

ENGRAVING

Actions for Adobe Photoshop



User Guide

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1. THE BASICS

1.1. About the effects

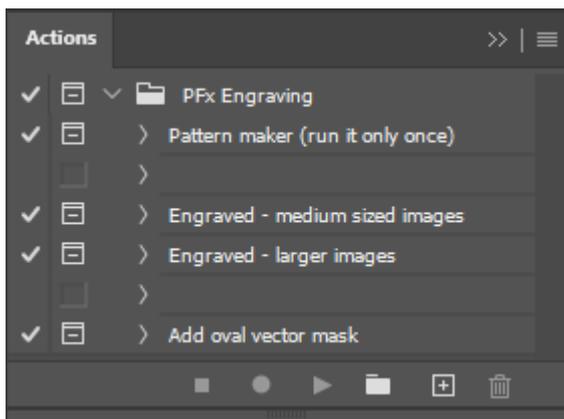
The Engraving actions create two different engraved versions of your original photo, with waved and straight lines respectively. You can colorize the engraved version or apply a single color overlay.

1.2. How the actions are organized

The actions are included in the “Sketch & Engrave” bundle, which is available on PanosFX.com: <https://www.panosfx.com/photoshop-actions/sketch>

Like all PanosFX Photoshop add-ons, the name of the Engraving actions set begins with the 3 letters “PFx”. This makes it easier for you to locate all free and paid PanosFX add-ons that stored in your hard disks.

The name of the Sketch actions set is “PFx Engraving.atn”.



The set contains five actions:

- The first action is called “**Pattern maker (run it only once)**”. This action creates the engraving patterns. You must execute it only once; the patterns will remain stored in Photoshop until you remove them manually using either the Preset manager (Edit > Preset Manager) or the Patterns panel (Window > Patterns) which is available in Photoshop CC-2020 or newer.
- The second action and the third actions are the core actions of the set. The “**Engraved - medium sized images**” action is more appropriate for medium-sized photos while the “**Engraved - larger images**” action has been programmed to work better on hi-res images.

- The fifth action should be executed on the engraved version of the original photo. This action applies an oval vector mask over the engraved photo. The result can be particularly interesting:



1.3. Loading the actions in Photoshop

Once you download the product file, navigate to your "Downloads" folder.

Find and unzip the "PanosFX-SKETCH.zip" file. This will create a folder called "PanosFX-SKETCH", which contains the action files: "PFx Sketch.atn" and "PFx Engrave.atn"

LOADING THE ACTIONS IN PHOTOSHOP:

Method 1:

- Double-click the "PFx Engrave.atn" file; the actions will be loaded automatically into Photoshop's Actions Panel.

Method 2:

- Open Photoshop and go to the actions panel (if it's not visible, select: Window > Actions).
- Click the panel's menu button (at the top-right panel corner) and select "Load Actions" from the pop-up menu.
- Navigate inside the "PanosFX-SKETCH" folder and load the PFX Engrave.atn file; the action will be loaded automatically into the actions panel.

1.4. Removing an older version (or a trial one)

If you have an older product version installed, or if you installed the trial version before purchasing the full one, I recommend you remove it prior to installing the new files. This article shows you how to do it:

<http://www.panosfx.com/installation-troubleshooting/uninstalling>

2. USEFUL TIPS

Below you can find a number of tips, aiming to help you make the most out of the filmstrip actions.

2.1. Choosing the right photos

Photos with crisp details produce much better cartoons. Avoid using blurry photos.

You should also avoid using poorly scanned photos, or scanned copies of old, textured photo papers. As mentioned above, do not use very small photos (smaller than 3 Megapixels).

