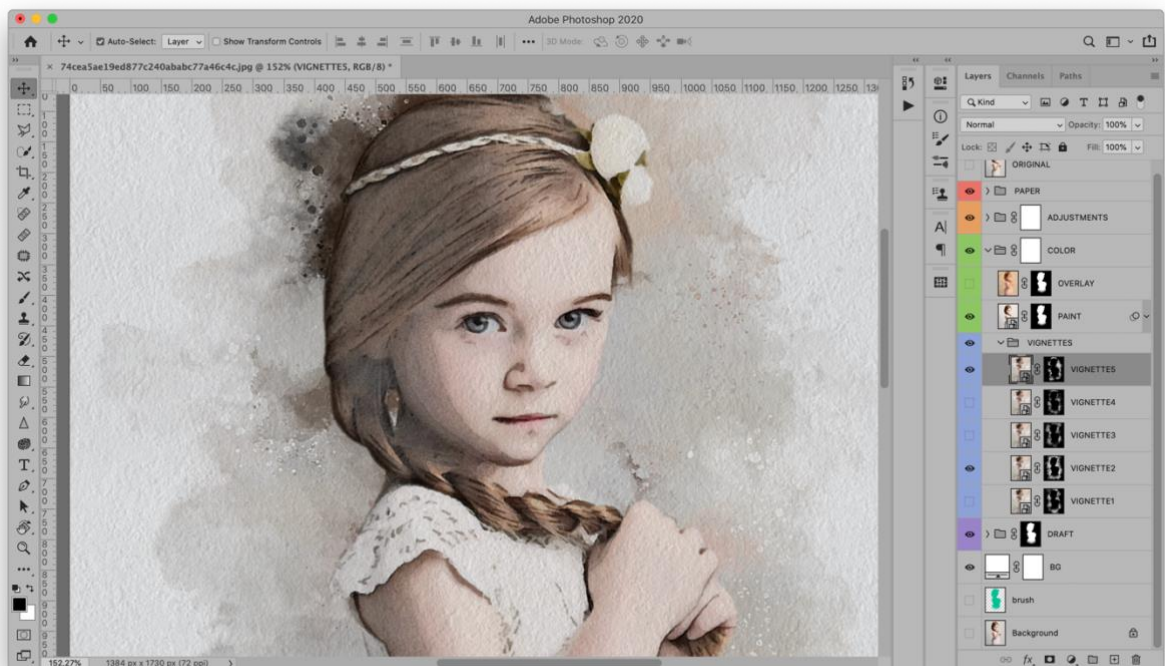


'COLOR' group gives to our image the main effect. 'PAINT' is our focus-area which are transformed to water-based painting.



