

“Paperweight” Photo Process:

Take photo

Open in Photoshop and crop image to a square

(As a note, play with the portions of the photo in the square; if you don't like it after using polar coordinates, go back to original image and resize differently)

Duplicate Layer (control J)

Filter>distort>polar coordinates

Pick polar to rectangular

Image>Image rotation>flip canvas vertical

Filter>distort>polar coordinates

Pick rectangular to polar

Looks like glass paperweight

To Duplicate Portion of Image:

Choose rectangular marquis tool, select portion that you want (Control A and slide to line up)

Make sure it goes right through center of photo

Copy (control c), Paste (control v)

Edit>transform

Flip vertical or horizontal

Move (v) to perfect alignment (blow up to see)

Claw (control>alt>shift>e simultaneously)

Now play: can image rotate, make it larger smaller, etc.

To make center of ball larger or smaller: filters>distort>spherize>slide slider to left (negative spherize) or right (positive spherize)>enter

As a note, if you wish to do multiple duplications, do a Claw in between each duplication.

Invert (control I) to find the complementary color for changing background. Nice trick to find a starting color.

Changing Background:

Select ball: marquis>elliptical>point to center>alt key and draw line to corner

Copy (control c), paste (control v): (creates a new layer with just the ball)

Go to layer Immediately below the new layer. Pick G (gradient), set start and stop colors, choose star or select another icon pattern from the top tool panel, draw gradient by drawing line from center and draw line to outer corner. Play around with different gradients and colors. (Turn off eye on top layer to easily see the gradient pattern.) You can also use Photokit to burn corners (Photokit is now free) or experiment as you wish.

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