

# COLOR GRID PHOTO DISPLAY EFFECT

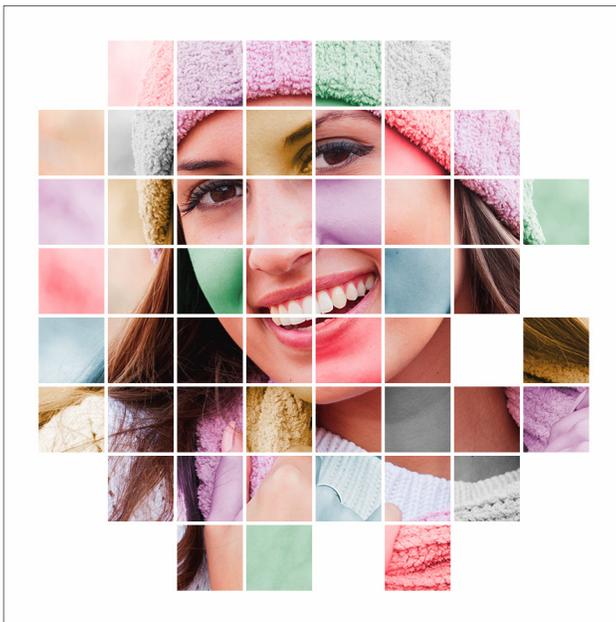
In this photo effects tutorial, we'll learn how to display a photo in a grid of randomly colored squares! We'll use Photoshop's built-in grid feature as a guide for setting up the initial spacing, then we'll turn it into a pixel-based grid using a couple of Photoshop's rarely-used selection tools. We'll see how to easily select different squares in the grid with the Magic Wand Tool, how to colorize them with adjustment layers and blend modes, and finally, how to adjust the appearance of the grid itself using layer styles!



This version of the tutorial has been updated for Photoshop CS6 and is also fully compatible with Photoshop CC (Creative Cloud). For CS5 and earlier, you'll want to check out our original [Color Grid Design](#) tutorial.

Here's the image I'll be working with ([woman with winter clothing photo](#) from Shutterstock):

The original image.

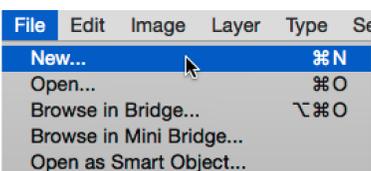


And here's how the color grid design will look when we're done. Of course, you can use whichever colors you like for your effect. This is just one example:

Let's get started!

The final effect.

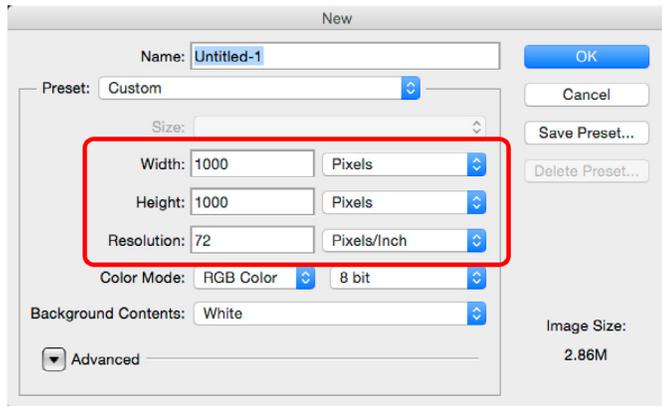
## Step 1: Create A New Photoshop Document



Let's begin by creating a new document for the grid. Go up to the **File** menu in the Menu Bar along the top of the screen and choose **New**:

Going to File > New.

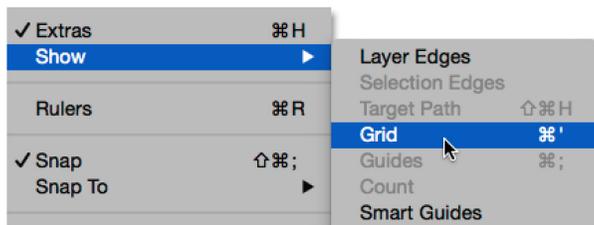
This opens Photoshop's **New** dialog box. This effect works best with a square-shaped document, so for this tutorial, I'll set both my **Width** and **Height** values to **1000 Pixels**. Of course, feel free to replace my values with whatever dimensions you need, but again, you'll want a square document for the best results.



I'm not planning on printing this (it will be strictly for on-screen viewing) so there's no need to worry about the **Resolution** value (I'll leave it set to its default of 72 pixels/inch), but if you *are* creating this effect for print, you'll most likely want to create a document larger than 1000 x 1000 pixels and you'll want to set your resolution to around **240 pixels/inch or higher**. Click OK when you're done to close out of the dialog box. The new document will appear on your screen:

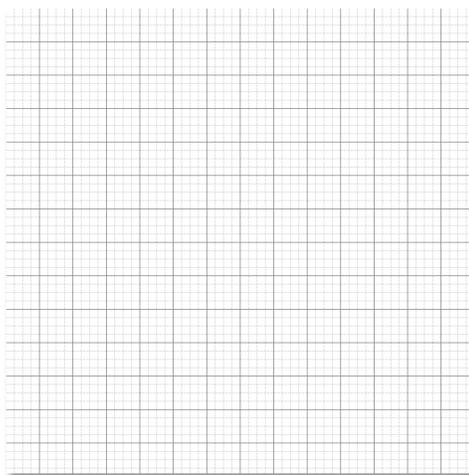
Creating a new Photoshop document with the New dialog box.

## Step 2: Turn On Photoshop's Grid



Next, we'll turn on Photoshop's built-in grid so we can use it as a guide for creating our pixel-based grid. To turn the grid on, go up to the **View** menu at the top of the screen, choose **Show**, then choose **Grid**:

Going to View > Show > Grid.



The grid will appear as an overlay on top of your document. We'll make some changes to the appearance of the grid next:

The document after turning on Photoshop's grid.

## Step 3: Adjust The Number Of Grid Lines



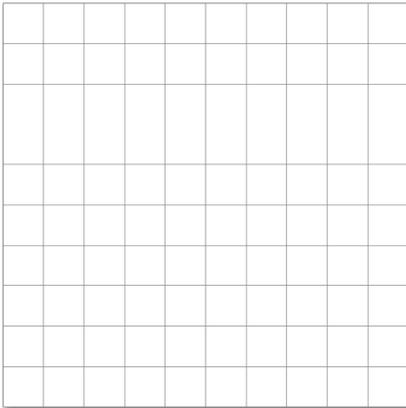
We can adjust the number of lines and sections in the grid using Photoshop's Preferences. If you're running Photoshop on a Windows PC, go up to the **Edit** menu at the top of the screen, choose **Preferences**, then choose **Guides, Grid & Slices**. On a Mac, go up to the **Photoshop** menu, choose **Preferences**, then choose **Guides, Grid & Slices**:

Selecting the Guides, Grid & Slices preferences.



Setting Gridline Every to 10 Percent and Subdivisions to 1.

This opens the **Preferences** dialog box set to the Guides, Grid and Slices preferences. In the **Grid** section, change the **Gridline Every** option to **10 Percent**, which will give us a 10×10 grid, and change the **Subdivisions** value to **1** to prevent the grid from being subdivided into smaller sections. Keep an eye on the grid in the document and you'll see a live preview of the changes as you're making them:

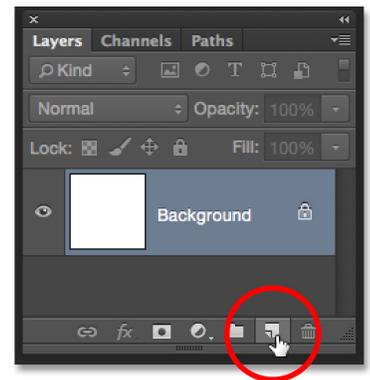


Click OK when you're done to close out of the Preferences dialog box. You should now see a grid 10 sections wide and 10 sections tall. It's important to note that this grid isn't actually part of the document. It's simply a visual guide that we'll be using to help us make our own pixel-based grid, as we'll be doing in a moment:

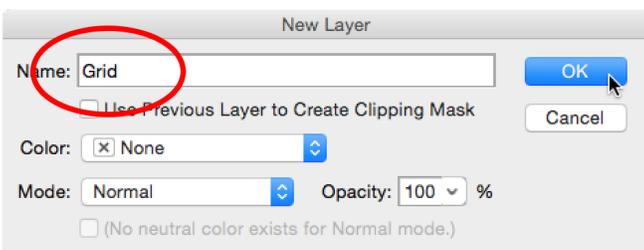
The grid after changing the options in the Preferences.

