



Adobe Photoshop

Me in the Background

Have you ever wished you could have been there to see some famous historical event for yourself? What a great opportunity that would be if we could travel back in time to see the signing of the Declaration of Independence, walked on the moon with Neal Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, or been at the battle of the Little Big Horn (from a safe distance of course). Well, here's your chance. Well, that's not entirely true, but it really **is** your chance to get a picture of yourself there.

The Me in the Background project will show you how to place yourself in a historical scene. You've already cut and pasted an object from one image into another, but this one is a little more demanding because you might need to copy and paste other objects in the picture to avoid your image appearing in the front of the scene. That's not always the best place to see what's going on.

1. You will need to first find your background picture. Once you do, save it to your home folder (H: drive). The scene here will dictate step 2.
2. Now you need a picture of yourself. But this time, you need a picture of yourself acting as though you are in the picture, so you will need to plan where you are going to do the insert in the background picture.



3. We will first be working with our own picture. You will need to carefully select your image using the Magic Wand tool. This process will require you to make many selections, so be sure you hold down the Shift key as you select. This will enable you to make multiple selections.
4. Don't worry if your selection goes out of bounds for your image, that is, if you select more than you intended with a single click. You can either correct this by clicking Edit / Step Backward or clicking the previous selection in the History panel. However, if you do select more than you intended you will need to lower the Tolerance and try again. This is a trial and error process and may require many changes before you have a satisfactory result. See below.



5. Once you are happy with the selection, click Edit / Copy or hold down CTRL-C to copy your image for insertion into the background.
6. Change to your background picture and click Edit / Paste or hold down CTRL-V to paste your image into the background. You will likely need to adjust the size of your image to make it look like it is a part of the background.



7. You will also likely need to do some copying of the background to make yourself look like you are actually there. See the image below. Notice that what is needed now is to copy part of Ringo and paste him in front of the zombie so it looks like Ringo is standing between the zombie and the camera.
8. Using the Lasso Tool draw around the part of the background that you will need to use to cover up a part of your own image. When you have drawn this to your satisfaction, copy it and create a new Layer by selecting Layer / New / Layer. Also, to simplify this step, simply pasting the selected part of the background immediately after copying it will create a new Layer.



9. The last step is to drag the new layer to the top of the Layers Panel to make it the top layer in your project. This will cover up the part of your image that you need covered and make you appear as if you are actually in the photo.



10. Finally, save your project with your name in the Filename and drop it into our class dropbox. Good luck.