

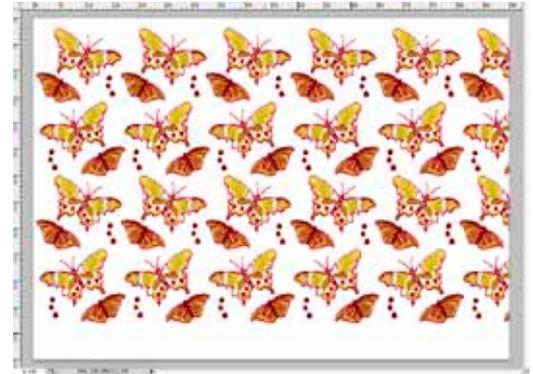
This handout describes the process of taking a hand painted then scanned image and simplifying it down to spot colours for screenprinting. The example used is a repeat pattern that has already been cut-through ready for printing and has only two colours. You can use this technique with placement prints as well as repeats and you may create as many spot colours as are appropriate to your design. Bear in mind you will need to make a separate film and a separate screen for each spot colour

Stage 1: Step 1 Opening your file

Launch Photoshop

Go to: **File > Open > select your image or scan > Open**

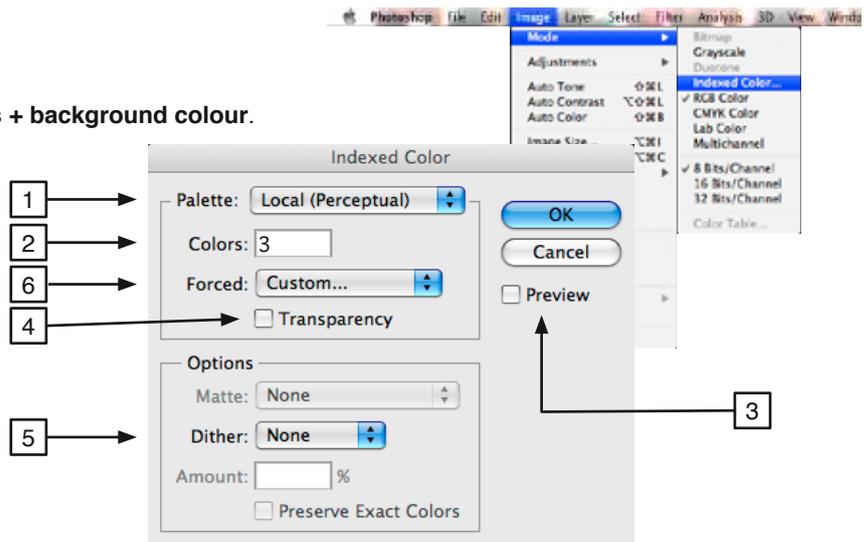
Correct any issues with your image; size, rotation, resolution etc



Stage 1: Step 2 Changing the colour mode

Go to: **Image > Mode > Indexed Color**

1. Set Palette to Local (Perceptual)
2. Set Colors to the number of printing colours + background colour.
3. Make sure the Preview box is unticked
4. Make sure the Transparency box is unticked
5. Set Dither to None
6. Set Forced to Custom

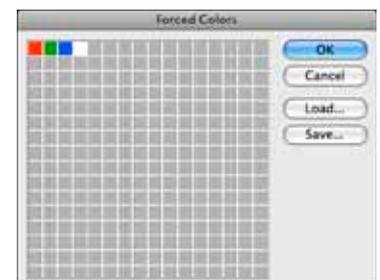


Stage 1 : Step 3 Sampling your colours

A Color Table will appear.