### Step 4: Add A New Blank Layer And Name It "Grid"

Let's add a new blank layer to hold the pixel-based grid we're about to create. Press and hold the **Alt** (Win) / **Option** (Mac) key on your keyboard and click the **New Layer** icon at the bottom of the Layers panel:

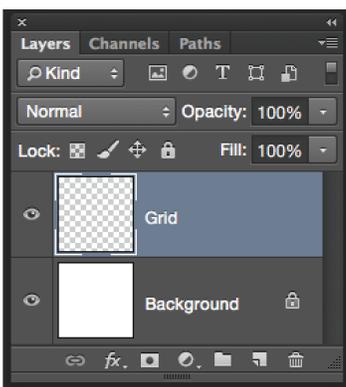


Clicking the New Layer icon while holding Alt (Win) / Option (Mac).



This opens the **New Layer** dialog box, giving us a chance to name the new layer before it's added. Name the layer "Grid", then click OK to close out of the dialog box:

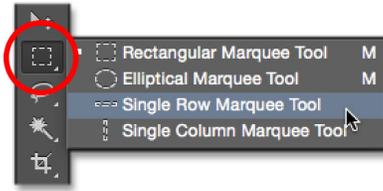
Naming the new layer.



Nothing will happen in the document itself, but we can see in the Layers panel that Photoshop has added the new "Grid" layer above the Background layer:

The Grid layer appears in the Layers panel.

## Step 5: Select The Single Row Marquee Tool

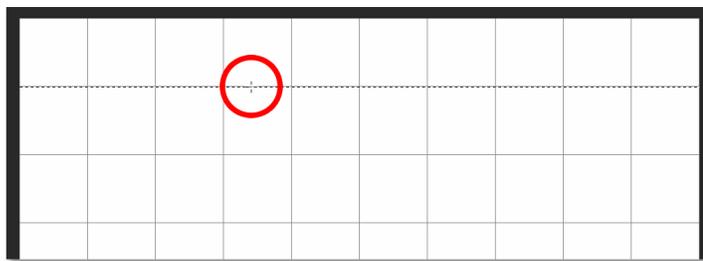


Selecting the Single Row Marquee Tool.

To create our grid, we'll use two of Photoshop's very basic and rarely-used selection tools – the Single Row Marquee Tool and the Single Column Marquee Tool. We'll start with the Single Row Marquee Tool. By default, both of these tools are nested behind the **Rectangular Marquee Tool**, so **click and hold** on the Rectangular Marquee Tool near the top of the Tools panel until a fly-out menu appears showing you the other tools available in that same spot, then choose the **Single Row Marquee Tool** from the menu:

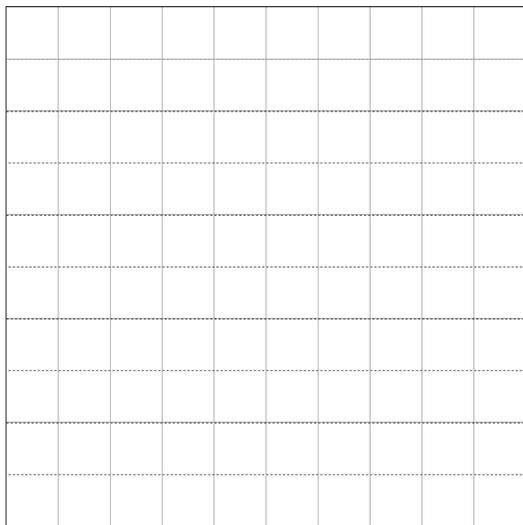
## Step 6: Click On Each Horizontal Grid Line

As it's name implies, the Single Row Marquee Tool will select a single horizontal row of pixels in the document. That's it, that's all it does. To use it, we just need to click anywhere in the document and Photoshop will automatically select the pixel we clicked on, plus every other pixel in that row from left to right. We're going to use the tool to convert the horizontal grid lines into a series of selection outlines.



Click anywhere on the first horizontal grid line at the top to select the entire row of pixels.

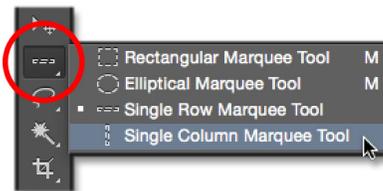
First, move your cursor directly over the **top horizontal grid line**, then click with your mouse. You'll see a 1-pixel thick selection outline appear along the grid line. I've circled the spot where I clicked but clicking anywhere on the line will give you the exact same result. If you notice that your click wasn't directly over the grid line, just press **Ctrl+Z (Win) / Command+Z (Mac)** on your keyboard to undo it and try again:



Next, we'll add the rest of the horizontal grid lines to our selection. Press and hold the **Shift** key on your keyboard and click on the next grid line below it. This will select a second horizontal row of pixels, and because we had the Shift key held down, Photoshop will add this second selection to the first. Continue holding down your Shift key while clicking on the rest of the horizontal grid lines until a selection outline appears along each of them. When you're done, you should see nine selection rows in total. Make sure you keep your Shift key held down as you click on each one, otherwise you'll just replace the previous selection with the new one:

Press and hold Shift and click on each horizontal grid line to add it to the selection.

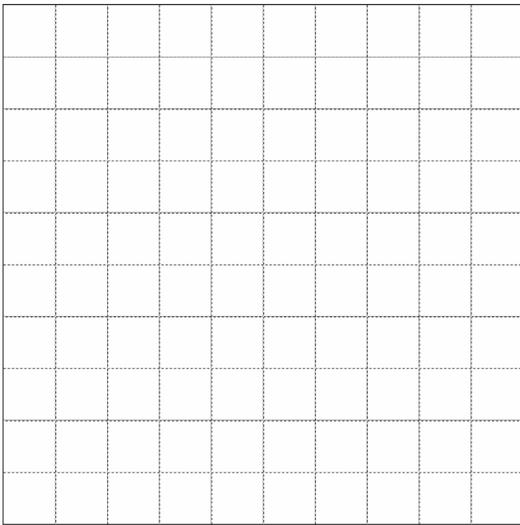
## Step 7: Switch To The Single Column Marquee Tool



Selecting the Single Column Marquee Tool.

We need to do the same thing now with the vertical grid lines, which means we need to switch to the Single Column Marquee Tool. **Click and hold** on the **Single Row Marquee Tool** in the Tools panel (it will appear where the Rectangular Marquee Tool icon appeared earlier) until the fly-out menu appears, then choose the **Single Column Marquee Tool** from the menu:

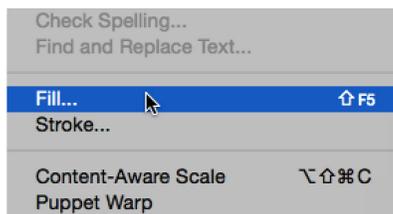
## Step 8: Click On Each Vertical Grid Line



The Single Column Marquee Tool acts the same way as the Single Row Marquee Tool, the only difference being that it selects *columns* of pixels (top to bottom) rather than rows, with each column being 1 pixel wide. Press and hold your **Shift** key and click on each of the vertical grid lines from left to right until they're all selected. When you're done, you should see selection outlines along every grid line, both horizontal and vertical:

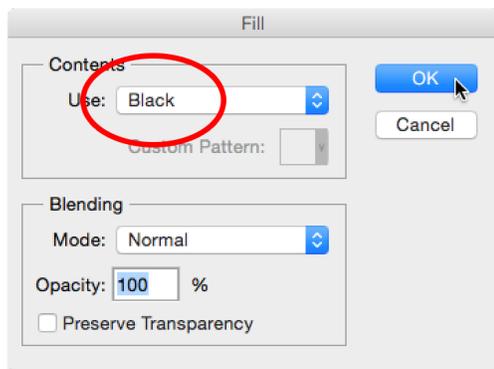
All horizontal and vertical grid lines have been added to the selection.