2.2. Troubleshooting

If you get any strange errors (e.g. “Couldn’t not complete your request because of a program error”) please reset the preferences and reload the actions. Refer to these instructions for more information:

<https://www.panosfx.com/installation-troubleshooting/reset-preferences>

3. THE ACTIONS

3.1. The Pattern Maker action

As was mentioned above, this action creates the necessary patterns. You don't have to run this action each time you wish to create an engraved version of a photo. The action should be used only once, until the patterns it creates are removed manually from Photoshop using the Preset manager of the Patterns panel (CC-2020 or newer).

3.2. The "Engraved" actions

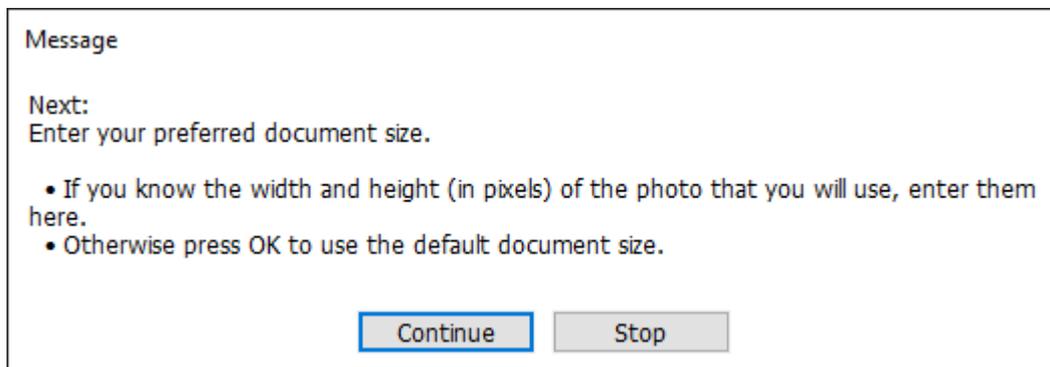
These two actions are the core actions of the set. The first action works better on medium – sized photos, while the second produces better results with hi-res photos.

Use the first action on images whose biggest side (width or height) is between 2500 and 3000 pixels. Use the second action on images whose biggest side is between 3000 and

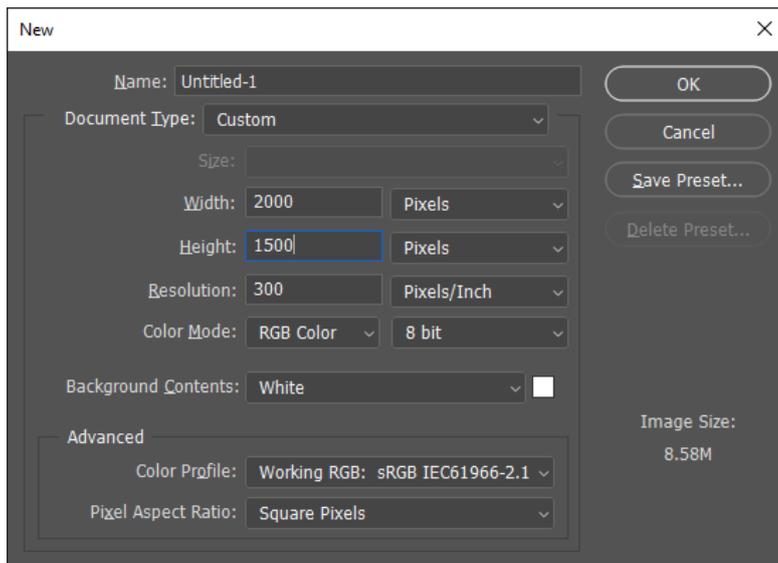
4000 pixels.

You don't need to load an image in Photoshop prior to running these actions.