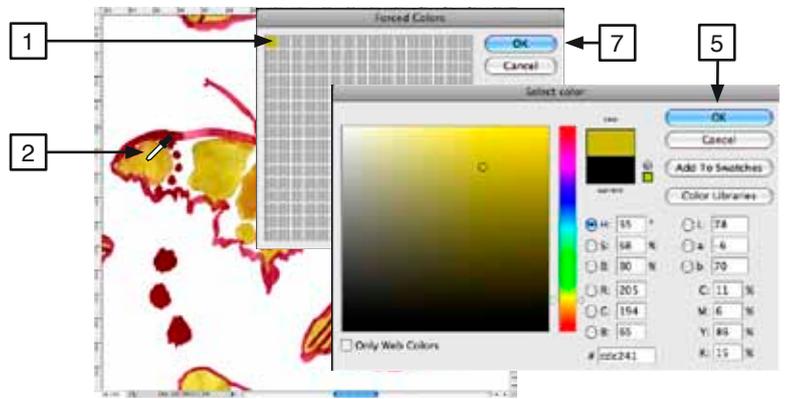
Delete any colours that are already listed in the colour table.

Hold down the Command key \mathcal{H} , click on the colour swatch to delete the colour.

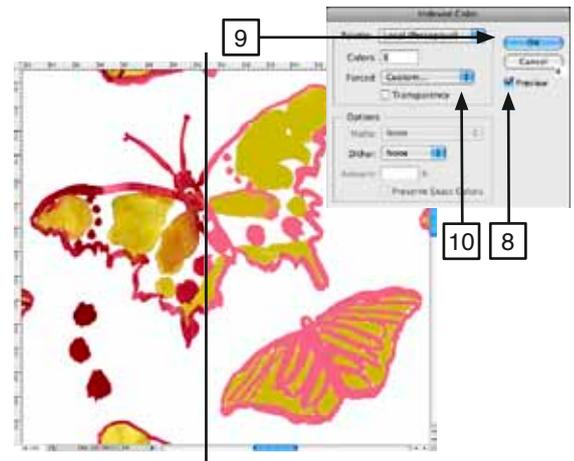


Sample the colours you want to use to the colour table:

1. **Select an empty grey swatch** by clicking on it;
2. **Move the cursor over your image** to sample a colour with the pipette. **Hold down the *ctrl* key on the keyboard and click** on the colour you wish to sample.
3. **From the Menu choose *Point Sample* or *3 by 3 Average***
4. **Click again on the colour you wish to sample.** You will see it is added to the Forced Colors color table
5. **Click OK** to close the Color Picker window.
6. **Repeat steps 1-3 for each colour.** Remember you must include the background colour even if it is white.
7. When you have added all the colours you need, **click OK** to close the Forced Colors window.