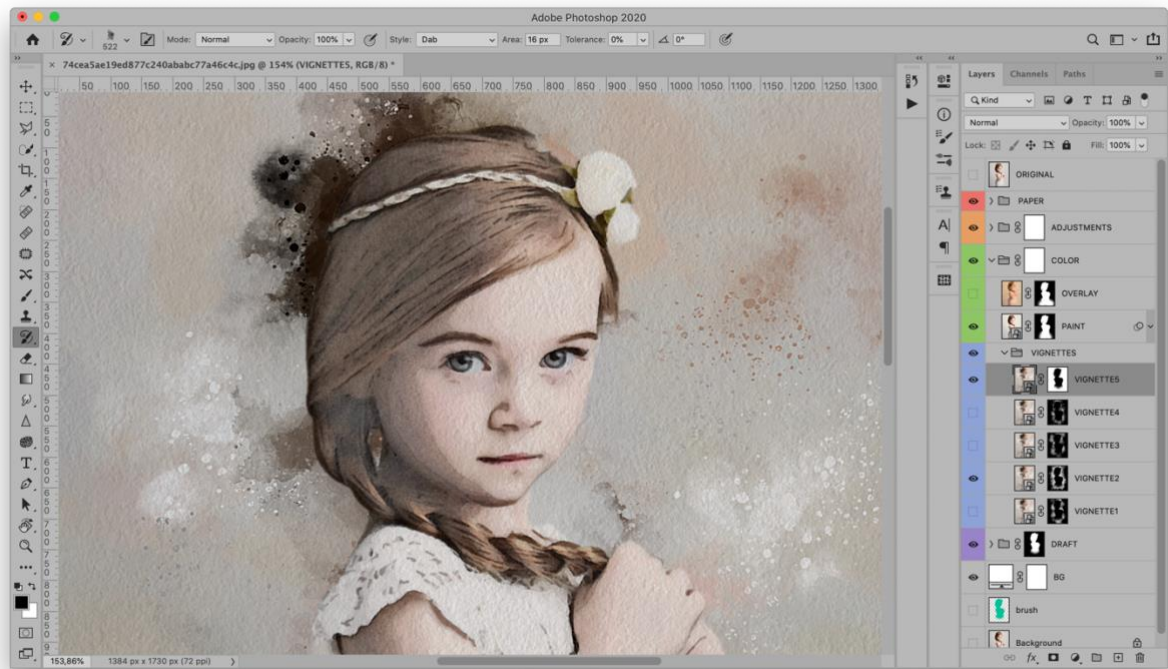


The 'VIGNETTES' layer adds a realistic paint surrounding around our 'PAINT':

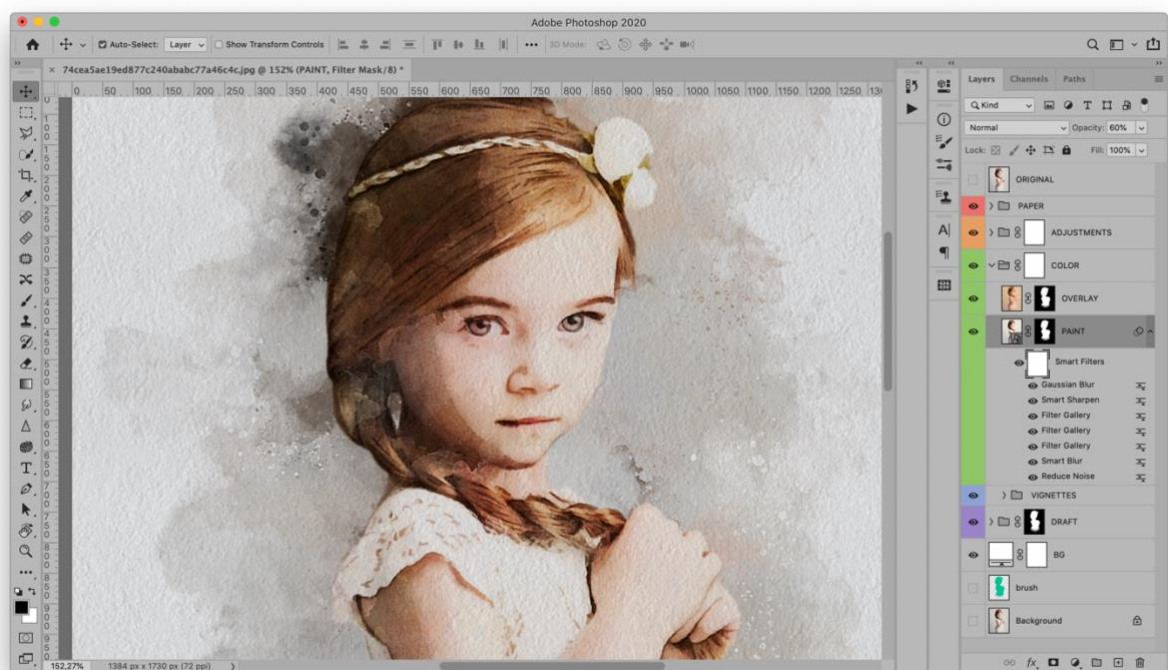


You can extend any vignette by using its mask. For example, let's fill white all the area around the subject.