## Step 9: Fill The Selection With Black



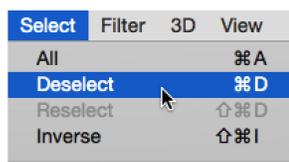
We'll create our grid by filling the horizontal and vertical selections with black. Go up to the **Edit** menu at the top of the screen and choose **Fill**:

Going to Edit > Fill.



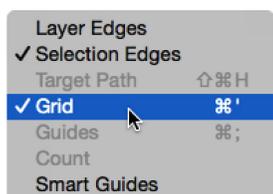
This opens Photoshop's **Fill** dialog box. Set the **Use** option at the top to **Black**, then click **OK**:

Setting the Use option to Black.



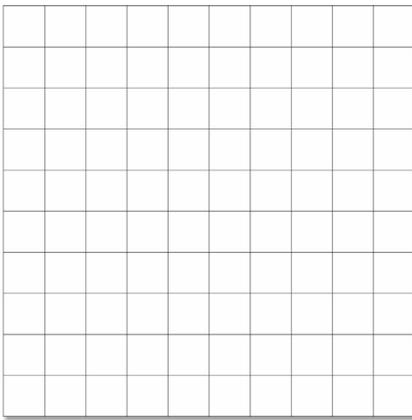
Photoshop fills the selection with black, although it may be hard to see with the selection outlines and Photoshop's own grid in the way. To remove the selection outlines (since we don't need them anymore), go up to the **Select** menu at the top of the screen and choose **Deselect**:

Going to Select > Deselect.



Then, to turn off Photoshop's grid, go up to the **View** menu, choose **Show**, then once again choose **Grid**. A checkmark to the left of the word **Grid** means it's currently turned on. Selecting it again will remove the checkmark and turn the grid off:

Going to View > Show > Grid.



With the selection outlines and Photoshop's grid removed, we can see our black grid in the document:

The document showing the newly created grid.

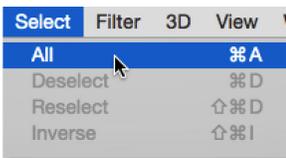
## Step 10: Open The Photo You Want To Display In The Grid



Open the photo you'll be displaying inside the grid. The photo will open in its own tabbed document. Here's the photo I'm using:

Your photo will open in a separate tabbed document.

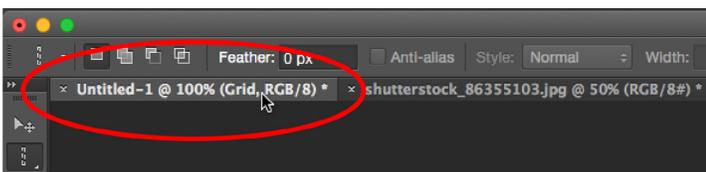
## Step 11: Select And Copy The Photo



At the moment, our grid is in one document and our photo is in another. We need to move the photo into the same document as the grid. To do that, first select the photo by going up to the **Select** menu at the top of the screen and choosing **All**:

Going to Select > All.

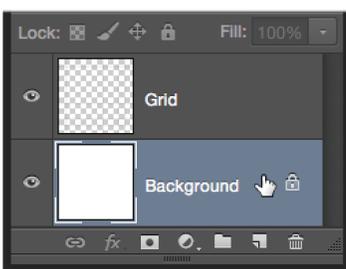
## Step 12: Switch Over To The Grid Document



Switch over to the grid document by clicking on its **tab** just below the Options Bar at the top. In my case, the document is named simply "Untitled-1":

Switching from the photo's document to the grid document.

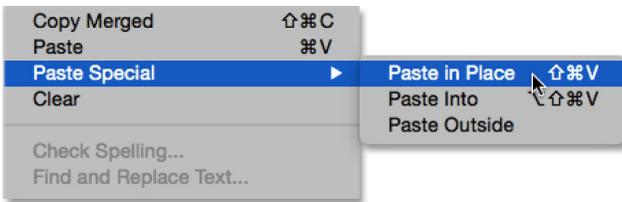
## Step 13: Select The Background Layer



With the grid document open, click on the **Background layer** in the Layers panel to select it. This way, when we paste the photo into the document, Photoshop will place it on a new layer directly between the Background layer and the Grid layer:

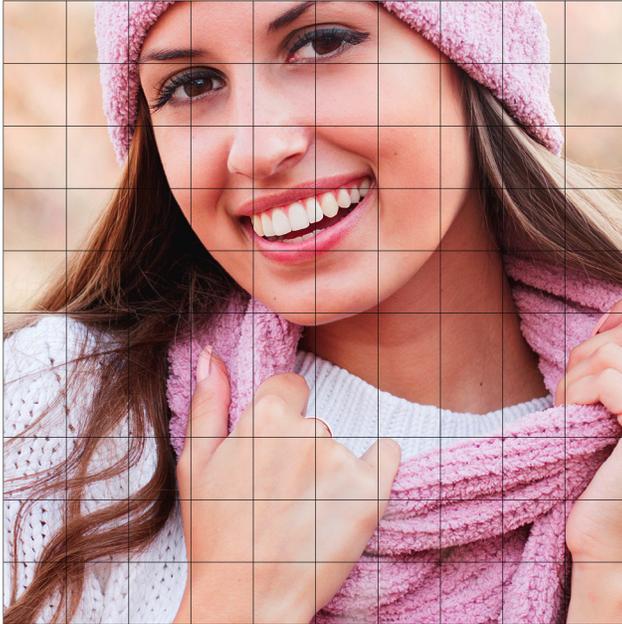
Selecting the Background layer.

## Step 14: Paste The Photo



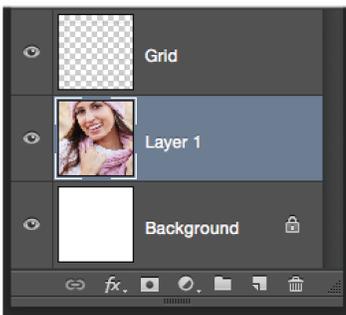
Go up to the **Edit** menu, choose **Paste Special**, then choose **Paste in Place**:

Going to Edit > Paste Special  
> Paste in Place.



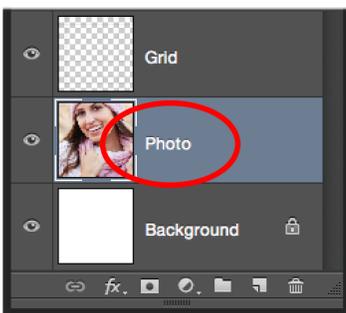
Photoshop pastes and centers the photo into the grid document. In my case (and most likely yours as well) the photo will need to be resized, but we'll fix that next:

The photo has been pasted into the grid.



If we look in the Layers panel, we see that Photoshop has added the photo on its own layer between the Background and Grid layers, just as we planned:

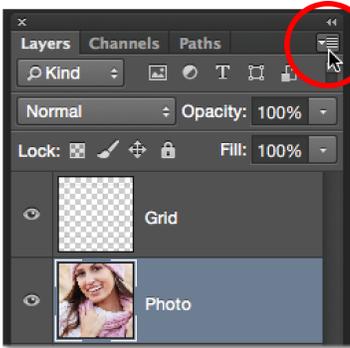
The photo appears between the Background and Grid layers.



Unfortunately, Photoshop gave the new layer a generic name ("Layer 1"), so before we continue, let's rename it. **Double-click** directly on its name to highlight it, then enter "Photo" as the new name. Press **Enter** (Win) / **Return** (Mac) on your keyboard when you're done to accept the name change:

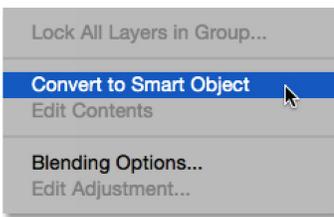
The layer's name has been changed from "Layer 1" to "Photo".

