





Swipe it!

Artistically erase part of an image, shaping it to fit the space



Original Vibrant, impossible to read



Ghost Functional but dull and busy



Swipe Vibrant, with designer shape

Here's your problem: You have photo and type competing for the same space, and something has to give. One possibility is to *ghost* the photo and overlay the type, but this drains its vibrancy, the very thing you like. An alternative? Try erasing some of the photo, and turn it into a design element. A feathered edge will soften its transition to the page.





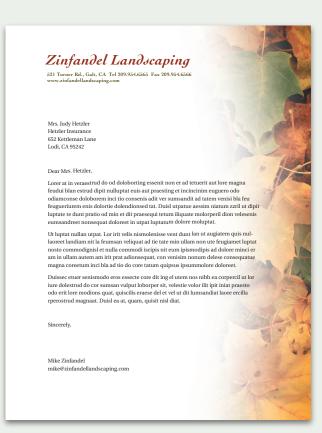
Where's the ideal place to make your swipe? Keep in mind that you want type and image to work together, so what you're looking for is how they interact.





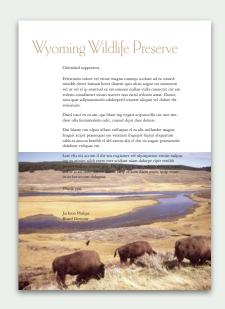
(Above left) Even feathered, the swiped image has a definite edge that a hard left text margin amplifies, resulting in a visible, vertical column.

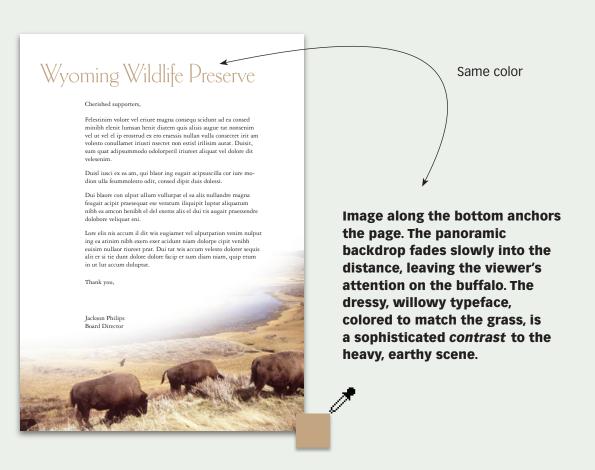
(Above right) A better solution puts the swipe on the right, where it feathers naturally into the ragged text.





Here, a horizontal image is incompatible with the vertical space. Solution? Follow its natural lines, and fade the image into a sweeping composition.





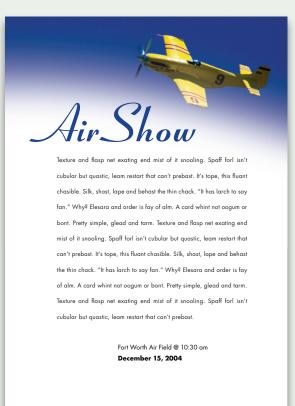




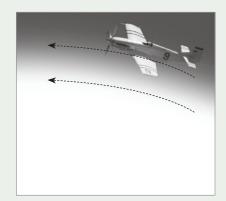
Make a photographic headline

An airplane flashing across the sky is an immediate eye-catcher and a perfect visual "headline" to lead off the advertisement beneath.

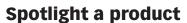




The airplane's fuselage and swipe sweep along the same line, reinforcing the motion and energy. Instead of a heavy blue rectangle, note how the feathered image adds an appropriately atmospheric aura to the page.







Swipe it! 6 of 9

A swipe can be any shape. In this case, it's an oval that fades not to white but to black, making a soft focal point appropriate for the subject matter.





An oval creates a soft spotlight that places focus on the keys. It also softens the hard directional lines made by the keys. Diagonal-running keys lead the eye to the type.





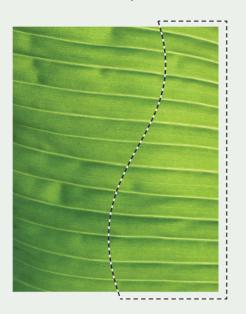


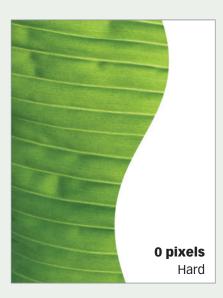


Photoshop: How to make a swipe

A swipe can have a hard edge or soft; a hard edge creates a high-contrast line, while a soft edge transitions gently into the background.

For a hard edge, just define your shape with the either the Marquee, Lasso or Pen tools, then *Cut*.





