Layer Sandwich Tutorial

Part 1: Set Up the Document

1. If you have not already, access the “LayerSandwich” folder containing all the resources you will need for this tutorial (Shared > Hammond > Hand Out > Digital Pictures > “LayerSandwich”). Copy and paste this folder into your own Digital Pictures folder.
2. Create a new Photoshop document: Open Photoshop. Click on the New… button. Create a document that is 960 (width) x 640 (height) pixels, RGB, 150 pixels per inch resolution. Name this document “loginname\_LayerSandwich.” Click OK.
   * Since we won’t be printing this, it does not need to have print resolution (300 dpi) – 150 is just fine for our purposes!

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

To UNDO once: ctrl + z

To UNDO multiple times: ctrl + alt + z

SAVE every time you make a change to your Photoshop document

Part 2: Set the Table

1. Open (ctrl + o) the “plate” file (from the LayerSandwich folder) in Photoshop. You may do this by going to the Menu Bar and selecting File > Open > (then navigate to wherever it is you copied the LayerSandwich folder to).
   * Whenever you open a new image in Photoshop, it automatically creates a new document.
2. Notice that the Plate image automatically becomes the Background layer, which is locked. To change this, we need to turn this layer into a regular, rather than a background, layer by renaming it. Double-click the Background layer and rename it to “Plate.” It is now a regular layer.
3. To move the Plate image from this new Photoshop document to your own, go to the Tools Menu and select the Selection Tool. Then, click on the Plate image and drag it to the top of the Document Window, and onto the loginname\_LayerSandwich Photoshop document.
   * Whenever you drag (or copy/paste) an image from one document to another, Photoshop automatically creates a new layer, and places that new image on this layer.
4. Click and drag the image to align it with the Canvas. Once you are finished, hit the Enter button on your keyboard to place the image (each time you transform an image – i.e. move, or scale it – you must hit enter to confirm your changes).
   * Note: In the Move Tool’s Options Bar, there is an option called **“Show Transform Controls.”** If this is clicked, it will allow you to scale, rotate, and move the image.
5. You no longer need the “Plate” document from which you dragged the Plate file, so close it. Do not save the changes.

Step 3: Lay the Bread

1. Open the “Bread” file in Photoshop. Just like you did with the “Plate” file, rename the Bread layer, then use the Select Tool to drag it into your DP\_LayerSandwich Photoshop document.
2. Rename the Bread’s layer (currently Layer 1) to “Bread.”
   * ALWAYS rename your layers to something that identifies their content.
3. You no longer need the “Bread” document from which you just dragged the Bread file, so close it. Do not save the changes.
4. Select the Bread layer. Go to your Tools Menu and select the Magic Wand tool (note: it may be hidden beneath the Quick Selection tool).
5. Use the Magic Wand tool to click on the white surrounding the Bread. Shift-click on the Bread’s shadow to include this in the Magic Wand Selection. Now, you should see a “marching ants” selection surrounding only the Bread.
   * Note: To deselect an area of your image, simply Right-click on the selection and choose “deselect” (or press ctrl + D on your keyboard)
6. Right-click on this selection and choose “Select Inverse” to select the opposite of what is currently selected (which, in this case, would be the Bread).
   * When using the Magic Wand tool to remove a background, it is often easier to select the background than the subject. This is no good, since we usually need to make changes to the subject, not the background. Using the “Select Inverse” option allows us to easily reverse our selection.
7. With the bread still selected, click on the “Select and Mask…” button at the top of the screen. Under Properties > View Mode, click the drop-down menu and choose the “On Layers” option. Under “Global Refinements” drag the Smooth, Feather, Contrast, and Shift Edge options sliders to refine your selection and make it appear more natural! When you are finished, under Output Settings, click on the drop-down menu and choose “New Layer.” This will place the bread onto its own layer, without the background or shadow! Then click OK.
   * Note: There are several different ways to refine the selections you make in Photoshop. Another quick way to refine your selection is to go to your Menu Bar, then select Select > Modify > (choose from the options listed).
8. Since you no longer need the Bread’s background, delete the Bread layer. Rename the new layer (currently “Bread copy”) to Bread.
9. Select the new Bread layer. Select the Bread image and resize it so that it fits nicely on the Plate.
   1. To keep the image’s aspect ratio during resizing (always a good decision), hold the Shift button down, and drag in/out from the corner of the image.

Step 4: Layer on the Toppings

1. Repeat the process outlined above for the Lettuce, Tomato, and Bacon files (in that order)! Make sure that each topping is on its own layer.

Some Notes about the bacon:

* + Duplicate the bacon: Select the entire image using the Quick Selection tool – click and drag –, then while moving it, hold down the ctrl + alt keys on your keyboard to make another copy.
  + Merge the 2 Bacon layers into 1: First, resize and arrange the bacon until it lays exactly how you want it to stay on the sandwich. Then, click on the first Bacon layer, then shift + click on the second Bacon layer. Right-click on one of the Bacon layers in the Layers Panel and choose “Merge Layers.”
  + Change the bacon’s Opacity: Select the Bacon layer, then in the top right corner of the Layers Panel, change the Opacity (see-through-ness) to 90%. This will make the bacon look a little undercooked.

1. At this point, the only layers you should have are: Plate, Bread, Lettuce, Tomato, Bacon – and in that order (Plate is on the bottom).
2. Now, add a topping of your choice using an image you find on the internet. Make sure the image you choose has a solid background – otherwise, it will be very difficult to remove.

Part 5: Make the Sandwich a Sandwich

1. Finish your sandwich by adding a second slice of bread. To do this, select the Bread layer. Right-click on it and select “Duplicate Layer.” Rename this layer “TopBread” and move it to the top of the Layers Panel, so that your sandwich looks like a sandwich.
2. Now, find (on the internet) and add a garnish of your choice to the plate, like a pickle, olive, or mint sprig.

Part 6: Save and Hand In

1. Save your product as a .PSD file and hand it in to the Hand In folder.

