



Corporate Flow



Illustration



Image Editing



Automation



Web



Text Effects

Canvas Tips and Techniques



**Deneba
Creative Department**

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Adding Soft Focus Effect to Images



Since Canvas allows the "layering" of objects, the need for complicated channel operations is not necessary to create effects such as a soft glow on images. This soft focus appearance is created very simply by layering two copies of an image and blurring the top copy. Additional image manipulation tips such as this one will be covered more in the How To section.

Step 1

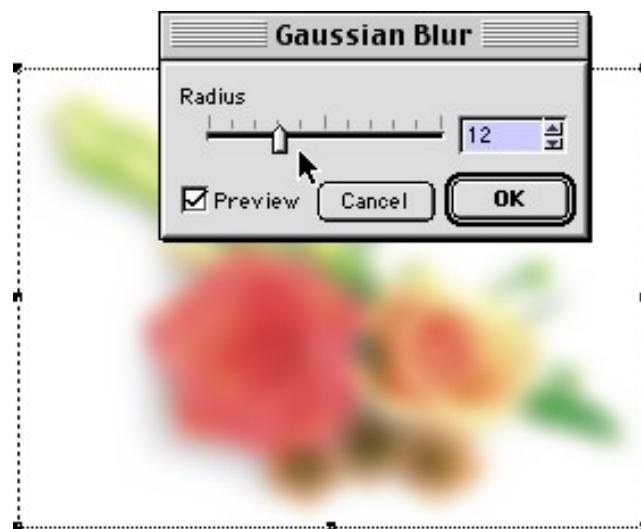
First, select the image, re-size it and apply any color correction that might be needed.

Once the image is ready, duplicate the image (Mac: Command-D, Windows: Control-D).



Step 2

Next, select the duplicate image and apply a Gaussian Blur (Image>Filter>Blur>Gaussian Blur) to it. Use a Radius high enough to really soften the image details. For this 72 resolution rose example, a radius of 12 was used. Check the Preview check box in the dialog box to see the results before clicking OK.

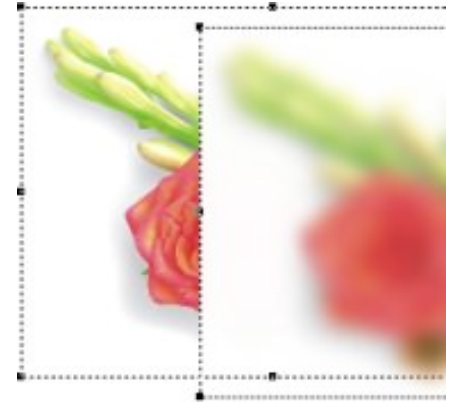
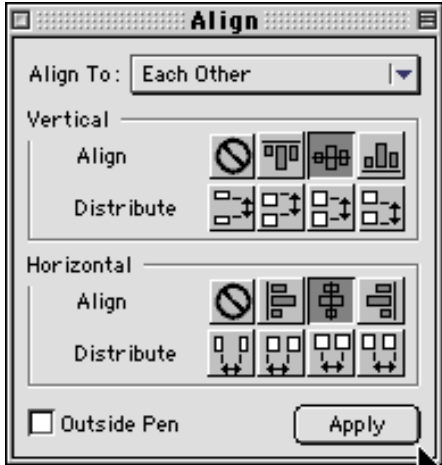


Apply Gaussian Blur to the top image.

Adding Soft Focus Effect to Images (Continued)

Step 3

Now align the two images with the blurred one on top so they are centered both horizontally and vertically.



Align the two images so they are placed exactly on top of each other using the Align Palette from the Object menu.

Step 4

To create the glow appearance, simply, select the top image and reduce the opacity. Use the Opacity slider from the Tool Box and lower it until the desired glow effect is reached. Instant soft focus!



Tip:

To increase the sharpness of a certain area, apply a SpriteLayer (Object>SpriteLayer>New Channel Mask) to the blurred image. Next, using the airbrush, brush away the areas where more detail is needed. In this example, the centers of the roses were sharpened a little to increase some of the detail.



Final glow effect is a combination of the blurred image and the sharp image beneath.

The final images can be grouped and used in Web or print projects.

