

ICE STORM



by Round-Pixel

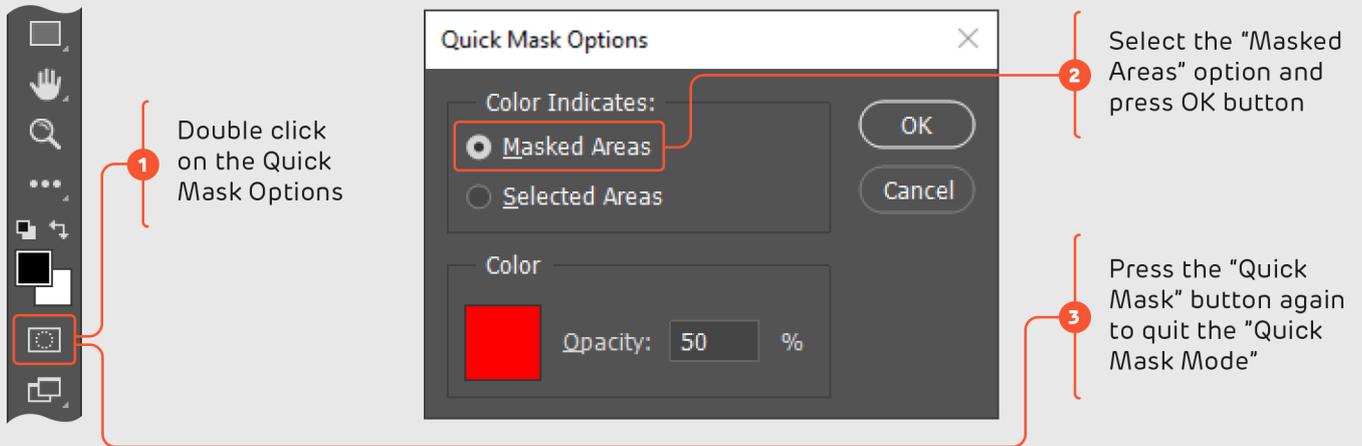
- 1 Checking the Photoshop options
- 2-3 Preparations before using the action
- 4 Adjusting the result
- 5 Credits



Checking the Photoshop options

1

Open your image, check the Quick Mask Options:



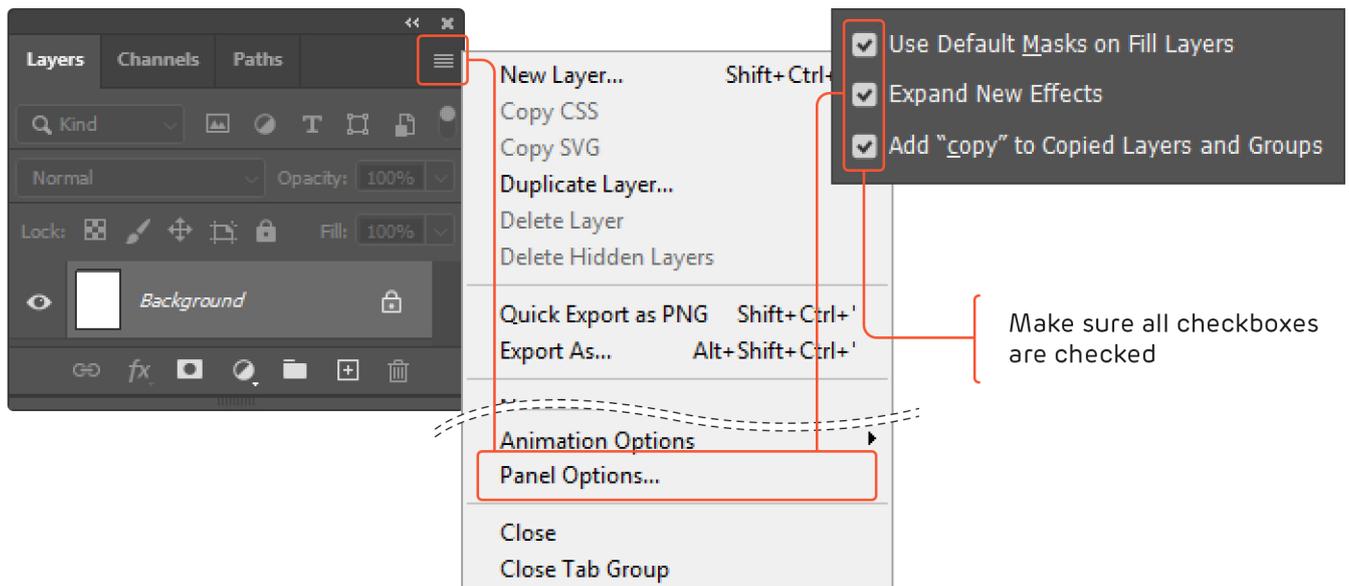
1 Double click on the Quick Mask Options

