

# SCRAPPER'S GUIDE

The Easiest Way To Learn Digital Scrapbooking. **Guaranteed.**

## Blowing It Out (Photoshop)

Tip of the Week by Jenny Binder on October 26, 2009

Blowing it out? I know, that's a funny title, and you may wonder what on earth I'm going to talk about today! Recently, one of my favorite things to do is "blow out" a photo, which basically means I'm going to overexpose it to give it an "artsy" feel. This tip is so simple and easy to do that I know you'll be giving it a try...or at least I hope so!



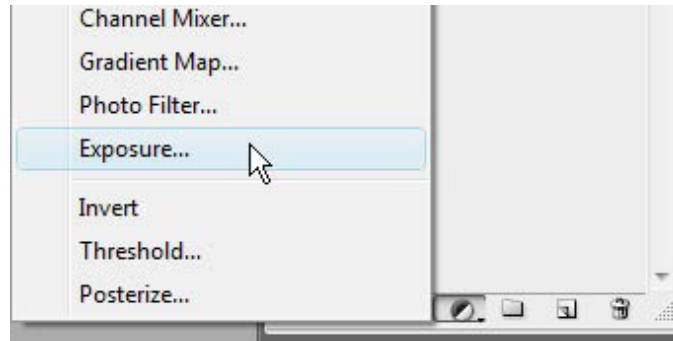
### Step 1) Start with a good photo

I love to use this technique with a photo that tells a story all by itself. The story may be obvious, or it may just be a photo that means something to you. Here I have two photos: a pumpkin in our garden, and a photo of my husband and daughter sharing a kiss (my favorite.)

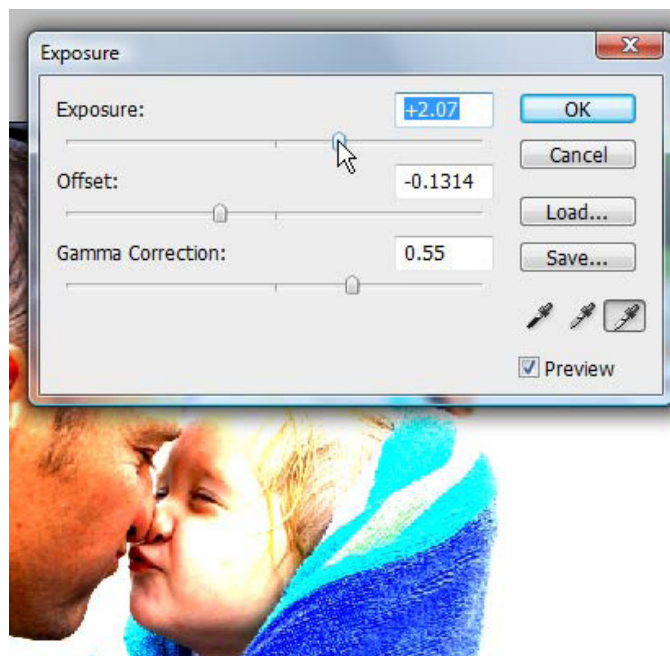


## Step 2) Adjust the Exposure

\* Click on the Adjustment Layer Icon on the Layers panel, and choose Exposure.

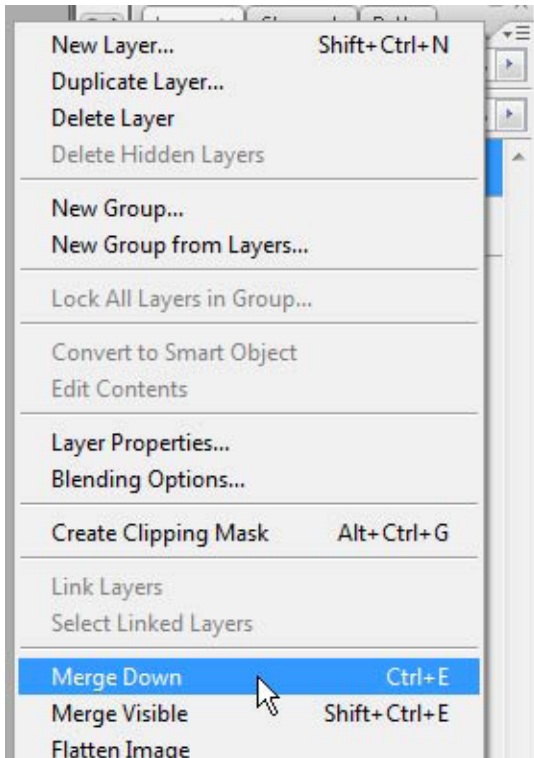


\* Adjust the sliders. Start by moving the Exposure slider to the right. Then add some shadows back in by moving the Gamma Correction slider to the right. Sometimes I will move the Offset slider to the left, as with this photo, but not always. Just keep adjusting until you have the look you are wanting to achieve. There are no rules here! Sometimes I make it more dramatic than others--it just depends on the photo and the feel I want to give it. Click OK when you are finished with your adjustments.

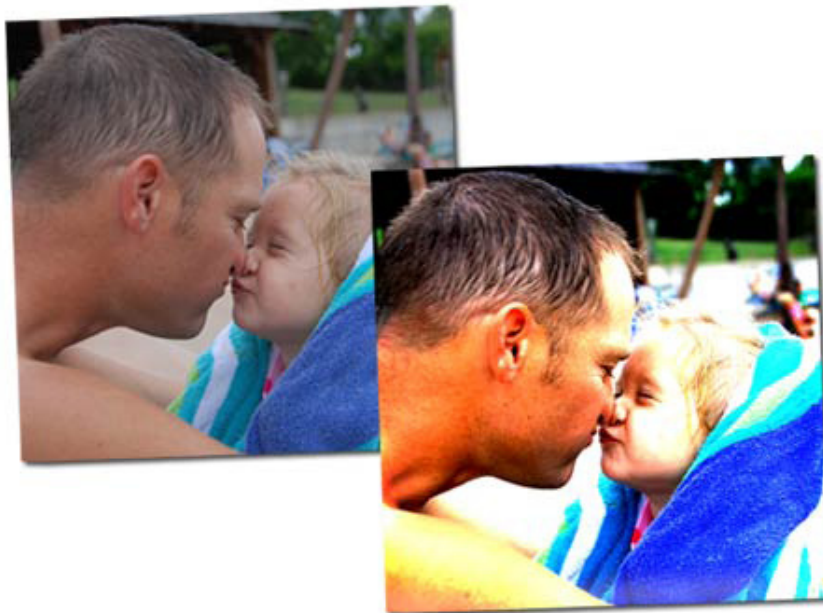


### Step 3) Merge Down

Click on the Layers Panel fly-out menu and choose Merge Down, or use the keyboard shortcut Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E). This will merge the adjustment layer with the photo layer, and now you are ready to move this photo to your page.



What a difference this can make in the feel of a photo! Here are my “before” and “after” shots.



And here are the pages I created with my two “blown out” photos. Although I don’t typically like to use just one photo for an entire page, sometimes one dramatic photo does the best job of telling the story.



Credits: Tutorial and pages by Jenny Binder, [www.HeirloomScrapbooks.com](http://www.HeirloomScrapbooks.com). A Precious Moment page: Paper and embellishments from Doreen Stolz, You Are So Beautiful kit; fonts are Artistamp Medium (precious), Bickham Script Pro (A, moment), and CAC Shishoni Brush for journaling. Grow On Me page: Swirl by Susan Bartolini (ScrapKitchen), Happy Harvest Kit, October 2009 Scrapplers Guide Premier Kit; Font is Century Gothic.



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