

The X's Files

"Altered Images"

Painting Clothing

In this tutorial I'll be showing you how to paint clothing onto bodies...
This tutorial assumes that the reader is using Adobe Photo Shop® versions
4.0 or higher.

Photo Shop tools used in this lesson will be,
the standard paint brush, the smudge tool, and the eraser tool.



In our starting image we have a nude female body. What I'll be showing you in this tutorial is how to paint a sheer red top onto this body.

Again, this tutorial will require the use of PhotoShop's layers. Actually this will require multiple layers open at the same time!

So, having said this, its time to create a new layer to work on...



Working on the newly created layer, select the color you want to use for the clothing and with a medium sized paint brush lay down some color along the tops of both shoulders. Don't worry about the hair if there is any in the way, we will take care of that later...

Next select the "smudge" tool and adjust the pressure setting to around 80% or so. With a larger soft edged brush, "grab" and pull the color down over each breast. You'll notice that you can regulate the degree of sheerness by the amount of paint you "grab" as you pull it over the body.



In this image notice how I didn't over work the paint. This style give the immediate look of slight folds of cloth over the shoulders and breasts....

In this image, we start to define the shadow areas of the clothing... To do this, create



another layer over top of the previous one...

NOTE: When you have multiple layers opened, it can be quite easy to get "lost" as to which layer you should be working on... Thankfully PhotoShop allows you to toggle each layer on or off so you can assure yourself you're working on the correct layer.

On the newly created layer, lay down a darker version of the color you used earlier, again across the shoulder tops, and this time apply a little "dab" on the ends of each breast as illustrated to the left.

With the "smudge" tool selected again, and with the same setup as before. "Grab" and pull down the new darker paint over the brighter color beneath... Again it is important not to over work the paint, let the various degrees of transparency happen, further adding to illusion

Use the same technique to pull the "dabs" of paint you applied earlier on tips of the breasts. This gives the impression of deeper folds of cloth that would naturally occur from the breasts pressing against the fabric.



Next we have to terminate the length of the top, for this tutorial, I made the top fairly short, ending a few inches above the navel. To do this apply some paint along the bottom where you want the edge to be. To keep the look of the fabric "loose" looking, make sure you extend the bottom edge out past the edge of the body.

Once again take the "smudge" tool and gently "grab" and push the paint up along the bottom edge of the top, and up the sides of the body to the outside edges of the breasts.



Next merge the two created layers together so there is just one layer above the background layer. With both painting layers together now, finish any touch ups with the "smudge" tool. Remember, both paint layers are tied together now so any smudging you do will effect both layers!!

Next we need to get the hair back out on top of the shoulders. Set the opacity level of the layer you've been working on low enough so that the hair is clearly visible underneath. Next select the eraser tool with an appropriately sized brush and carefully erase the paint so that the hair shows through.



Finally merge all the layers together so that the background and the painting layers are one. Then using the techniques outlined in my hair wisps tutorial, pull hair strands out over top of the painted top.

One last step can be done to further enhance the look. Create a new paint layer, then with the "eye dropper" tool select a very dark shadow color from the body. Then with a small brush carefully apply some paint along the edges of the neckline, the arm areas and along the bottom edge. Then with the "smudge" tool once more, carefully create the slight but convincing shadows that mark the edges of the clothing.

I only did this on the left side of this image to better show the results.

Finally merge the layer down and you have the finished sheer top..