

# Replacing Sky in a photo and Creating a Reflection

Sometimes we have photos that we don't like the sky in an otherwise good picture.

1. Select a photo that you would like to replace the sky. **It is very important that you size all windows that you will be using for parts in your picture to the same size, i.e., 8 X 12, 8 X10, etc.**
2. Select the sky using the "Quick Selection Tool".
3. Save the selection by going to <Select>, <Save Selection>. You may need to use this selection later.
4. Rename the background layer something like "Mountains".
5. Cut the sky out of your picture by using <Ctrl + X>. Where the sky was should now be a transparent background identified by alternate gray and white boxes.
6. Open your file that contains the clouds that you want to include in your picture as your new sky. I will on occasion go out and photograph different skies with pretty puffy clouds for possible use sometime. I usually pre-work this file for levels, etc. to get the tonality of the sky that I will want to work with.
7. Make the window with the clouds sky active and select the <Move> tool. Click and drag the clouds into the window with the mountains. Click and drag the cloud layer down below the mountains layer. Click and position the cloud layer where it looks best in your picture.
8. You have now replaced the sky of your original.
9. If you have water in the foreground as my demo, then you might want to create a reflection. Go to <Select>, <Load Selection> and select the selection title you used in #3. This should give you a selection shape like made in #3. Next, copy it <Ctrl + C>, paste it <Ctrl + V>, go to <Edit>, <Transform>, and <Flip Vertical>. Click and drag the "Mountains" down below the newly created layer. Position the cloud cutout where it matches in the reflection. Adjust the layer opacity to make it as realistic as possible.
10. Good Luck.