## Step 15: Convert The Photo Layer Into A Smart Object



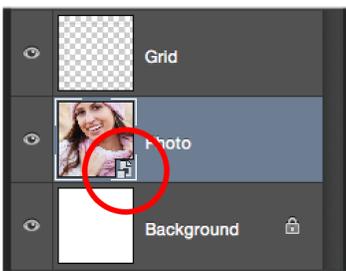
In a moment, we'll resize the photo so it fits better within the grid, but before we do, let's quickly convert its layer into a **Smart Object**. That way, if we decide to resize it again later, we won't lose any of the photo's image quality. With the Photo layer selected, click on the small **menu icon** in the upper right corner of the Layers panel:

Clicking the menu icon.



Choose **Convert to Smart Object** from the menu that appears:

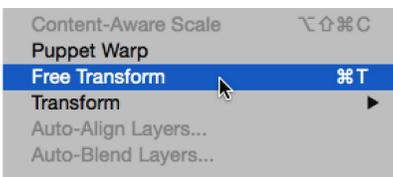
Choosing "Convert to Smart Object" from the Layers panel menu.



Nothing will seem to have happened in the document, but a small **Smart Object icon** appears in the lower right corner of the layer's **preview thumbnail** in the Layers panel. This tells us the layer is now a Smart Object:

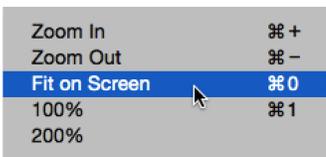
The layer preview thumbnail showing the Smart Object icon.

## Step 16: Resize The Photo With Free Transform



To resize the photo, we'll use Photoshop's Free Transform command. Go up to the **Edit** menu at the top of the screen and choose **Free Transform**:

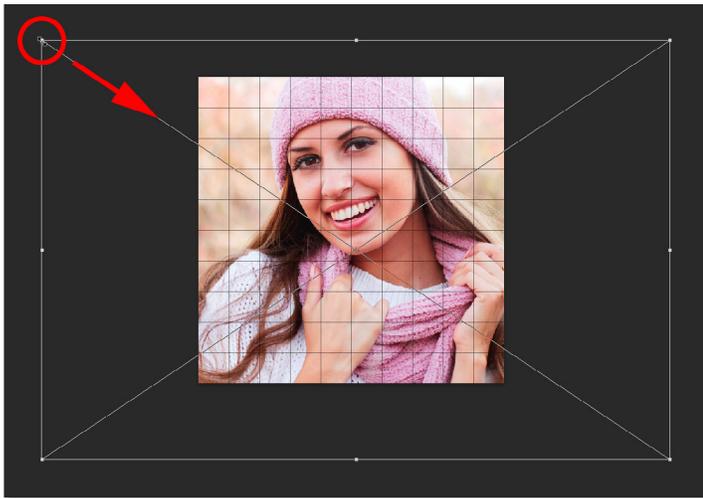
Going to Edit > Free Transform.



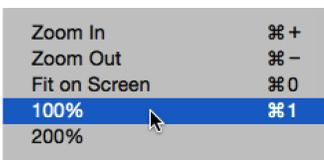
This places the Free Transform bounding box and handles around the image. If you can't see the handles because the edges of your photo extend beyond the viewable area in the document, go up to the **View** menu and choose **Fit on Screen**:

Going to View > Fit on Screen.

Photoshop will instantly zoom the image out far enough so that everything, including the Free Transform handles, fits inside the viewable area of the document. To resize the photo, press and hold your **Shift** key, then click on any of the four **corner handles** and drag them. Holding the Shift key down as you drag will maintain the original aspect ratio of the image so you don't accidentally distort the look of it. If you want to resize the photo from its center rather than from a corner, press and hold **Shift+Alt** (Win) / **Shift+Option** (Mac) as you drag any of the corner handles. If you need to move the image around inside the document, click anywhere inside the Free Transform bounding box and drag it into place. When you're done, press **Enter** (Win) / **Return** (Mac) to accept the transformation and exit out of the Free Transform command (next page):



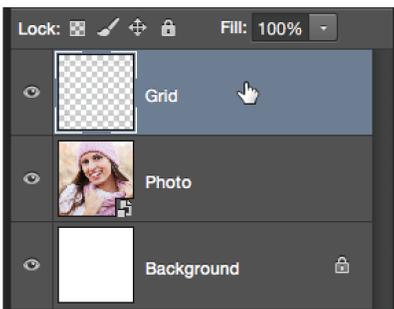
Dragging a corner handle to resize the image inside the grid.



If you zoomed the image out a moment ago using the Fit on Screen command and want to zoom back in now that you're done resizing the image, go back up to the **View** menu and choose **100%**:

Going to View > 100%.

## Step 17: Select The Grid Layer



At this point, the hard work is done. We've created our grid, we've copied and pasted our photo into the grid's document, and we've resized and moved the photo into position. We're ready to have some fun colorizing the grid! First, click on the **Grid** layer in the Layers panel to select it:

Selecting the Grid layer.

## Step 18: Select The Magic Wand Tool

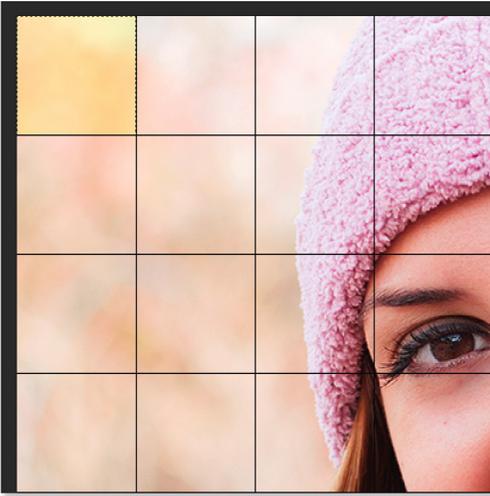


To colorize the grid, we need a way to select the individual squares, and we can do that easily using Photoshop's **Magic Wand Tool**. By default, the Magic Wand Tool is nested behind the **Quick Selection Tool** in the Tools panel, so click and hold on the Quick Selection Tool until a fly-out menu appears, then choose the Magic Wand Tool from the menu:

Click and hold on the Quick Selection Tool, then choose the Magic Wand Tool.

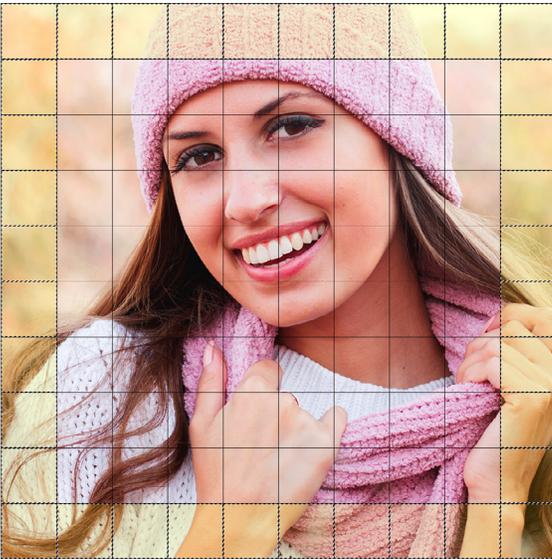
## Step 19: Select The Outer Edge Squares

To select a square in the grid, make sure you have the Grid layer selected in the Layers panel (very important!), then simply click inside the square with the Magic Wand Tool. A selection outline will appear around the outer edges of the square. To then add additional squares to the selection, press and hold your **Shift** key and click inside more squares. You'll select each new square you click inside of, and the selection will be added to the previously-selected squares.