2 Select the "Masked Areas" option and press OK button

3 Press the "Quick Mask" button again to quit the "Quick Mask Mode"

The image shows the Photoshop interface with the Quick Mask Options dialog box open. The 'Masked Areas' radio button is selected. The 'Color' section shows a red square and 'Opacity: 50 %'. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are visible. Red lines and numbers 1, 2, and 3 point to the Quick Mask button in the toolbar, the 'Masked Areas' option, and the 'OK' button respectively.

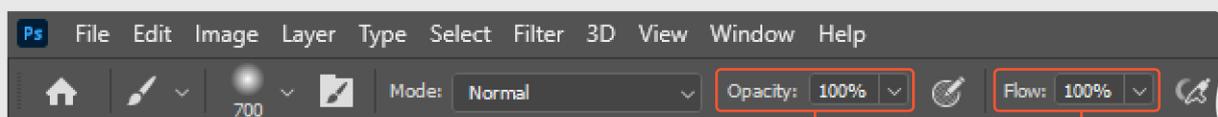
Check the Layer Panel Options:



Make sure all checkboxes are checked

The image shows the Photoshop Layers panel with the menu icon (three horizontal lines) clicked. A context menu is open, showing options like 'New Layer...', 'Copy CSS', 'Duplicate Layer...', 'Delete Layer', 'Delete Hidden Layers', 'Quick Export as PNG', 'Export As...', 'Animation Options', 'Panel Options...', 'Close', and 'Close Tab Group'. A sub-menu for 'Panel Options...' is open, showing three checked checkboxes: 'Use Default Masks on Fill Layers', 'Expand New Effects', and 'Add "_copy" to Copied Layers and Groups'. Red lines and numbers 1, 2, and 3 point to the menu icon, the 'Panel Options...' option, and the three checkboxes respectively.

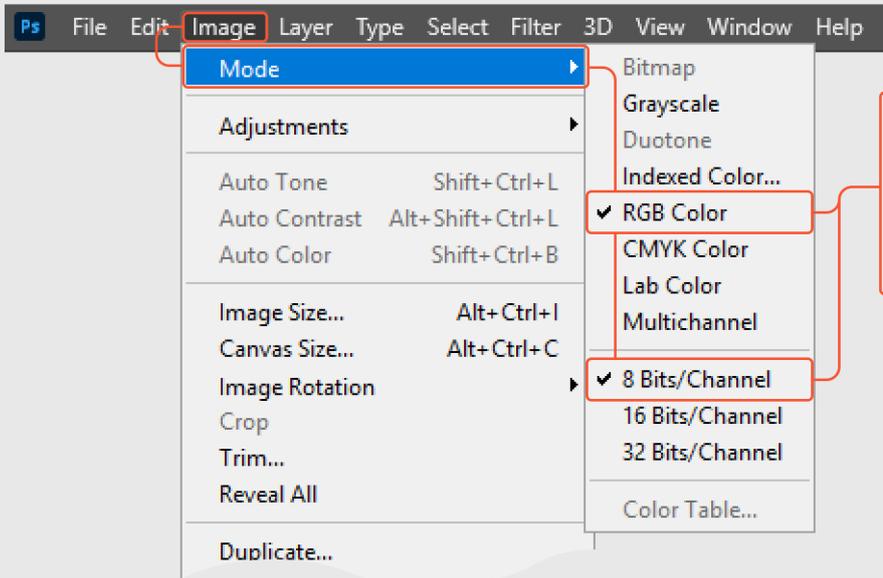
Check the Brush options:



The image shows the Photoshop top toolbar with the Brush Tool selected. The 'Opacity' and 'Flow' options are set to 100%. Red lines and numbers 1 and 2 point to the 'Opacity: 100%' and 'Flow: 100%' dropdown menus respectively.

