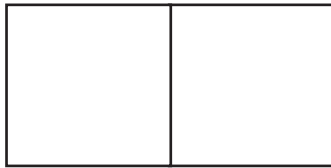


The Mystery Box

In this lab you will be create a special little "something" on one layer, put together a 3-D box on another layer, and make a third layer for your background. Be sure to name layers and lock as needed. We will be using an opacity mask to peek inside of our box.

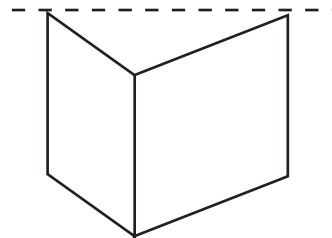
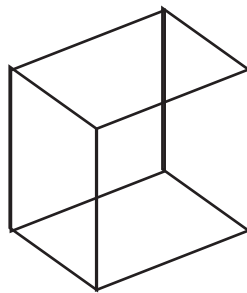
1. Start with creating your box. A simple way to construct this might be to create a square, duplicate it and move to side:



Use the Free Transform Tool to shear one side of the box. First click on a side bounding box and then press the Control/Command Key to move the side. Place a guide at the top of the corner of this side of the box. Now Move the other side with the Free Transform Tool so the top point meets the guide

Duplicate the left side to make the right side and the front to make the back of the box. You may find it easier to use no fill while constructing box.

Use the pen tool to make the top, duplicate this for the bottom. Adjust the size of your box as needed. Now decorate your box filling in the sides with opaque colors and shapes. Important: The box should be on its own layer and you should group the shapes when completed. We will need to target this group layer later.



2. On a new layer create a special prize that will go inside your box. You may modify clip art or create your own; it can be a vector or raster image. Ideas: flowers, a bird, an alien, or maybe your favorite person. This layer should be below the box layer.

3. On a third layer, placed above the box, create a shape that will be used to create the opacity mask. Fill the shape with white. Now with this shape selected, shift-click the grouped box target inside your box layer. Go to Transparency Palette and Make Opacity Mask. At first it will look as though nothing happened but if you select the Mask shape and add black from the Color palette you will slowly see your mystery item appear. To select the Mask shape, you will need to target the "Group Layer" sublayer in your box Layer (NOT the Box layer itself). You will see the box and the Mask shape appear in the Transparency Palette. Inside this palette you can click on the Mask shape or Alt or Option/ click to edit the shape (add black, gradients, change the size or shape).

