

CREATING & MODIFYING A MOODBOARD IN PHOTOSHOP OR PHOTOPEA

A moodboard is a helpful format for displaying images and colors associated with your brand and your style. This tutorial will show you how to fill in and modify a moodboard template, such as the ones in the zipped file on our class Resources page.

Creating a moodboard from a template

1. Open and unzip the moodboard templates here: <http://sorapure.net/155a/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/moodboard-templates-selected.zip>.
2. Select one template and open the file in Photoshop or Photopea. In Photoshop, save the file as moodboard.psd.
 - a. if the template has instructions, you can delete that layer or make it invisible (by clicking on the eye next to the layer in the Layers panel).
3. In Photoshop, drag your first image onto the canvas and hit Return; **in Photopea**, go to File > Open & Place and select the image:
 - a. Use the Move tool to move the image over the area of the moodboard where you want it to go.
 - b. Resize the image:
 - i. in Photoshop, use Command-T or Edit > Transform to resize holding down the Shift key to resize proportionally).
 - ii. **in Photopea**, select the image with the Move tool (black arrow) and check “Transform controls” in the submenu; be sure to hold down the shift key to resize the image proportionally
 - c. Hit Return or unclick “Transform controls” to accept the resizing changes.
4. In the Layers panel, move the image layer so that it’s above the section layer (that is, the layer with the shape that defines the section where you want the image to go).
5. In Photoshop, right-click on the image layer and select “Create Clipping Mask” from the dropdown menu (or use Layer > Create Clipping Mask). **In Photopea**, go to Layer > Clipping mask
 - a. To release the clipping mask (for instance, if you want to move the image somewhere else), right-click on the image layer and select “Release Clipping Mask” from the dropdown menu (or use Layer > Release Clipping Mask). **In Photopea**, go to Layer > Clipping mask, and uncheck it.
6. Repeat with all of your images to create your moodboard.
7. If you want to select colors from the images to create color swatches on your moodboard, first find the area of the moodboard where you’d like to put the swatches, and make the existing fill for that layer invisible by clicking on the eye next to the layer in the Layers panel.
8. create a new layer in the Layers panel by clicking on the New Layer icon at the bottom (or use Layer > New Layer). Name it “swatch1”.
9. Use the Eyedropper tool (keyboard shortcut I); move the dropper over the image and click on the color you want. The color will replace your current Foreground color at the bottom of the Toolbox.
10. Use the Rectangular Marquee tool (keyboard shortcut M) to draw a selected area where you’ll fill the color; hold down the Shift key if you want to draw a square.
11. Once the shape is drawn, go to the Paintbucket tool (keyboard shortcut G) and click in the shape to fill it with the foreground color.

12. Note that you probably want to create a new layer for each color swatch so that you can move them around independently.
13. If you want to change the background layer, double-click on the background layer in the Layers panel to unlock it. Then go to Edit > Fill and select Color from the Use menu. Select the color you want to use, and click OK.
14. Save the file as moodboard.psd and subsequently as a JPG or PDF.

Modifying a moodboard template

Some moodboard templates don't have sections where you can specify the colors in your moodboard. To add these sections to an existing moodboard template, follow the instructions below.

1. With your moodboard template open in Photoshop or **Photopea**, go to Image > Canvas Size.
 - a. Type in the amount of pixels you want to add to the height or width of the canvas.
 - b. For the Anchor option, indicate the part of the canvas where you want the extra size to be added.
2. In the Layers panel, add a new layer by clicking on the New Layer icon at the bottom of the panel (or use Layer > New Layer). Drag the new layer so that it's directly above the Background layer.
 - a. Alternately, you can unlock the Background layer; however some moodboard templates don't allow you to do this.
3. Go to Edit > Fill and select the color you want your background to be; click OK.
4. In the new space you've created, follow steps 7-12 above to create color swatches.