Select the Brush Tool (B button) and set the Opacity and Flow options to the 100%. In other case you can get the error message or transparent effect

Check the image's mode:



Go to the "Image > Mode" menu. Make sure that your image is RGB color and 8 Bits/Channel. In other case some important Photoshop functions will not work and action will stop with the error message.

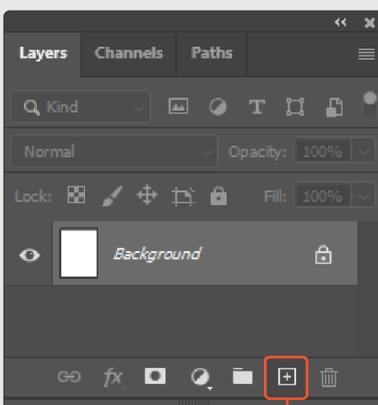
Load the files from the downloaded package:



Unzip the package you downloaded from the Market. Double click on the .ATN ,ABR* .PAT* files while the Photoshop is running. That will upload the action to your Photoshop.

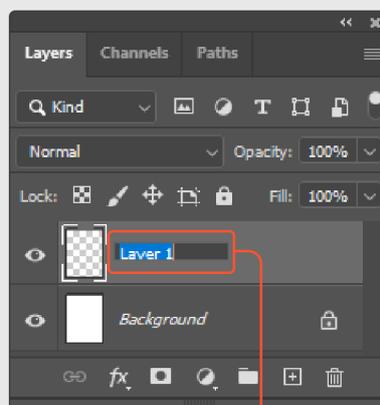
* - .ABR and .PAT files may not be available in some actions.

Create the 'brush' layer (all lowercase)



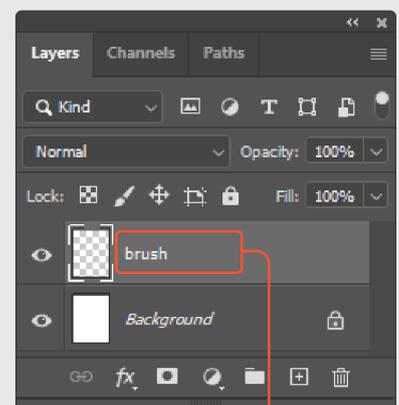
1

Create the new empty layer.



2

Double click on the layer's name to change it.



3

Change the layer's name to 'brush' (all lowercase)

Chose the tool for the object selection and select it:

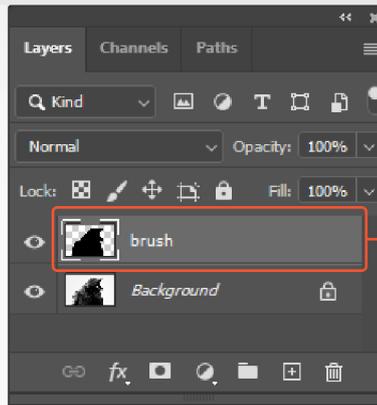


Pen Tool (P) will create the shape that you can convert to the selection (Ctrl/Cmd+Enter hotkey). Fill the selection as described in Lasso/Quick Selection.

Brush Tool (B) will fill the area immediately. Make sure that the 'brush' layer is active while you use the Brush Tool (B).

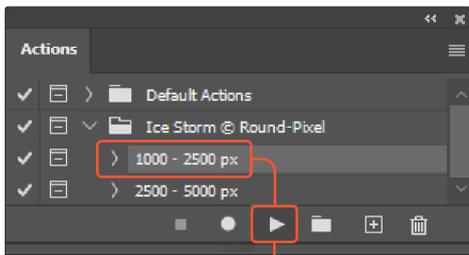
Lasso tools (L) and Quick Selection tools (W) will make the selection that you need to fill. The layer with the object have to be selected.

After creating the selection set the 'brush' layer as active and fill the selection. You can use Paint Bucket Tool (G) to do it, or hotkeys Alt/Opt+Backspace to fill with foreground color or Ctrl/Cmd+Backspace to fill with background color.