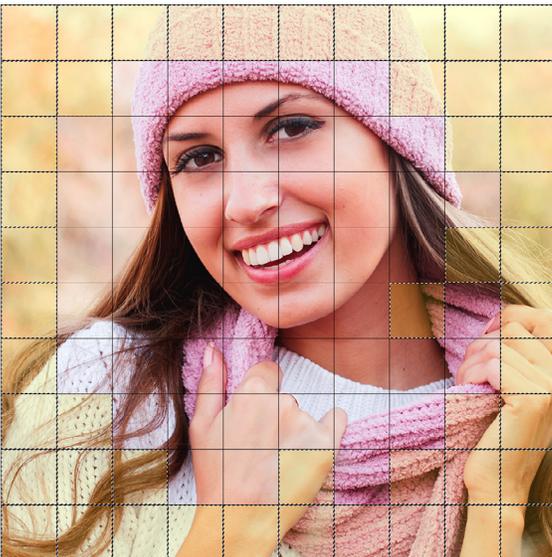
Let's begin by selecting all the squares around the outer edge of the grid. First, click inside the square in the **top left corner** of the grid. A selection outline will appear around it. To make it easier to see which square I've selected, I've colorized it in yellow in the screenshot. This isn't part of the effect; it's just to make it easier to see which square is selected:

The square in the top left corner of the grid is selected.



Next, press and hold your **Shift** key and continue clicking with the Magic Wand Tool inside each of the squares around the **outer edges** of the grid to add them all to the selection. Again, I've colorized the selected squares in yellow here just to make things easier to see in the screenshot. The yellow is not part of the actual effect so don't worry that you're not seeing it in your document:

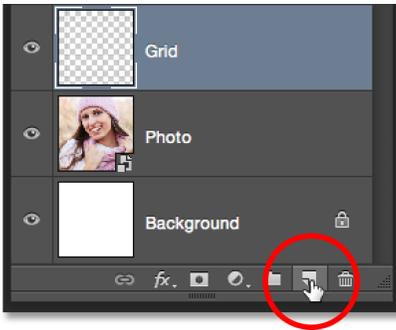
All squares around the outer edges of the grid are now selected.



I'm going to add a few more squares to my selection as well by again pressing and holding my **Shift** key and clicking inside them to add them to the previously-selected squares:

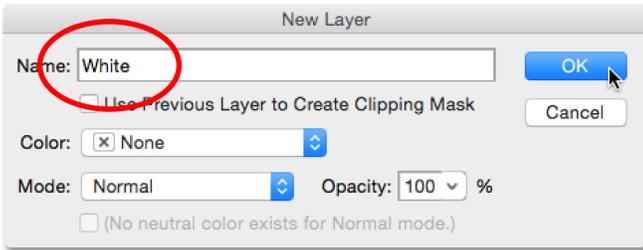
My initially selected squares.

## Step 20: Add A New Layer Below The Grid Layer



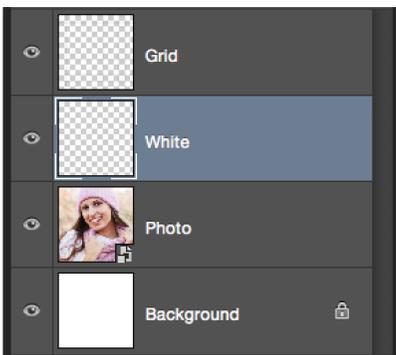
We'll fill these initial squares with white, which will create a border for the effect. Press and hold **Ctrl+Alt** (Win) / **Command+Option** (Mac) on your keyboard and click on the **New Layer** icon at the bottom of the Layers panel:

Clicking the New Layer icon while holding Ctrl (Win) / Command (Mac).



This pops open the **New Layer** dialog box. Name this new layer "White", then click OK:

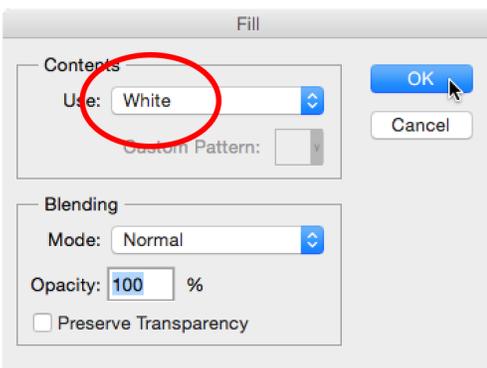
Naming the new layer "White".



Photoshop adds a new blank layer named "White" between the Grid and Photo layers:

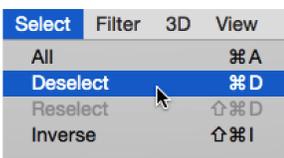
The Layers panel showing the new White layer.

## Step 21: Fill The Selection With White



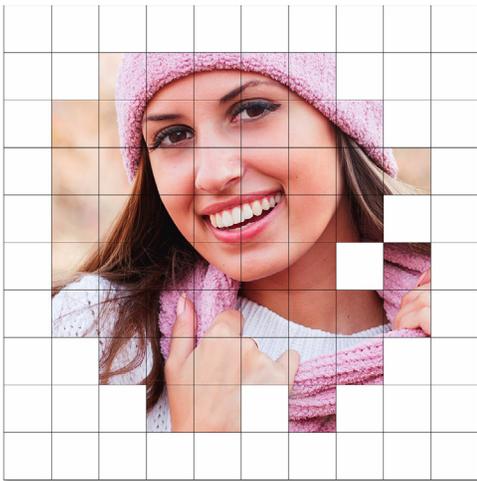
Go up to the **Edit** menu at the top of the screen and once again choose the **Fill** command. This time, when the Fill dialog box appears, change the **Use** option to **White**, then click OK:

Setting the Use option to White.



Photoshop fills the selected squares with white. To remove the selection outline from around the squares, go up to the **Select** menu and choose **Deselect** or just press **Ctrl+D** (Win) / **Command+D** (Mac) on your keyboard:

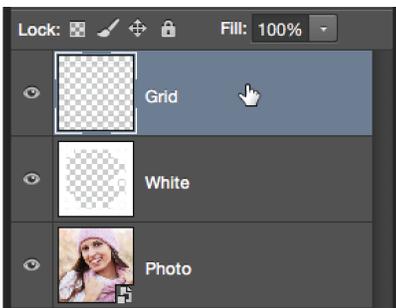
Going to Select > Deselect.



Here's my effect with the squares filled with white:

A border of white squares now appears around the image.

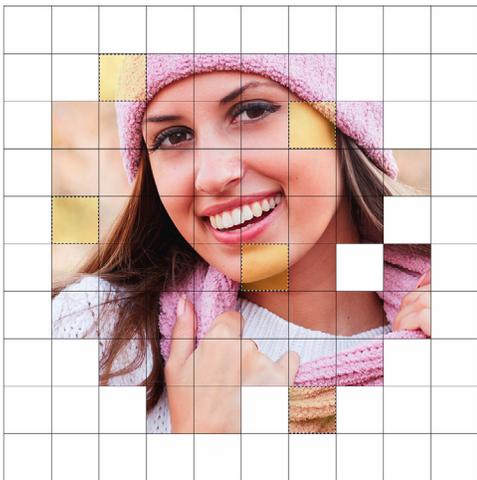
## Step 22: Select The Grid Layer Once Again



Let's select a few different squares to colorize. First, we need have the **Grid** layer active in the Layers panel, so click on it to select it. Remember, you always need the Grid layer selected before you can select any squares:

Make sure you select the Grid layer before trying to select any squares.

## Step 23: Select Different Squares

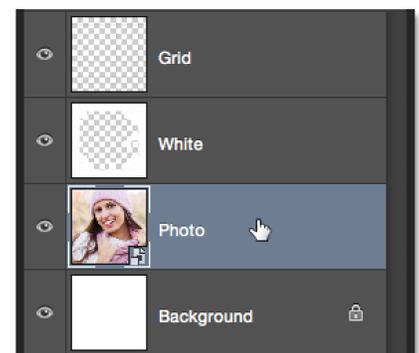


With the Grid layer once again active, press and hold your **Shift** key and click inside other random squares with the Magic Wand Tool to select them. If you change your mind and want to remove a square from the selection, release the Shift key and press and hold your **Alt** (Win) / **Option** (Mac) key, then click inside the square to deselect it. Here, I've selected a few more squares (and colored them yellow so we can see which ones I've selected):

Press and hold Shift and click inside a few different squares to select them.

## Step 24: Select The Photo Layer

With your squares selected, click on the **Photo** layer (the Smart Object) in the Layers panel to select it:



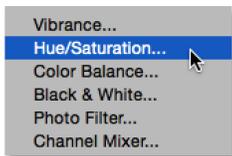
Selecting the Photo layer.