When the action begins the following message shows up on your screen:

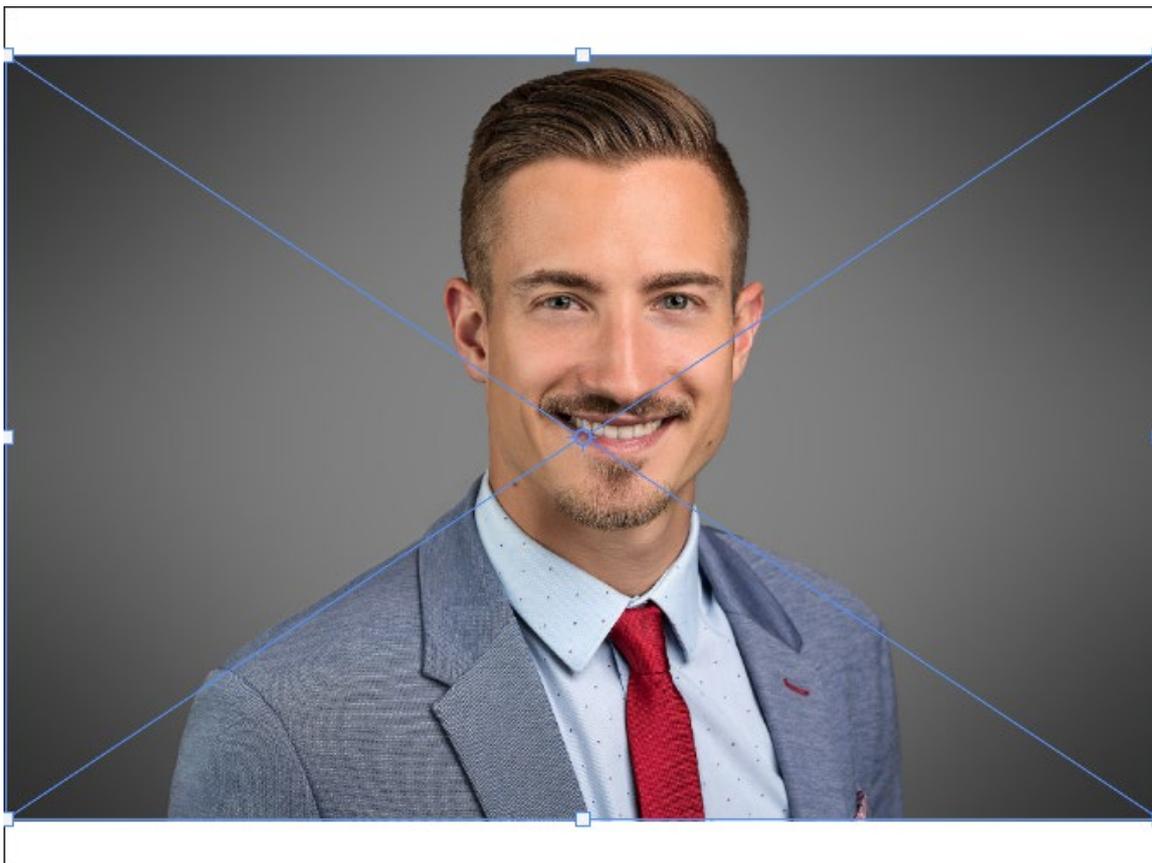


Hit Continue. By default the first "Engraved" action creates a 2500x2500 pixels document. If the photo that you wish to process has a different size, e.g. 2400x1600 pixels, you can change these dimensions:



If you don't know the size of the photo, it's not the end of the world; just hit OK. The action will automatically crop the document to fit your photo's aspect ratio.

In the next step you must load and place a photo over the white background. You can resize the photo to your preference. Don't worry if it doesn't cover the entire white background: the action will crop out these areas:



Double click to place the photo and wait for the action to complete.

When the action finishes, you'll get 2 different versions on your work area. The one on the left uses wavy lines, while the one on the right uses straight diagonal lines (see the details below).