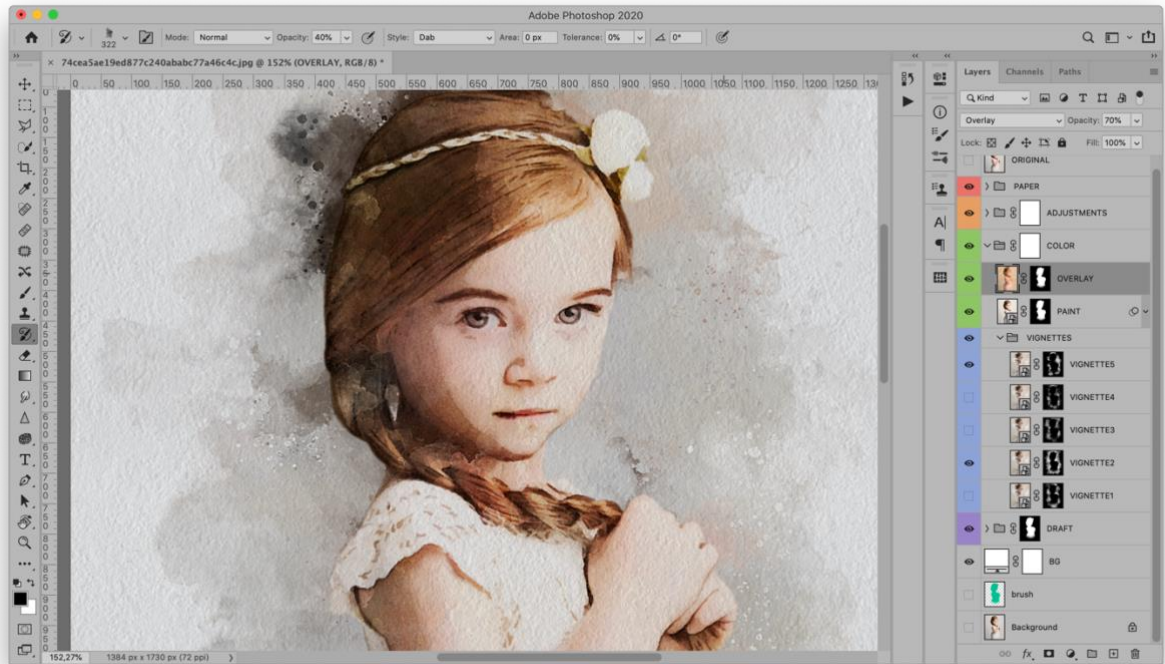




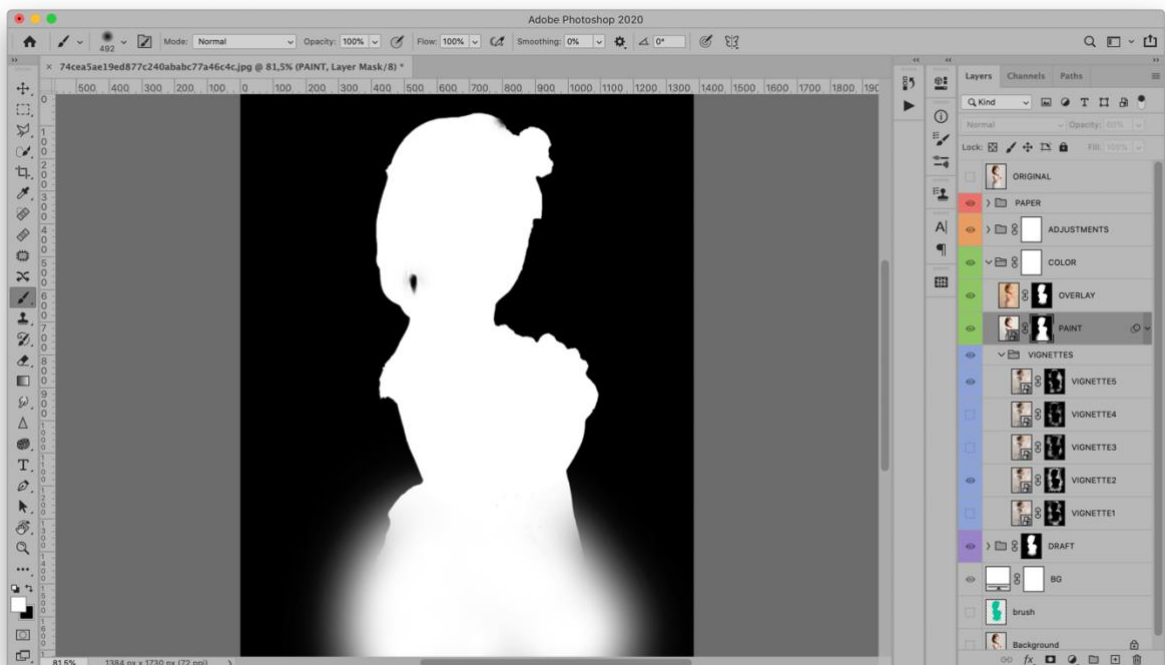
Also, you can use any included brush for this.  
 'OVERLAY' adds a deliberate sloppiness inherent to the fast and expressive drawing technique:



