

Adding a textured background Tutorial
By Maria McCay

I first learned about this technique through a photographer by the name of Craig Kienast. Visit his web site for some amazing images using a similar technique but much more intense effects. [Click here: Images Photography by Craig Kienast](#)

- 1) This technique works well with images that have a plain background that could use some pizzazz.
- 2) Correct and retouch your image as you normally would.
- 3) You can soften the image for a dreamy effect or add a watercolor filter if desired. I generally use the Buzz filter plug in.
- 4) Use an image of a texture that you like. I find that granite or ceramic tiles works well for this technique. Using your imagination, you could use any object with texture...even an ear of corn, for example (but it may be too uniform).
- 5) Crop the texture to same dimension of your original image.
- 6) Shift click on the textured image and drag onto the original image.
- 7) Using the blending modes on the textured layer, experiment with each and see the effect you like. "Overlay" seems to work well. You can then use the opacity to lessen the effect.
- 8) Apply a layer mask using the icon at the bottom of your layers palette on your texture layer.
- 9) If you desire, use a soft brush, and black as your foreground color, bring back detail in your subject according to your taste.
- 10) Add a vignette to enhance the presentation.

The printer of my sample image was:

Dinon Photo
7036 N. 7th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020
602-943-4449
www.dinonphoto.com