


Title: Photoshop – Feathering (Softening Borders)

Purpose: This document describes how to use the Feathering function in Photoshop used to soften the borders of a JPEG image.

Steps:

1. Using Photoshop software, open the JPEG image for which you want to soften the borders for.
2. Use the **rectangular marquee tool**  to select a thin strip along one of the edges of the image that you want to soften. The region that you select will have all its pixels removed, i.e., that area of the image that will be deleted.
3. Select the **Feather** option under the **Select** menu. When the **Feather Selection** window appears, select the **Feather Radius** that you want to use to create the feathering effect. The **Feather Radius** reflects the amount of blurring between the selected region (from Step 2) and its surrounding pixels. After specifying a **Feather Radius**, click on the OK button.
4. Press the **Delete** button located on your keyboard to begin the Feathering process. Repeatedly pressing the **Delete** button will increase the amount of feathering.
5. To soften other edges of the image, repeat Steps 2 through 4 above. When you finish feathering, save your image as a JPEG file.

The images below illustrate the difference between an image before and after feathering.

Before feathering:



After feathering:



Special thanks to Deella for her guidance with how to do the feathering process in Photoshop.