## Step 25: Colorize The Squares With A Hue/Adjustment Layer



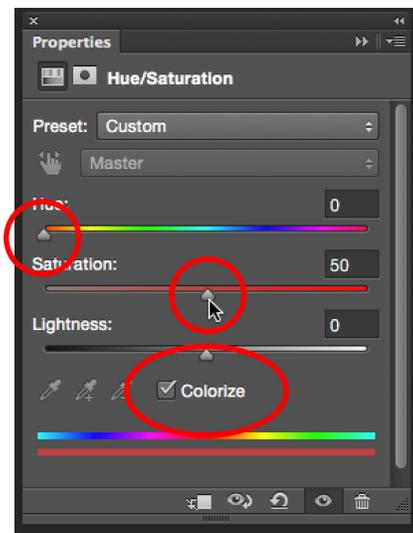
We'll colorize these squares using a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer. Click on the **New Adjustment Layer** icon at the bottom of the Layers panel:

Clicking the New Adjustment Layer icon.



Choose **Hue/Saturation** from the list that appears:

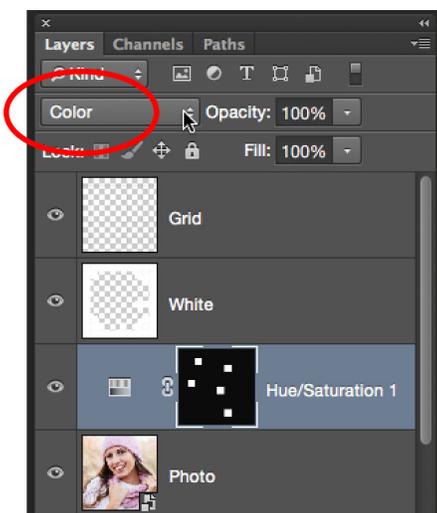
Choosing a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer.



The controls and options for the Hue/Saturation adjustment layer will appear in Photoshop's **Properties panel**. First, select the **Colorize** option by clicking inside its checkbox. Then, choose the color you want to colorize the selected squares with by dragging the **Hue** slider. For these squares, I'm actually going to leave the Hue slider set all the way to the left (its default position) which gives me **red**. Of course, you can choose whichever color you like. Once you've chosen a color with the Hue slider, you can adjust its saturation to your liking by dragging the **Saturation** slider left or right. For my red color, I'm going to set my Saturation value to around **50**. Keep an eye on your document as you drag the sliders to preview the results:

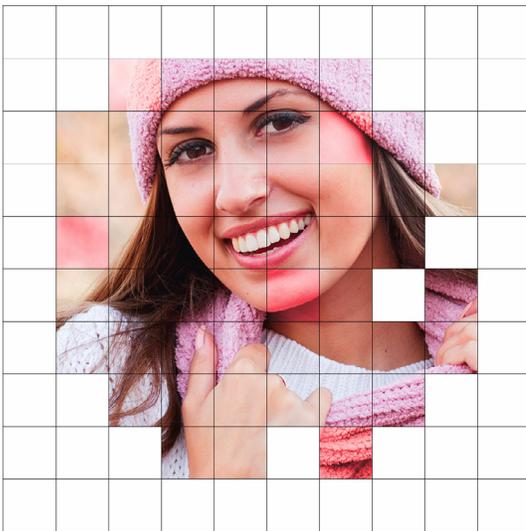
Click the Colorize option, then choose a color with the Hue and Saturation sliders.

## Step 26: Change The Adjustment Layer's Blend Mode To Color



If we look in the Layers panel, we see the adjustment layer sitting directly above the Photo layer. Make sure it's selected (highlighted in blue), then go up to the **Blend Mode** option at the top of the Layers panel and change its blend mode from Normal (the default mode) to **Color**. This allows us to change only the colors in the image, not the brightness values:

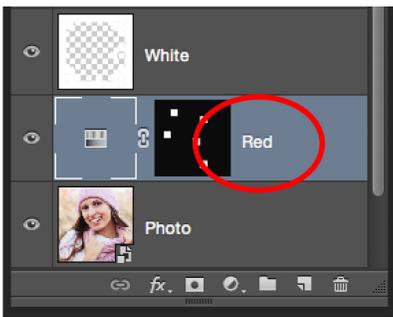
Changing the blend mode of the adjustment layer to Color.



Here's my document after colorizing the squares with red:

The first of the colorized squares.

## Step 27: Rename The Adjustment Layer

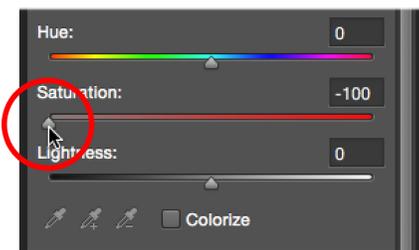


Since we'll be using multiple Hue/Saturation adjustment layers to colorize the grid, let's keep track of which one is being used for which color by renaming them. Since I've used this first Hue/Saturation layer for red, I'll **double-click** on its name in the Layers panel and change its name from the generic "Hue/Saturation 1" to "Red". Press **Enter** (Win) / **Return** (Mac) on your keyboard to accept the name change:

Renaming the Hue/Saturation adjustment layer based on the color.

## Step 28: Select And Colorize More Squares

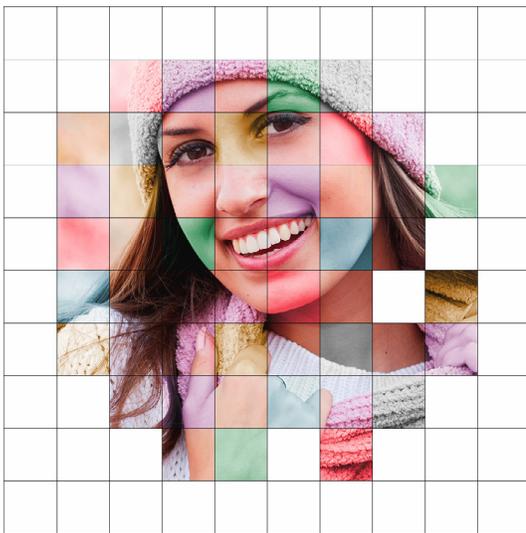
Repeat **steps 22-27** to select and colorize more squares. First select the **Grid** layer in the Layers panel, then press and hold your **Shift** key and click inside a few squares with the Magic Wand Tool to select them. Click on the **Photo** layer in the Layers panel to select it, then click on the **New Adjustment Layer** icon and choose **Hue/Saturation**. In the Properties panel, check the **Colorize** option, then choose a color with the **Hue** slider and a saturation level with the **Saturation** slider. Change the **blend mode** of the new adjustment layer to **Color**, then rename the adjustment layer based on the color you chose.



You can also use a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer to completely desaturate some of the squares, leaving them black and white. To do that, select some squares, then add a Hue/Saturation adjustment layer as you normally would, but rather than choosing a color with the Hue slider, simply drag the **Saturation** slider all the way to the left (to a value of **-100**), which will remove all the color:

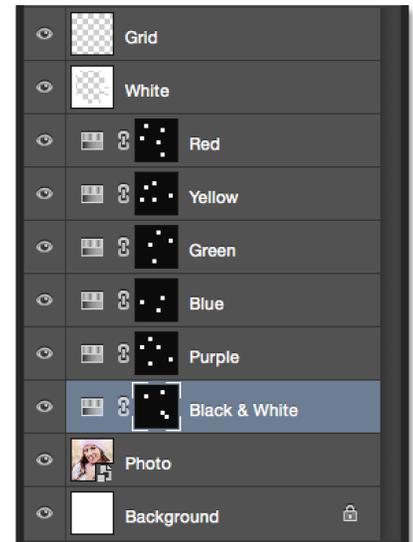
Dragging the Saturation slider all the way to the left will turn the selected squares black and white.