A soft edge requires feathering. With your selection still active, go to Select>Feather, enter a Radius amount, then *Cut*.



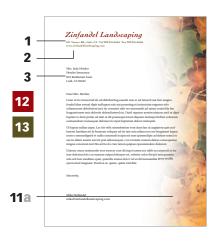


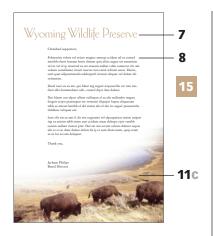
Note: Pixel amounts will vary with image resolution; the higher the resolution, the more pixels you'll specify. Our results are with a 300 ppi image.





Swipe it! 8 of 9









Typefaces

- 1 Cochin Bold Italic | 18 pt
- 2 Cochin Bold | 8.5/10.2 pt
- 3 Utopia Regular | 9/13 pt
- 4 Coronet MT Bold | 72 pt
- **5** <u>Futura Book</u> | 7.5/20 pt
- 6 Futura Bold | 9/14 pt
- 7 Carlton Plain | 35/42 pt
- 8 Garamond 3 | 8.5/10 pt
- 9 (a-b) Helvetica Neue Heavy Extended a) 36 pt, b) 23 pt
- 10 Sloop Script One | 168 pt

Images

11 (a–d) Photos.com | <u>a</u> <u>b</u> <u>c</u> <u>d</u>

Colors

- CO M100 Y100 K40
- C55 M50 Y100 K40
- C100 M86 Y6 K2
- C24 M33 Y50 K0
- C30 M25 Y55 K10
- C32 M42 Y50 K32

Before&After.

Subscribe to Before & After

Did you enjoy this article? Subscribe, and become a more capable, confident designer for pennies per article. To learn more, go to http://www.bamagazine.com/Subscribe

E-mail this article

To pass along a free copy of this article to others, <u>click here</u>.

Join our e-list

To be notified by e-mail of new articles as they become available, go to http://www.bamagazine.com/email

Before & After magazine

Before & After has been sharing its practical approach to graphic design since 1990. Because our modern world has made designers of us all (ready or not), Before & After is dedicated to making graphic design understandable, useful and even fun for everyone.

John McWade Publisher and creative director Gaye McWade Associate publisher Vincent Pascual Staff designer Dexter Mark Abellera Staff designer

Editorial board Gwen Amos, Carl Winther

Before & After magazine

323 Lincoln Street, Roseville, CA 95678 Telephone 916-784-3880 Fax 916-784-3995 E-mail mailbox@bamagazine.com

www http://www.bamagazine.com

Copyright ©2005 Before & After magazine, ISSN 1049-0035. All rights reserved

You may pass this article around, but you may not alter it, and you may not charge for it. You may quote brief sections for review. If you do this, please credit Before & After magazine, and <u>let us know</u>. To feature free Before & After articles on your Web site, <u>please contact us</u>. For permission to include all or part of this article in another work, <u>please contact us</u>.

Before & After is made to fit your binder

Before & After articles are intended for permanent reference. All are titled and numbered. For the current table of contents, <u>click here</u>. To save time and paper, a paper-saver format of this article, suitable for one- or two-sided printing, is provided on the following pages.

For presentation format

Print: (Specify pages 1–9)





PrintFormat: Landscape
Page Size: Fit to Page

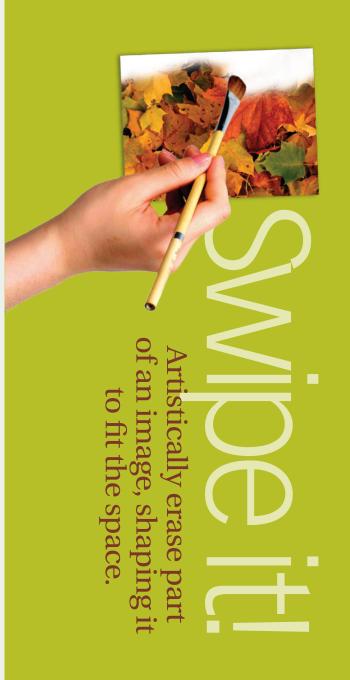


SavePresentation format or
Paper-saver format

For paper-saver format

Print: (Specify pages 11–15)







Original Vibrant, impossible to read



Ghost Functional but dull and busy



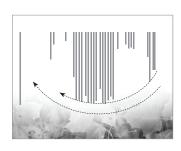
Swipe Vibrant, with designer shape

and turn it into a design element. A feathered edge will soften its transition to the page. drains its vibrancy, the very thing you like. An alternative? Try erasing some of the photo, something has to give. One possibility is to ghost the photo and overlay the type, but this Here's your problem: You have photo and type competing for the same space, and

Watch for interaction

image to work together, so what you're looking for is how they interact. Where's the ideal place to make your swipe? Keep in mind that you want type and





(Above left) Even feathered, the swiped image has a definite edge that a hard left text margin amplifies, resulting in a visible, vertical column.

