

## Making Brushes in Photoshop

**Step One:** Open the image you will use to create a brush. Use images that have lots of texture or line art. After opening the image, press Command-J to make a duplicate of your Background image.

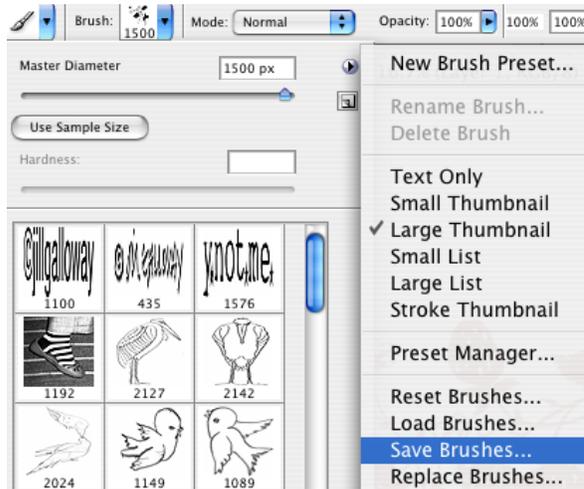
**Step Two:** Make the duplicate layer active by clicking on its name. Make a selection of the area that you want to define as a brush. You can use any of the selection tools, rectangle marquees with give you a solid rectangle shape, and the magic wand will give you a more rough shape.

**Step Three:** Next we are going to desaturate the layer by either using channel mixer under Image>adjustment>Channel Mixer or Image>adjustment>Desaturate. This will only adjust your selection. Remember that once the brush is made white will not show color and black will be full color. You can also add contrast by using curves or level.

**Step Four:** When you are satisfied with the contrast go to Edit>Define Brush Preset. If this is not active it means that your image size is too big. Change the image size by scaling down the resolution. When the Define Brush Preset window comes up, name it and your brush will appear at the end of the list of brushes.

**Step Five:** Very Important!! Make sure that you save your brushes otherwise they will vanish into cyber space. To save brushes choose the small arrow at the corner of the brush window. This is a pull down menu. You should see Save Brushes listed in the middle. Choose save and make sure you remember where you are saving your brushes. Best place would be to save them on portable hard drive so that you can take it with you and load it later onto another computer. Just a note, whatever brush is listed in the brush pallet will save, so make sure that you are saving your brushes. To delete a brush in this pallet, move your mouse over the brush you want to delete and hold the

option key. This will turn the mouse into a scissors; click mouse and this will delete the brush.



**Step 6:** To load brushes onto another computer open Photoshop and go to the brushes, click the little arrow and find load brushes. It will ask you if you want to append-, which means add to, or replace the brushes already there. You will see your new brushes at the bottom of the bushes if you append.