



Pasting Into
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adding objects behind existing objects

HERE'S AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO ADD A PERSON (OR OBJECT) INTO A PHOTO, PLACING IT BEHIND OTHER PEOPLE (OR THINGS) IN THE IMAGE. THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THIS TECHNIQUE IS TO MAKE ACCURATE SELECTIONS OF BOTH THE PERSON AND THE LOCATION WHERE YOU WANT THAT PERSON TO APPEAR.

STEP ONE: Open the image to which you want to add the person (or object). It's advisable to duplicate the Background layer first so that you're working on a copy—just go under the Layer menu, under New, and choose Layer via Copy (or press Control-J [Mac: Command-J]). Using the selection tool of your choice (Selection Brush, Lasso, etc.), select the area where you want the person to appear. Take your time and make sure the edges where the existing people and objects appear are carefully selected.



ISTOCKPHOTO

STEP TWO: Open the photo of the person you're going to add to the other image. Use the selection tool(s) of your choice to select the person carefully. Focus on the visible edges of the person—the areas that won't be visible are less important. (Note: For this example, we clicked the Magic Wand tool on the white background, then chose Inverse from the Select menu to select just the woman.) With your selection in place, choose Copy from the Edit menu.