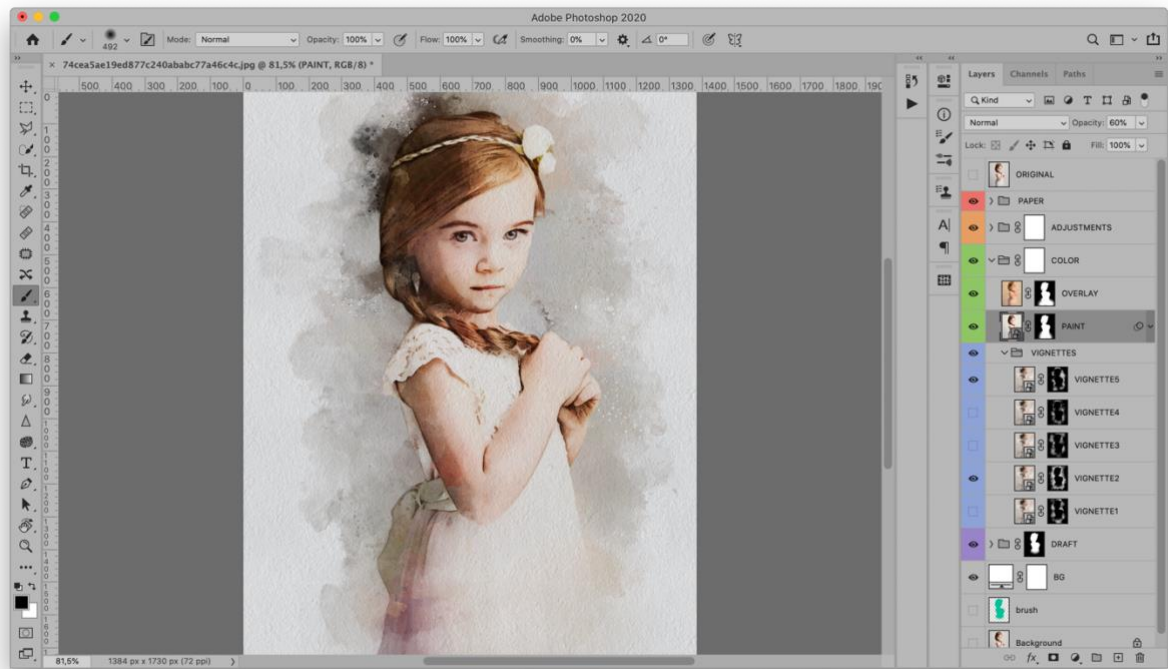
You can edit this layer by Art History Brush. Let's say I want to remove a stain from the girl's left eye. To do this I choose the brush 'XPRESSON7' and paint over RGB channel of the 'OVERLAY' layer until the result is satisfactory.