Here's my result after selecting and colorizing more of the squares. I've used six Hue/Saturation adjustment layers in total — one for **red** (hue:0, saturation:50), **yellow** (hue:40, saturation:50), **green** (hue:120, saturation:20), **blue** (hue:200, saturation:20), and **purple** (hue:300, saturation:20), plus one for **black and white** (saturation:-100) (next page):



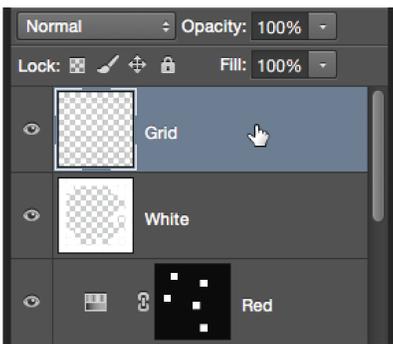
The effect after coloring more of the squares.

And here, we can see all six of my Hue/Saturation adjustment layers in the Layers panel, each one named according to its color:



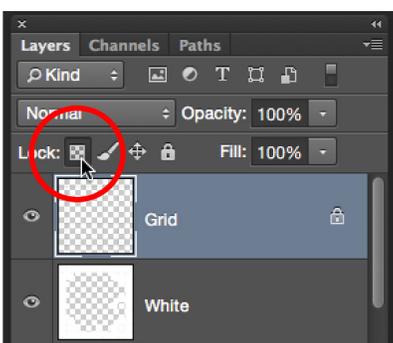
The Layers panel showing the adjustment layers.

### Step 29: Change The Color Of The Grid Lines To White



Now that we've colorized our squares, let's change the appearance of the grid lines themselves, first by changing their color from black to white. Click on the **Grid** layer in the Layers panel to select it:

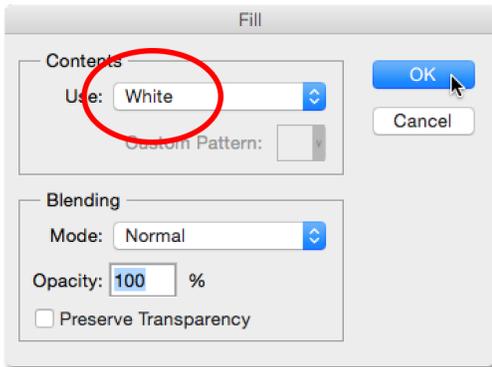
Clicking the Grid layer to select it.



Then, click the **Lock Transparent Pixels** icon just below the Blend Mode option at the top of the Layers panel:

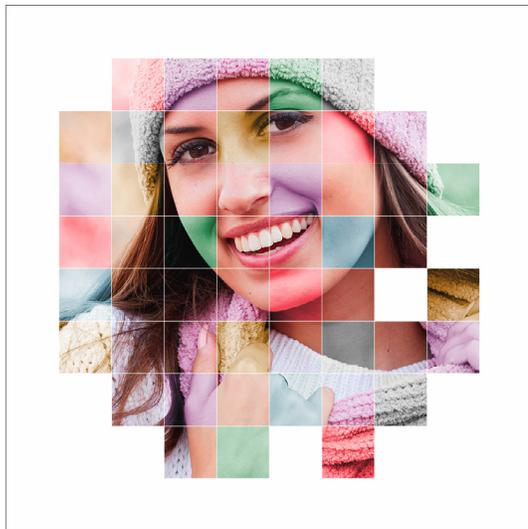
Clicking the Lock Transparent Pixels icon.

With the Lock Transparent Pixels option enabled, anything we do to the layer will affect only the grid lines themselves. It will have no effect on the transparent areas of the layer. This way, if we fill the layer with, say, white (as we're about to do), only the grid lines will be filled with white. The transparent areas will remain transparent.



Go up to the **Edit** menu and once again choose **Fill**. When the Fill dialog box appears, the **Use** option should already be set to **White** since that's what we set it to last time, so just click OK to close out of the dialog box:

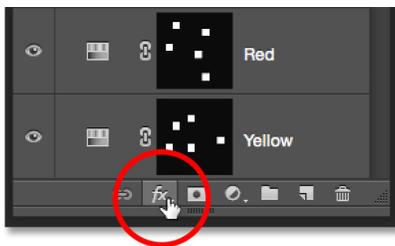
Leave the Use option set to White and click OK.



Photoshop fills the grid lines with white:

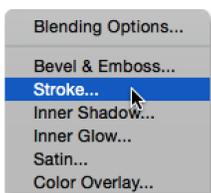
The effect after changing the color of the grid lines to white.

### Step 30: Add A Stroke Layer Style



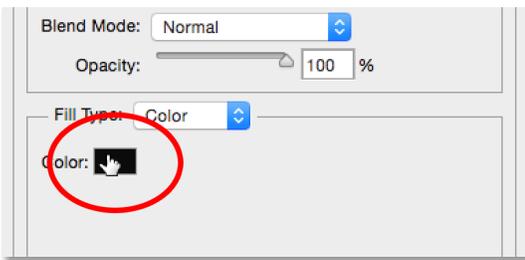
If you want to increase the thickness of the grid lines, click on the **Layer Styles** icon (the "fx" icon) at the bottom of the Layers panel:

Clicking the Layer Styles icon.



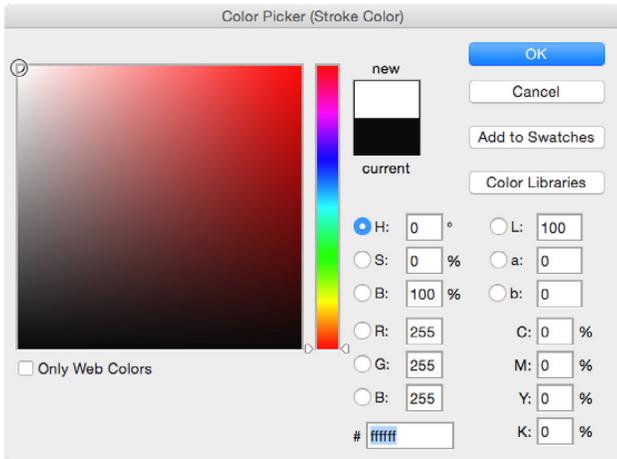
Choose **Stroke** from the list that appears:

Choosing a Stroke layer style.



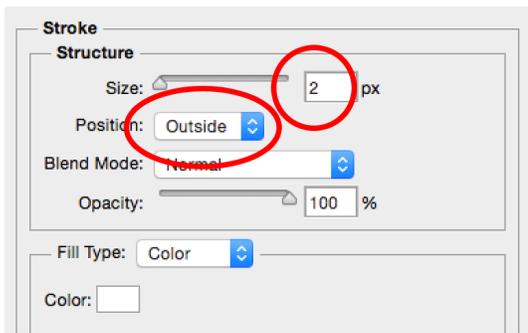
This opens Photoshop's **Layer Style** dialog box set to the Stroke options in the middle column. First, let's change the color of the stroke to white. Click on the **color swatch** to the right of the word **Color**:

Clicking the color swatch in the Stroke options.



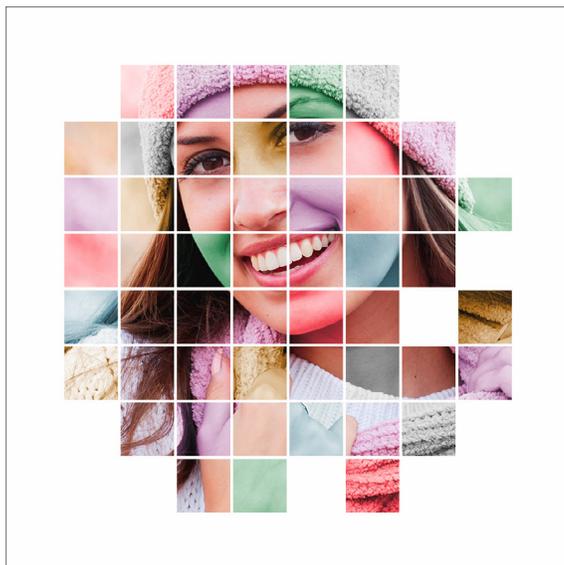
This opens the **Color Picker**. Choose **white** as the new color for the stroke, then click OK to close out of it:

Choosing white in the Color Picker.