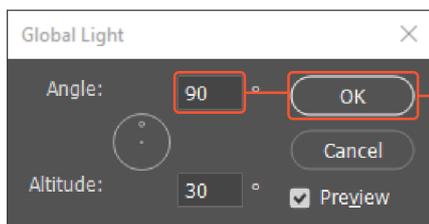


Make sure you filled your object on the 'brush' layer.

Open the 'Actions' panel (F9) and play the action:

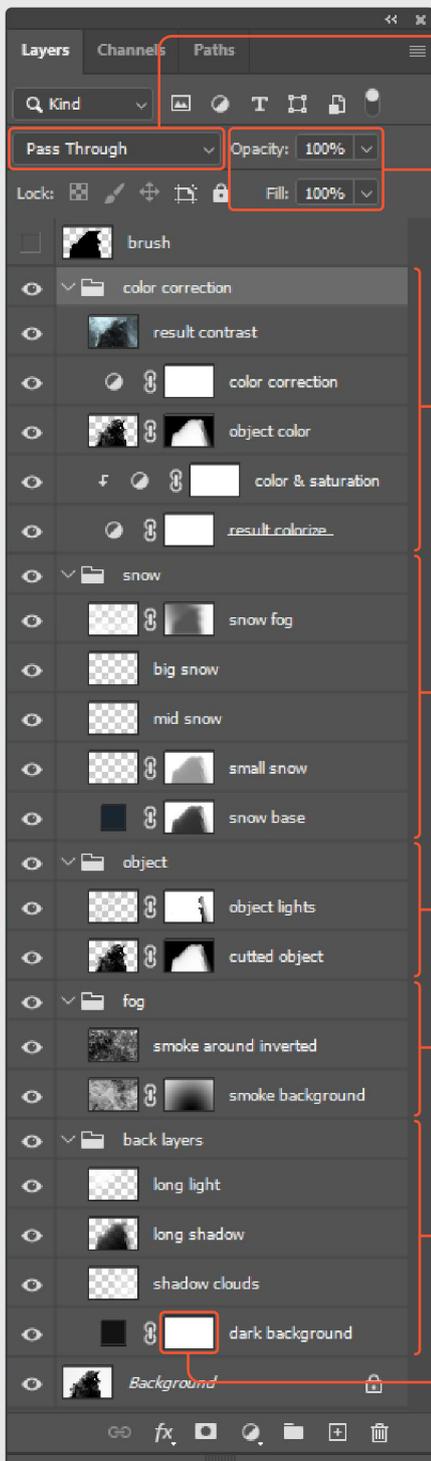


Choose the action depending to your image's size and press 'Play Action' button.



Select the Global Light angle when the message appear. This will select the direction of the light on the final result.

Here are the options you can edit to get the better results:



Layer's Blending Mode:

Changing this option you can get interesting effects.

Fill & Opacity Options:

These options are responsible for the transparency of the layer. The less value will increase the opacity.

Color Correction Group:

The main color options are here. The 'color correction' and 'result colorize' layers are responsible for the blue color. To decrease the blue color you need to reduce the opacity/fill options of these layers.

Snow group:

All snowflake layers are located here. Control the opacity/fill options to change the visibility of the snowflakes.

Object group:

The object layers are located here. Nothing to change.

Fog group:

Here are the background smoke effects. Change the opacity/fill options to control the transparency of the fog. Also, you can try to change the blending mode.

Background layers group:

The lights and shadows layers are located here. You can reduce the light brightness with changing the opacity/fill options. Also, you can reveal the image's background if you make the 'dark background' layer more transparent or hide it.

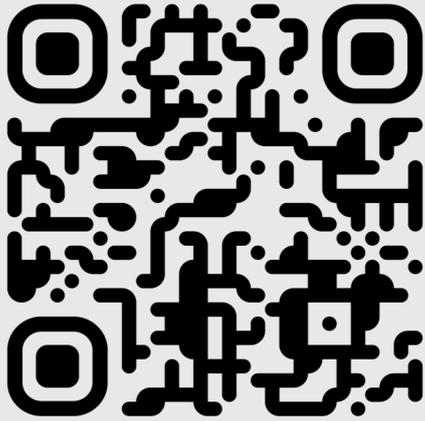
Layer's Pixel Mask:

Painting with the black color on it you can hide the areas you paint or reveal it with the white color.

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From

Message

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