

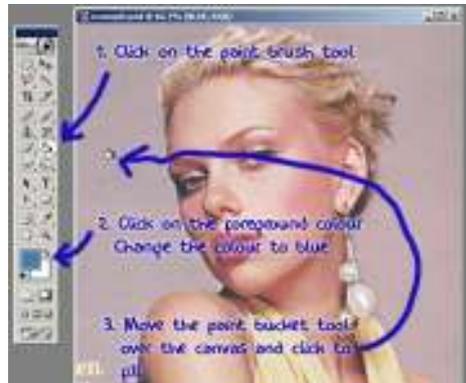
STEP 1. Creating the Half Tone Shading

a) Preparing the Canvas

Open your picture in photoshop that is going to become pop art and **duplicate the layer** called "Background". (Just click the layer called "Background" and drag it to this icon  at the bottom of the layer window to duplicate the layer.)

Rename this new layer "dots". (To rename a layer right-click on the name in the Layer Palette and select Layer Properties.)

Create another new layer and fill it **bright blue** using the Paint Bucket tool .



Drag this layer between the two existing layers and rename it something meaningful i.e "blue". The image below shows what your Layer Palette should look like. This is the basic set up to begin.



Now working on the "dots" layer we need to clear out all the unwanted parts of the photograph. In this case I want to isolate Scarlett and delete the rest i.e lilac background and bit of text.

To cut out Scarlett I use the **Pen Tool**. Now to sum up how to use Photoshop's pen tool in a few sentences isn't easy...if you have never used the pen tool before, do the [PEN TOOL TUTORIAL](#) first.

Remember to make sure the pen tool is set to **create a Work Path**. See below.



***NOTE:** You could use the eraser tool but the results won't be as professional.

Take the pen tool **create a path** around the person (or thing) and then **make it into selection**. **Invert the selection** (CTRL + Shift + i) and hit **delete**. **Deselect** (Ctrl + D)



b) Making the Dots

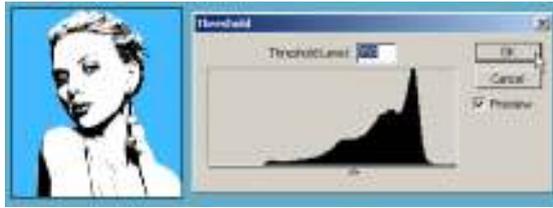
Desaturate the "dots" layer (Ctrl + Shift + U).



Next adjust **Threshold** to something dramatic (still working on the "dots" layer).

Image >> Adjustments >> Threshold...

The settings I used are shown in the image below, but you will need to experiment to see what threshold settings works for YOUR image.



Using Threshold will leave the image looking very pixelated (jagged). So apply **Gaussian Blur** (approximately a 2-3 pixels should do it).
Filter >> Blur >> Gaussian Blur...



In your Layers Palette **right-click on the "dots" layer** and select **Duplicate Layer...** See image below.



Select **New** for the Destination Document. Now you will have 2 documents open in photoshop.



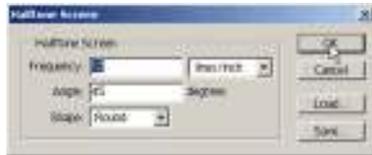
Working on your new document change the **Mode to Greyscale**.
Image >> Mode >> Greyscale
 A dialogue box appears..."Discard color information?"...Click OK.

Now change the **Mode to Bitmap**.
Image >> Mode >> Bitmap
 A dialogue box appears..."Flatten layers?"...Click OK.
 Choose **Halftone Screen** on the Bitmap options window. Click OK. See image below.

It pretty obvious but make sure your output resolution is the same as the input. If yours design is going to be printed then the input should be 300 pixels/inch and your output will be 300. If you're input doesn't equal your output the you'll end up with a change in size!



Next appears the Halftone Screen box. Apply the settings shown below. Note you may want to experiment with the **Frequency** as this decides the size of the dots. Click OK.



Almost there with the dots. All that's left is to transfer the dots back to the first document. (See part C).



Note if your dots aren't looking very good you may have forgotten to apply blur or need to apply more blur. The smoother gradient is, the better halftone pattern.

c) Organising

Change the **Mode** back to **Greyscale**

A dialogue box will appear...Make sure the size ratio is 1 and click OK.

Now change the **Mode** back to **RGB**.

In your Layers Palette right-click on the layer and select **Duplicate Layer**.

There should be 3 three options as the Destination Document. Choose your original psd (which should be the top one). See image below.



Your Layers Palette should look like the one shown below. You can close the second psd that you created..there's no need for it now.



The final step for creating the dots is to **create a Clipping Path** between the new layer and the "dots" layer.

To create a Clipping Path...hold down the ALT key and move your cursor between the 2 layers in your Layers Palette. When the cursor turns into a "double bubble" (see image below) click to create the clipping path.



Now link the "dots" and "Background copy" layer. See image below.

Merge Linked layers (Ctrl + E)

If you are using Photoshop CS or CS2 instead of linking and then merging the linked layers, after creating the clipping path simply click on the "background copy" layer in your layer palette and then **Merge Down**.



Your picture should now look like the one shown below..only better because it's not so small and compressed!



Now is a good time to **Save** (Ctrl + S) your work.

On the next page it's time to add color in STEP 2 >>

NEXT ➤