With white now as the stroke color, set the **Position** option to **Outside**, then adjust the width of the stroke by dragging the **Size** slider. You probably won't want to increase the size very much. I'm going to set mine to **2 px**:

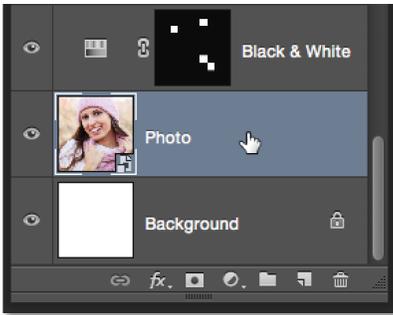
Setting Position to Outside and the Size to 2 px.



Click OK when you're done to close out of the Layer Style dialog box. Here's my effect with the white and slightly wider grid lines:

The image after applying the Stroke layer style.

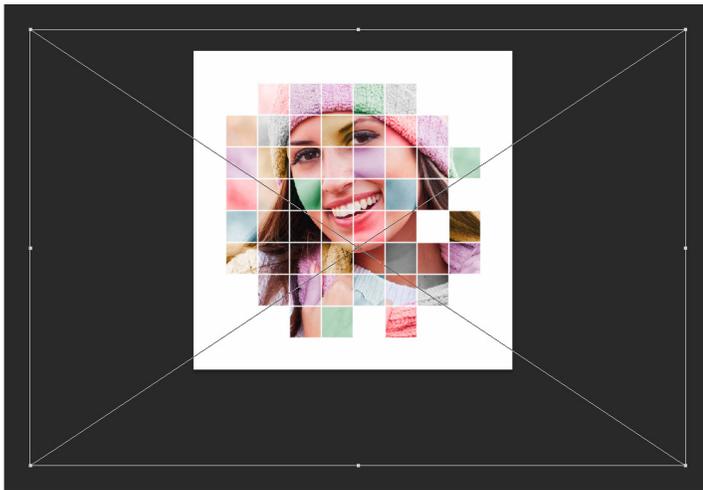
## Step 31: Move And Resize The Photo Again If Needed



At this point, now that the grid design is complete, you may decide that you need to resize and/or reposition the photo. In my case, I think I'm pretty happy with the way things look, but if you do need to move or resize your photo, click on the **Photo** layer in the Layers panel to select it:

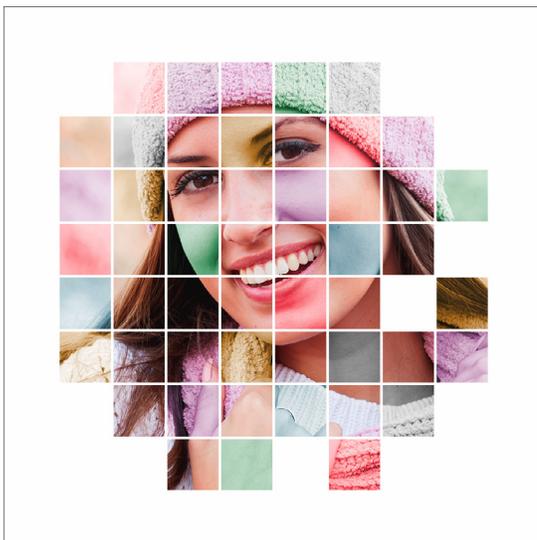
Reselecting the Photo layer.

Then, simply use the same steps we covered back in **Step 16** to resize and/or move the image. First, go up to the **Edit** menu and choose **Free Transform** (or press **Ctrl+T** (Win) / **Command+T** (Mac) on your keyboard) to bring up the Free Transform box and handles around the photo. If you can't see the handles because your photo extends beyond the visible area of the document, go up to the **View** menu and choose **Fit on Screen** (or press **Ctrl+0** (Win) / **Command+0** (Mac) on your keyboard). Press and hold **Shift** while clicking and dragging any of the **corner handles** to resize the photo, or press and hold **Shift+Alt** (Win) / **Shift+Option** (Mac) to resize the photo from its center rather than from a corner. To move the photo, simply click and drag anywhere inside the Free Transform box.



I'm going to drag my photo downward just a little bit, but I'll leave the size the same as it was before:

Re-adjust the size and position of the photo (if needed) with Free Transform.



Note that because we converted the photo into a Smart Object way back in **Step 15**, we can safely resize it again without any loss in image quality. When you're happy with the final size and position of your image, press **Enter** (Win) / **Return** (Mac) to accept it and close out of the Free Transform command. Then, to zoom back in on the image, go up to the **View** menu and choose **100%** (or press **Ctrl+1** (Win) / **Command+1** (Mac) on your keyboard):

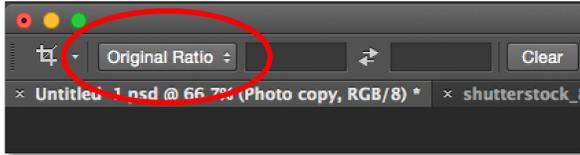
The final size and position of the photo.

## Step 32: Crop The Image (Optional)



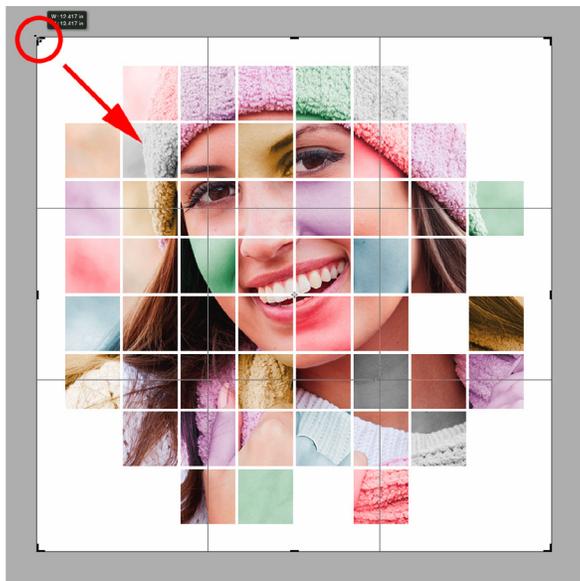
This final step is optional, but if you want to crop away some of the white border around the grid, select Photoshop's **Crop Tool** from the Tools panel:

Selecting the Crop Tool.



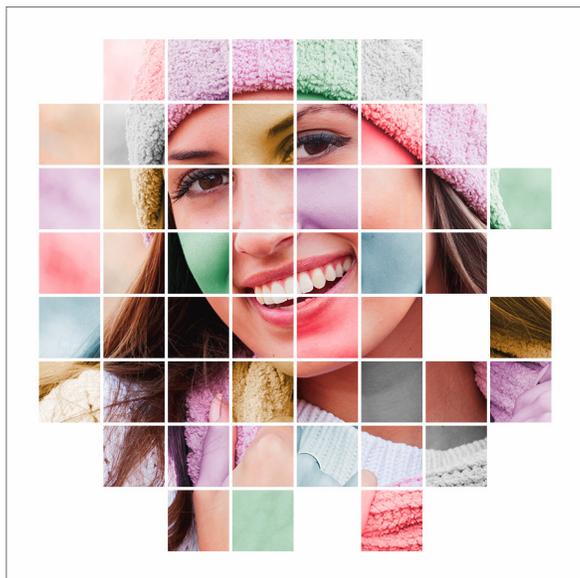
With the Crop Tool selected, set the **Aspect Ratio** option on the left of the Options Bar to **Original Ratio**:

Setting the Aspect Ratio option to Original Ratio.



You'll see a cropping border appear around the edges of the document, with **crop marks** on all four sides and in the corners. Press and hold the **Alt** (Win) / **Option** (Mac) key on your keyboard as you click and drag any of the four **corner crop marks** inward to crop away some of the white border:

Pressing Alt (Win) / Option (Mac) and dragging a corner crop mark.



Press **Enter** (Win) / **Return** (Mac) on your keyboard to crop the image, and we're done! Here, after cropping away some of the border, is my final result:

And there we have it! That's how to display a photo inside a grid of colors with Photoshop!

For more Adobe Photoshop tutorials, visit us at [Photoshop Essentials.com](http://PhotoshopEssentials.com)!

The final effect.