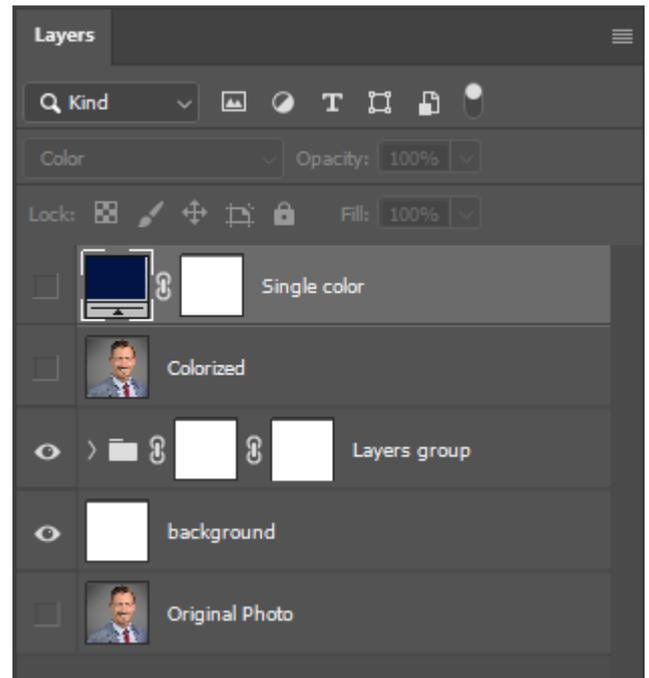
3.3. The “Add oval mask” action

The last action of the set lets you apply an oval mask that hides any pixels outside of it. This can create a particularly interesting effect. The action will place an oval vector shape over the Photoshop image. Use your mouse to resize / reposition it and double click to confirm:



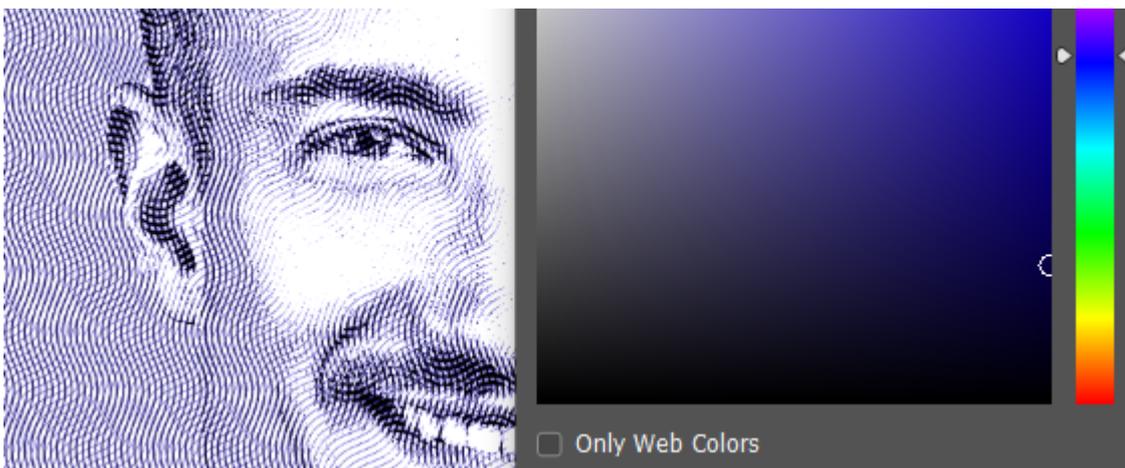
3.4. The Layers panel

When the action execution is over, the layers panel looks like the screenshot on the right.



The **first layer** is called “Single Color”. It’s turned off by default. Turn it on by clicking the eyeball icon to the left of the layer thumbnail (make sure that the second layer “Colorized” it turned off).

Double click the layer thumbnail and change the color of the lines to your preference:



The **second layer** is called “Colorized” and is turned off by default.

You can turn it on by clicking the little eyeball icon on the left of the layer name (make sure the first layer “Single color” is turned off). When you turn it on, you ‘ll get a color engraved version:



The “Layers group” contains the engraving lines. Do not delete this group or any of its layers.

If you have any questions, please use the contact form on my site.

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www.PanosFX.com