If you want to extend the focus-zone, use the mask of the 'PAINT' layer and paint over the desired area with a white brush. A brush opacity of 30-40 percent is recommended. Look closely at the bottom of the girl's dress:

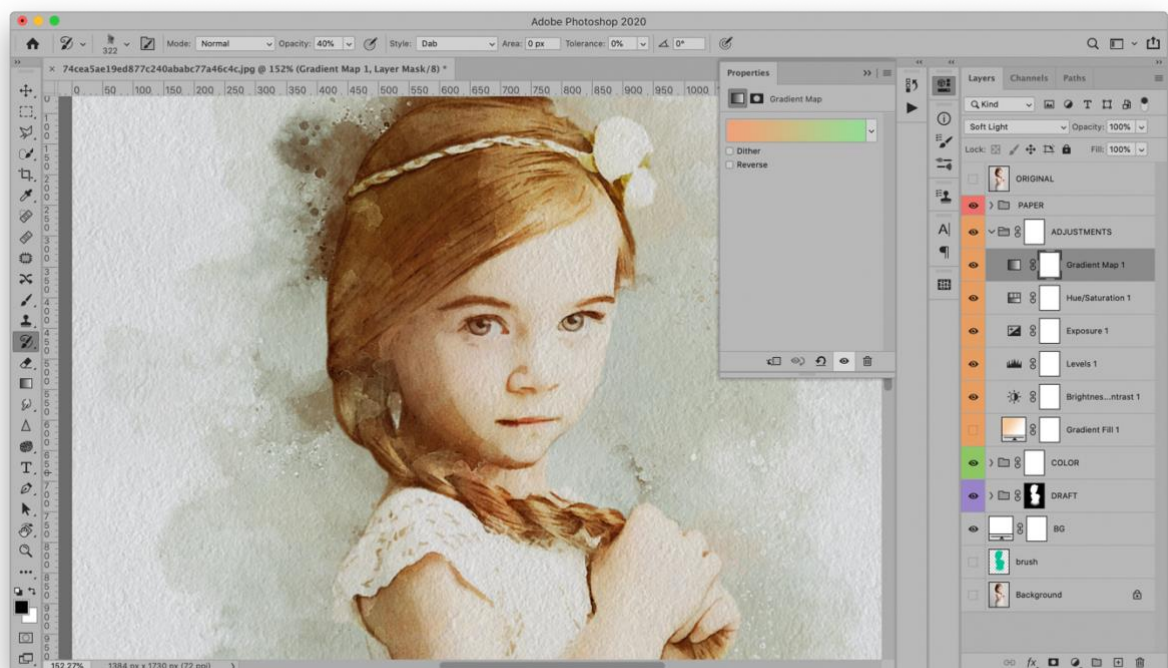




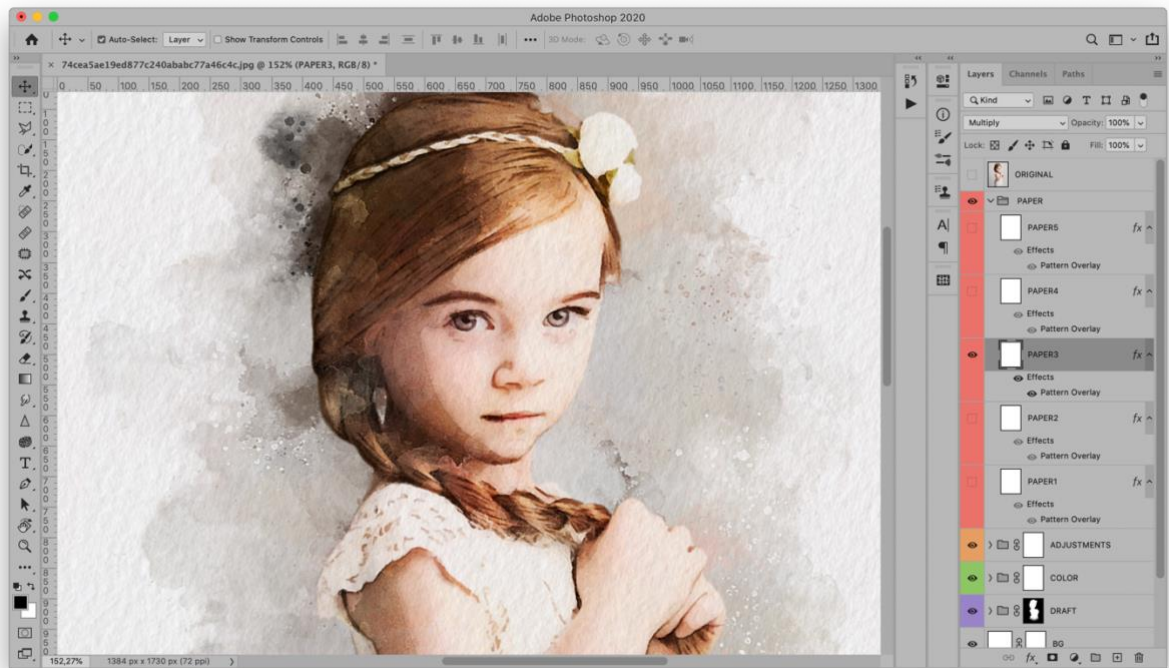
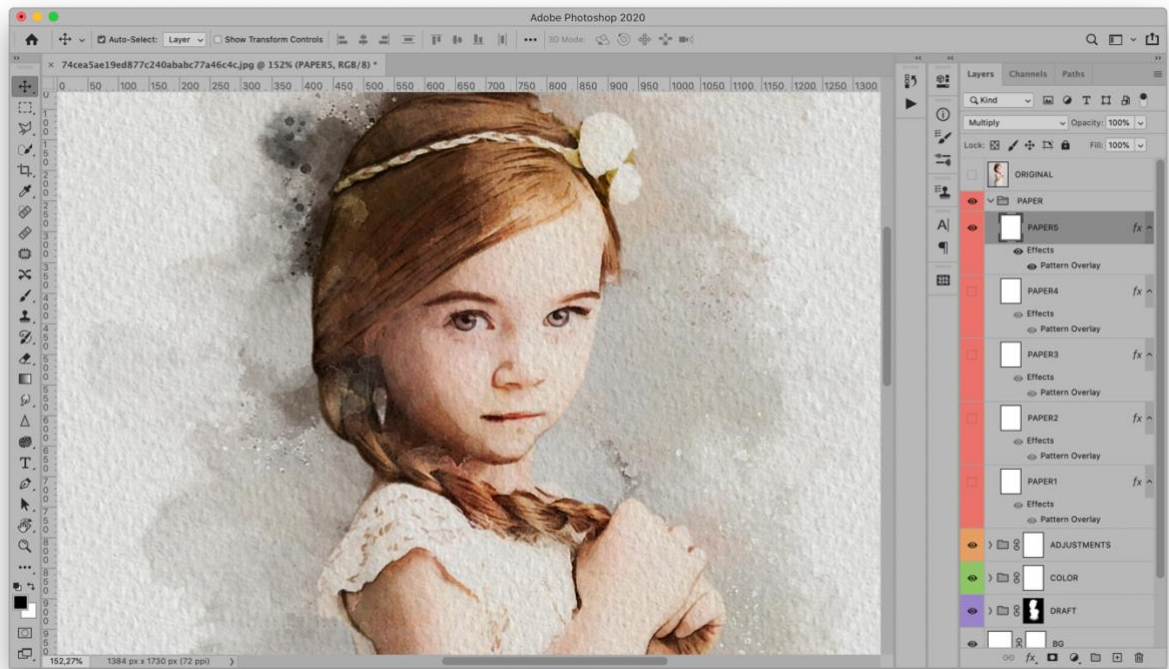


I recommend to repeat this step with 'OVERLAY' layer too.

The 'ADJUSTMENTS' group allows you to edit the exposure, brightness, saturation and contrast of the image, add a gradient on it...



In addition, you can change the paper texture by activating any of 5 layers in the 'PAPER' group. Also, you can use your own texture instead included ones.



# **THANK YOU!**

I hope, my XPRESSION PS Action user manual was useful to you.  
Thank you for your purchase!

Warmly, Alex.