



Corporate Flow



Illustration



Image Editing



Automation



Web



Text Effects

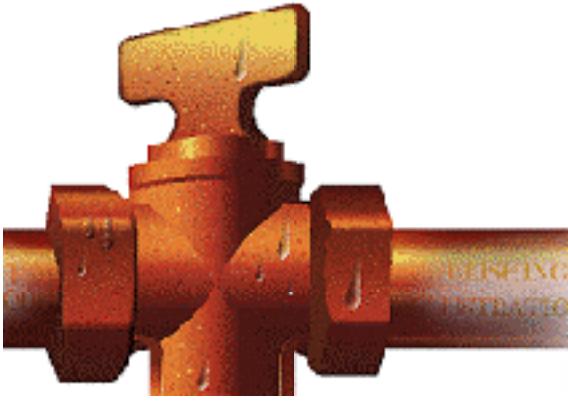
Canvas Tips and Techniques



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Transparency Effects: Water Droplets



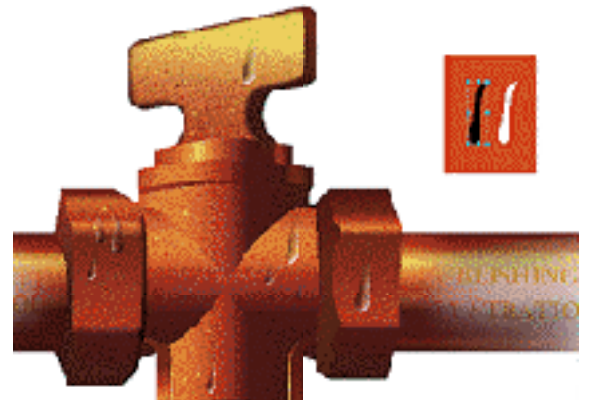
SpriteLayer technology in Canvas lets you apply subtle shading to editable vector objects to create entirely new effects. In this illustration of "sweating" pipes, our artist used SpriteLayer transparency to create realistic water droplets.

Here are the steps used to achieve the effect:

Step 1

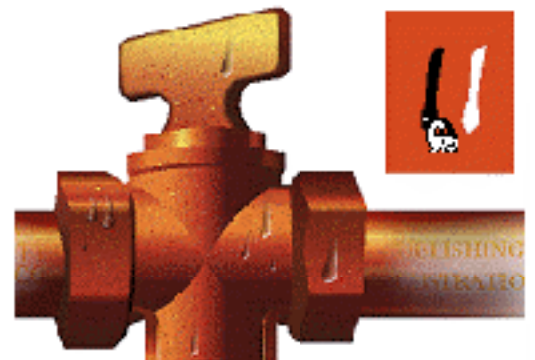
Draw a vector object in the shape of a water droplet. Duplicate it. In this example, we filled one object with black and one with white, but you can also try using other combinations of dark and light colors to more closely match the tones of your drawing.

The black object will be the shadow and the white object will be the highlight on the droplet. To help you visualize the effect, place the objects on a background image or color.



Step 2

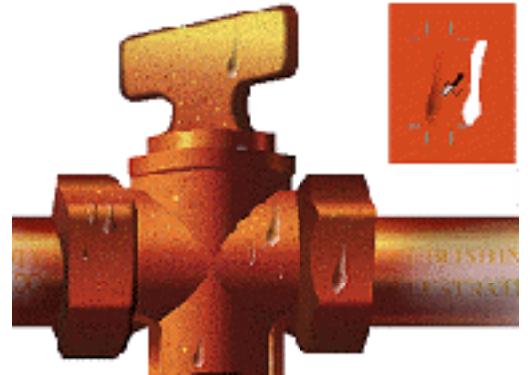
Click the black object with the Sprite tool to apply a channel mask. With channel masks, you can use painting tools to apply transparency to objects.



Transparency Effects: Water Droplets (Continued)

Step 3

In this case, we want the shadow to be on the left side of the droplet. With the foreground color set to black, use the Airbrush tool to "paint" transparency on the right side of the black droplet object, leaving a soft edge. We used a 72 ppi channel mask with a 13 pixel brush size. Now repeat steps 2 and 3 for the white object to create the highlight, only this time, brush away the left side.



Step 4

Put the two objects together (with either one in front). The droplet shadow on the left fades to clear, which fades to the highlight on the right. The background pipe illustration appears realistically through the clear center of the droplet.

Experiment to fine-tune the effect. Try reducing the overall opacity of a droplet (group the two objects first). You can make duplicates and create variety by resizing and reshaping them. The original objects and masks are editable, and you can place these droplets on any background image without having to "paint" them again from scratch.