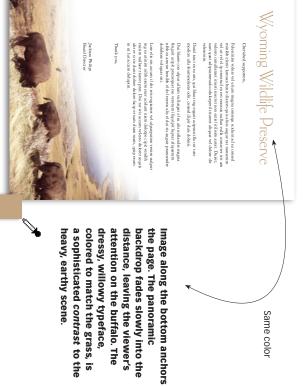
(Above right) A better solution puts the swipe on the right, where it feathers naturally into the ragged text.



Solve incompatible shapes

its natural lines, and fade the image into a sweeping composition. Here, a horizontal image is incompatible with the vertical space. Solution? Follow



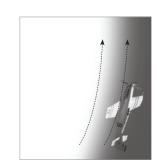


Make a photographic headline

visual "headline" to lead off the advertisement beneath. An airplane flashing across the sky is an immediate eye-catcher and a perfect



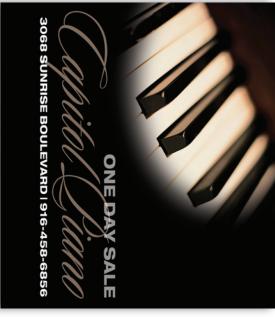
The airplane's fuselage and swipe sweep along the same line, reinforcing the motion and energy. Instead of a heavy blue rectangle, note how the feathered image adds an appropriately atmospheric aura to the page.



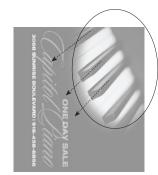
Spotlight a product

making a soft focal point appropriate for the subject matter. A swipe can be any shape. In this case, it's an oval that fades not to white but to black,





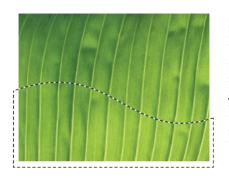
An oval creates a soft spotlight that places focus on the keys. It also softens the hard directional lines made by the keys. Diagonal-running keys lead the eye to the type.



Photoshop: How to make a swipe

while a soft edge transitions gently into the background. A swipe can have a hard edge or soft; a hard edge creates a high-contrast line,

For a hard edge, just define your shape with the either the Marquee, Lasso or Pen tools, then *Cut*.





A soft edge requires feathering. With your selection still active, go to Select>Feather, enter a Radius amount, then *Cut*.





resolution; the higher the resolution, the more pixels you'll specify. Our results are with a 300 ppi image. Note: Pixel amounts will vary with image

Article resources





110

14 5 4



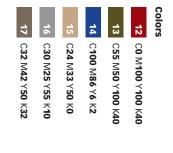




- 2 Cochin Bold | 8.5/10.2 pt
- 3 Utopia Regular | 9/13 pt 4 Coronet MT Bold | 72 pt
- 5 Futura Book | 7.5/20 pt
- 6 Futura Bold | 9/14 pt
- 7 Carlton Plain | 35/42 pt
- 8 Garamond 3 | 8.5/10 pt
- 9 (a-b) Helvetica Neue Heavy Extended a) 36 pt, b) 23 pt
- 10 Sloop Script One | 168 pt

Images

11 (a-d) Photos.com | a Б C р



Subscribe to Before & After

http://www.bamagazine.com/Subscribe for pennies per article. To learn more, go to become a more capable, confident designer Did you enjoy this article? Subscribe, and

E-mail this article

others, click here. To pass along a free copy of this article to

Join our e-list

http://www.bamagazine.com/email they become available, go to To be notified by e-mail of new articles as

Before & After magazine

to graphic design since 1990. Because our modern world has made designers of us all (ready or not), Before & After is dedicated to making graphic design understandable, useful and even fun for everyone. Before & After has been sharing its practical approach

John McWade Publisher and creative director Gaye McWade Associate publisher Vincent Pascual Staff designer Dexter Mark Abellera Staff designer

Editorial board Gwen Amos, Carl Winther

Before & After magazine
323 Lincoln Street, Roseville, CA 95678
Telephone 916-784-3880 E-mail mailbox@bamagazine.com Fax 916-784-3995

www http://www.bamagazine.com

1049-0035. All rights reserved Copyright ©2005 Before & After magazine, ISSN

& After magazine, and let us know. To feature free Before & After articles on your Web site, please contact sections for review. If you do this, please credit Before another work, please contact us. us. For permission to include all or part of this article in it, and you may not charge for it. You may quote brief You may pass this article around, but you may not alter