

Using Our Sky Overlays

Turn the ordinary sky in your images into the extraordinary with our sky overlays! This tutorial will guide you through integrating a sky into your own artwork!

Step 1:

Open the image in which you wish to add a sky overlay.



Step 2:

Open the sky overlay that you wish to use. Using the "move" tool (circled in red), click on the overlay and hold the mouse button down, and drag it overtop of the image.



Step 3:

Click on the blend mode function (circled in red), and change the blend mode to "overlay". This blend mode will allow you to see in which areas you wish to remove the overlay (here, you can see the overlay overlaps the water; I will remove it from the water).



Step 4:

At the bottom of the layers palette, click on the layer mask tool (circled in red). A layer mask will appear beside your overlay; it's filled with white. Then select your brush tool (use a soft-edged brush), make sure your foreground colour is set to black, click on the layer mask to make it active, and "paint out" areas from which you would like to remove the overlay.



Step 5:

Once the overlay is removed from unwanted areas, click on the blending mode function (circled in red), and select the blending mode that looks desirable to you. I chose "hard light".



Step 6:

The highlights looked a little too contrasty for my liking, so I toned the highlights down by clicking on the layer itself to activate it. I then went to Image>Adjustments>Curves. In the curves dialog box, I clicked and dragged the right end of the curve down (circled in red). This always tones down highlights. Drag down until you achieve your desired effect, then click "ok".



Step 7 (optional):

I wanted to slightly tone down the blue colours in the overlay, so making sure the sky overlay layer itself is still active, go to

Image>Adjustments>Hue/Saturation. Then select the blues from the drop-down menu (circled in red), and slide the saturation until you achieve the desired result.



Step 8:

I then applied my own edits to the entire image. I added contrast, darkened the shadows a little, and intensified the yellows. I then clicked the image function on your layers palette (circled in red), and selected "flatten image". Viola!! The image is ready for saving!

