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Thread: [How To Make Cool Thumbnails for YouTube Videos](#)

Sahaj - March 24, 2015, 7:17 am

Hey HF! Hope you all are doing good! I'm -Eclipse. ?

Today, I'm posting the tutorial on how to make some cool thumbnails for your YouTube videos. This attracts users to watch your video and makes you look a pro and HQ YouTuber.

Here's what we will be creating :

So, let's begin the tutorial. :smile:

First, make a new document, or open an image. The image I'll be using throughout the tutorial is downloaded from -

<http://www.ohmymag.com/selfie/wallpaper> and I take no credit of it!

You can use any dimensions. I'm using the following ones.

<https://i.imgur.com/xCHzihT.png>

Now, make sure the layer is unlocked. If it's not, double click the layer to unlock it. (See Image below)

<https://i.imgur.com/GcGOGgx.png>

Now open the blur tool from the toolbar, here is the screenshot :

<https://i.imgur.com/2d5UfUv.png>

Make sure the strength is 100%, if it's not, make it 100%. :

<https://i.imgur.com/lxIB9rD.png>

Now use the blur tool to blur all the unnecessary space in the image and to focus on the thing you want. I blurred the background to focus on the girl in the picture (She's pretty, isn't she? :p).

Now, duplicate the layer by right-clicking on it and choosing "Duplicate Layer". :

<https://i.imgur.com/HtFZvk9.png>

Name it B&W, or whatever you like. :Smile: :

<https://i.imgur.com/aMa8UYC.png>

Now, move the B&W layer to the bottom, below the main layer as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/M6TXQUb.png>

Now, select the B&W layer. At the bottom, click on the circle thing and choose "Hue/Saturation..." as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/IUtPKG1.png>

Now, drag the saturation all the way to the left (-100) as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/N1plfJ2.png>

Now, select the main layer (Layer 3 in my case) and choose the eraser tool from the toolbar as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/zcmPJWZ.png>

Now erase the area you blurred earlier so that just the character is coloured/focused. Sorry, my image was dull. But I did erase the area and it turned Black and White as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/WRJeGaK.jpg>

Now, keeping the main layer selected, go to that circle thing again and select "Gradient" this time :

<https://i.imgur.com/NRnaHW2.png>

Now click on the gradient make as shown in the image below (1) and then double click on that little thing shown in (2). :

<https://i.imgur.com/178owAT.png>

Now choose the colour, I'm choosing darker green :

Now change the upper colour by clicking the other one, as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/VI5CVC4.png>

Click OK and OK if you're happy with the colours. Now change the blending of the main layer to "Linear Dodge (ADD)" or you can choose any one you like or suits your image :

<https://i.imgur.com/q8HaKdQ.png>

Now add any text using your favourite font (I'm using Big Noodle Titling, get it here! - <http://www.dafont.com/bignoodle-titling.font>). You can change the properties of the text from the menu to the right as shown. If you don't see this menu, press Ctrl+T to bring it up. :

Now we'll make our text pop-up. To do so, right click on the text layer and choose "Blending Options" As shown:

<https://i.imgur.com/g0BCEoT.png>

Now, from the Blending Options window, choose "Drop Shadow". You can use the following settings or you can play around on your own. ? :

Now, choose the Rectangle tool from the toolbox as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/e69u9ID.png>

Now, use it to make a rectangle around your text. (Don't worry if it looks like following) :

<https://i.imgur.com/nF9DpsQ.png>

Now, from the top menu, choose No colour in the shape. :

And from the fill, choose White as shown :

Now, increase the rectangle's width using the properties window on the left as shown :

<https://i.imgur.com/17ltaXd.png>

Now decrease the opacity of the rectangle to whatever you like :

<https://i.imgur.com/y2pHlgC.png>

Now, rotate or resize it using the transformation tool (Ctrl+T). :

And all done! Here's what you get :

Thanks for reading the tutorial. Please reply to this thread with feedbacks and don't forget to say thanks (I worked hard on making this tutorial good and I explained the best I could. ?)

PS - THIS LOOKS SICK, BUT I CHOSE A DULL IMAGE, SO IT'S NOT LOOKING THAT SICK. SORRY ABOUT THAT. ?

AND SORRY FOR THOSE IMAGE LINKS TOO, THERE'S A LIMIT OF 15 IMAGES IN A THREAD, SO I POSTED THE LINKS INSTEAD OF SOME IMAGES! ?

ANNIHILATION - March 24, 2015, 10:25 am

Nice tutorial OP, will definitely use this in the future.

Sahaj - March 24, 2015, 11:07 am

(Mar 24, 2015 10:25 AM)ANNIHILATION Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nice tutorial OP, will definitely use this in the future.

Thanks man! ? I was getting mad because no one replied to this thread but now feeling better! :)

xCrYsTaLx - March 24, 2015, 2:15 pm

Awesome work - Nice tutorial helped me :))

Sahaj - March 24, 2015, 8:39 pm

(Mar 24, 2015 02:15 PM)xCrYsTaLx Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Awesome work - Nice tutorial helped me :))

Thank you very much for your reply! :)