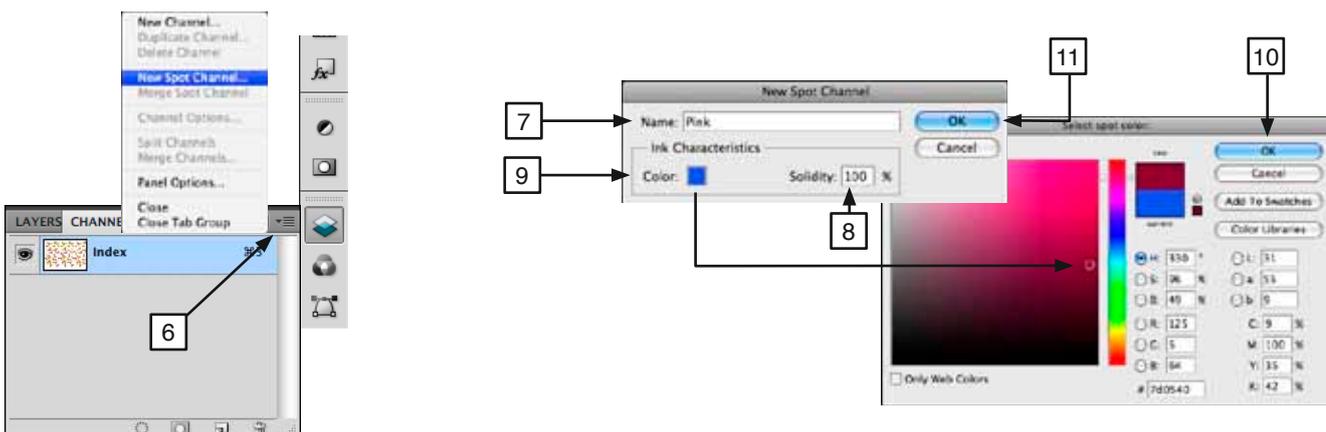
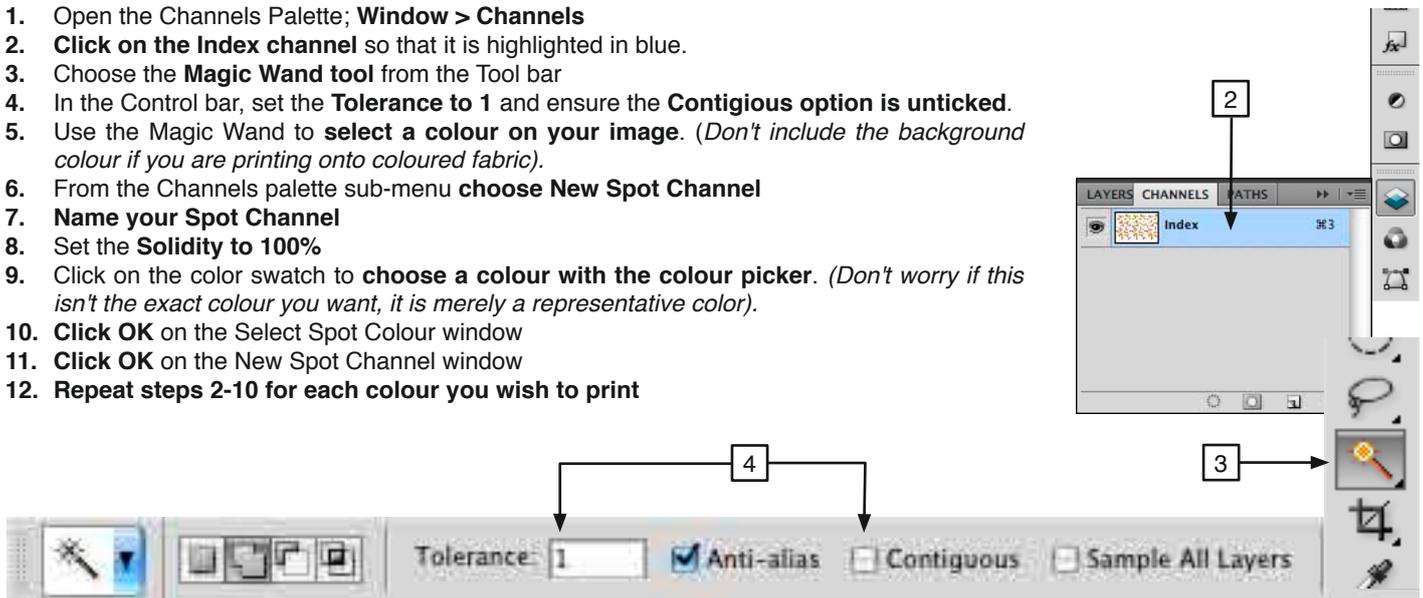


8. **Click the Preview** option to see how your image will look.
9. If you are happy with the result **click OK**
10. If you are not happy with the result, go back to the Forced menu, click on the Custom option and resample the colours in the Color Table until you get the result you are looking for. (Don't worry overly about any odd pixels we can clear up the image later).



