

QUICK MASK SELECTIONS (Photoshop 6-CS2) – Quick Mask lets you literally “paint” your selection.

1. **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**, you need to change the Quick Mask Options for this tutorial. Double Click the Quick Mask Icon (fig1) Change the Option to “selected area” (if isn't) (fig2). You have the option of changing your color too. Changing to “Selected Areas” means that the color will now indicate the areas that are selected.



Fig 1

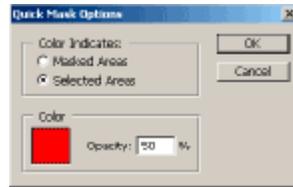
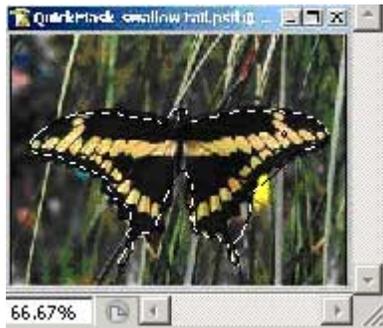


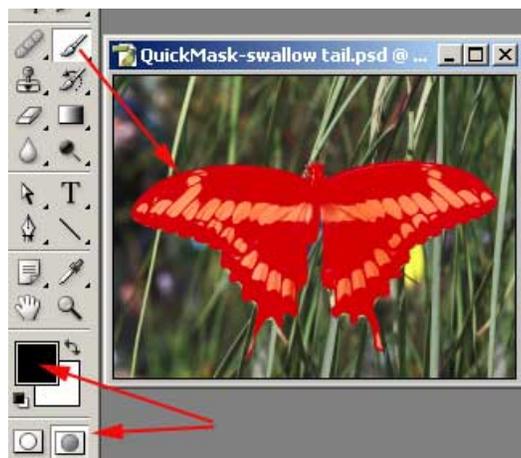
Fig 2

2. Create a rough selection with any tool you like. I used the Lasso. (A Wacom Tablet makes selecting easier).



3. Press “Q” on your keyboard. Your image is now in Quick Mask Mode. The colors on your Tools Palette will change to Black and White (if they weren't already). The area you initially selected will turn red. The red color indicates the areas that have been selected.
4. **Zoom in to 200% or more to see your edge clearly!** Start “Painting” your selection (with Black). It will turn red (or whatever color is designated). **If you make a mistake**, switch your color to White and paint away the color. I paint with a fairly soft brush all over and then use a harder brush as I get closer to the edges. Use a hard edged brush if you need a crisp edge to your selection.

To check your progress, press the Q key any time. Press Q again to go back to painting.



When working in Quick Mask, painting with Black “selects”. Painting with White “deselects”.
NOTE: This is true only if you set the options as indicated in Step #1. (The default setting is opposite).

5. Keep switching between painting with Black or White until your selection is perfect. Press “Q” at any time to check your progress. This brings you out of Quick Mask and will show the selection you have so far. Press “Q” again to go back to painting your selection. Go back and forth by pressing Q and continue to switch between with Black and White until your selection is done. Be sure your the selection is COMPLETELY filled with red.



TIP: Use Quick Mask in conjunction with ANY of the other selection tools to make selecting go more quickly. For instance, use the selection tool of your choice. Press Q. Edit as needed. Press Q to exit. Use a hard edged brush from a crisp edge. Use a soft brush for a feathered edge.