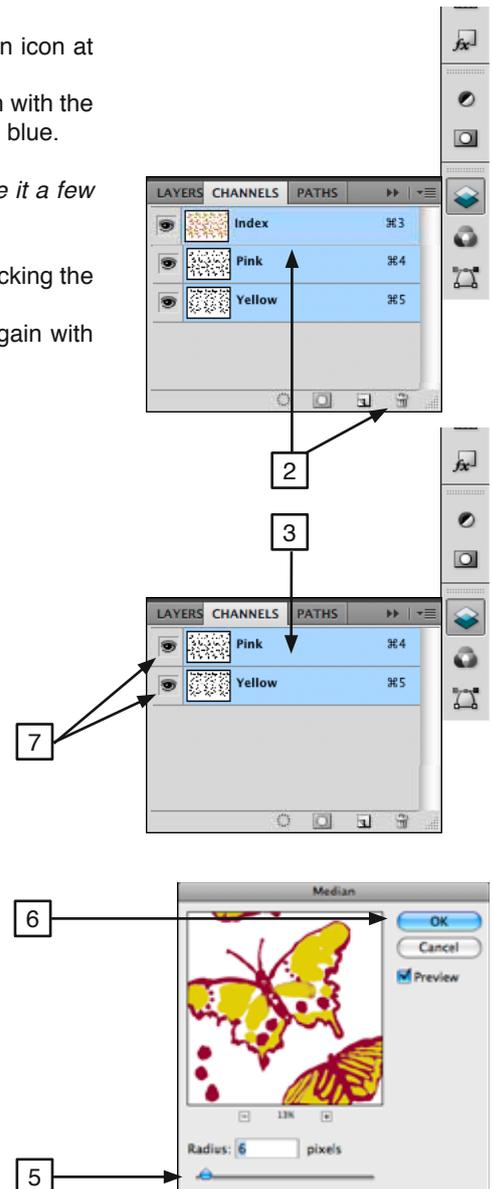
Stage 2 : Creating your Spot Colours

1. Open the Channels Palette; **Window > Channels**
2. **Click on the Index channel** so that it is highlighted in blue.
3. Choose the **Magic Wand tool** from the Tool bar
4. In the Control bar, set the **Tolerance to 1** and ensure the **Contiguous option is unticked**.
5. Use the Magic Wand to **select a colour on your image.** (Don't include the background colour if you are printing onto coloured fabric).
6. From the Channels palette sub-menu **choose New Spot Channel**
7. **Name your Spot Channel**
8. Set the **Solidity to 100%**
9. Click on the color swatch to **choose a colour with the colour picker.** (Don't worry if this isn't the exact colour you want, it is merely a representative color).
10. **Click OK** on the Select Spot Colour window
11. **Click OK** on the New Spot Channel window
12. **Repeat steps 2-10 for each colour you wish to print**



Stage 3 : Cleaning up

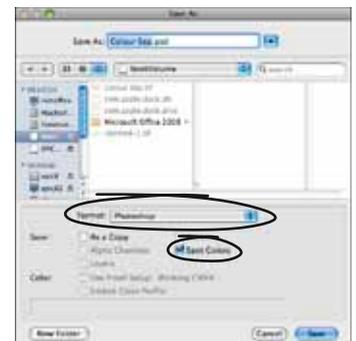
1. Go to the Channels palette.
2. **Delete the Index channel** by clicking on it to highlight it, then click on the dustbin icon at the bottom
3. **Select your remaining Spot Colour channels** by selecting the first channel; then with the Shift key pressed, select the last channel. All of them should now be highlighted in blue.
4. Go to **Filter > Noise > Median**
5. **Adjust the slider** until any stray pixels disappear. (*You should only need to move it a few pixels, but experiment to get the best result*).
6. **Click OK**
7. **Check each Channel** individually by hiding and showing them one at a time by clicking the eye icons on and off.
8. If you are not happy with the results, go back using the History palette and try again with the Median filter.



Stage 4 : Saving your file

Printing from Photoshop

If you are intending to print your file directly from Photoshop you can save it as a Photoshop .psd file. Make certain the Spot Color option is ticked.



Printing from InDesign/Illustrator

If you are intending to print your design through Indesign or Illustrator to enable tiling across several sheets of Folex you will need to save the file as a Photoshop DCS file.

