

## Photoshop Tutorial - 'Head Slice'

We start with 3 photo : [ugly witch.jpg](#)  
[texture.jpg](#)  
[hands.jpg](#)

### Start

Open a new document.

Open the photo 'ugly witch.jpg'.

Using the 'Quick Selection Tool' select the head and neck.

Use the 'Polygonal Selection Tool' (with the 'Alt' key held down to 'remove from selection') and remove the wizened and wrinkly witch neck.

Click 'Select and Mask' icon at the top.

Set 'Feather' to 0.5 and 'Shift Edge' to -20.

Use the 'Refine Edge Brush' (second brush down) to select her hair.

Import this layer into the main document - position and re-size to suit.

Rename this layer to 'head'.

Copy this layer by pressing 'Ctrl+j' and rename it 'head slices'.

### Guides

Pull 4 guides down from the top ruler and place them roughly even down the face :

Through the hair.

Just above the eyebrows.

Through the nose.

Below the lips.

### Ellipse

Click the 'Add New Layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and move it to the top of the layers stack.

Select the 'elliptical' tool from the left side toolbar and draw a flattish ellipse just above the top guide.

Use the 'bucket fill' from the left side toolbar to fill the ellipse with a colour.

'Alt+click' the ellipse to copy it and drag it down to the next guide.

Repeat this until you have an ellipses on all 4 guides.

Rearrange these four layers into top down order.

Select each ellipse and adjust the width to the head.

Select each one individually and change the colour using the 'bucket fill' tool.

Select all 4 ellipse layers and copy them by dragging then down to the 'create new layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window.

Turn off the top 4 ellipses by clicking their 'eye' icon.

Select the bottom 4 ellipses and the top 'head slices' layer and right click them then select 'merge layers'.

Rename this layer 'head slices'.

### Head Selection

Select the 'head slices' layer.

Select the 'quick selection tool' and select the top ellipse and the top of the head.

Select the 'head' layer and press 'Ctrl+J' to put it onto it's own layer.

Select the 'head slices' layer.

Select the 'quick selection tool' and select the top ellipse, the second ellipse and the head between.

Select the 'head' layer and press 'Ctrl+J' to put it onto it's own layer.

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Select the 'head slices' layer.

Select the 'quick selection tool' and select the second ellipse, the third ellipse and the head between.

Select the 'head' layer and press 'Ctrl+J' to put it onto it's own layer.

Select the 'head slices' layer.

Select the 'quick selection tool' and select the third ellipse, the fourth ellipse and the head between.

Select the 'head' layer and press 'Ctrl+J' to put it onto it's own layer.

Select the 'head slices' layer.

Select the 'quick selection tool' and select the forth ellipse and the head chin area.

Select the 'head' layer and press 'Ctrl+J' to put it onto it's own layer.

Turn off the 'head' and 'head slices' layers by clicking their 'eye' icon.

### Head Chopping

The four 'ellipses' that we turned off earlier now need to be turned back on and inserted between the head slices.

Select the second head slice and the ellipse above it and move them to the left.

Select the forth head slice and the ellipse above it and move them to the right.

### Head Shading

Select the 'second head slice' layer.

Click the 'Add New Layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and attach it to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them.

Select the 'Gradient' tool from the left side toolbar - set to 'black to transparent' and 'linear'

Draw a gradient from the right side of the head slice to about quarter way across the head - reduce 'opacity' to suit.

Do the same with the 'third head slice' on the left.

'Fourth head slice' on the left.

'Fifth head slice' on the right.

Select the top 'ellipse' layer.

Click the 'Add New Layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and attach it to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them .

Select the 'Gradient' tool from the left side toolbar - set to 'black to transparent' and 'linear'.

Draw a gradient from the top of the ellipse to the bottom of the ellipse - reduce 'opacity' to suit.

Do the same with the other 'ellipses'.

### Background

Select 'layer 1' the original layer at the bottom of the layers stack.

Use the 'bucket fill' from the left side toolbar to fill this layer with a dark brown colour.

Open the photo 'texture.jpg' and import it into the main document.

Resize to cover the whole layer then reduce 'opacity' to around 10%.

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the Layers Window and select 'Hue/Saturation' - attach this to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them - adjust sliders to suit.

### Pointing Fingers

Open the photo 'hands.jpg'.

Use the 'magic wand' tool to select the white background.

Select>Invert.

Click 'Select and Mask' - 'Feather' by 0.5 pixel - 'Shift Edge' to -100 and tick 'decontaminate colours'.

Import this layer into the main document and move it to the top of the layer stack.

Resize and position to suit.

Copy this layer by pressing 'Ctrl+j' - then turn this layers off by clicking it's 'eye' icon.

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Select the mask layer of the bottom hand layer and with a black brush remove the unwanted bits (the other hand).

Turn back on the top hand layer - reposition then remove unwanted bits

Select the top layer then :

Layers>Merge Down.

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the Layers Window and select 'Hue/Saturation' - attach this to the layer by 'Alt+clicking' between them - adjust sliders to suit.

### **Finishing**

Click the 'Create new fill or adjustment layer' icon at the bottom of the Layers Window and select 'Levels' - move the 'black' and 'white' pointer in a touch to increase the contrast.

Click the 'Add New Layer' icon at the bottom of the layers window and move it to the top of the Layers Stack.

With a soft black brush at 20% opacity paint in a vignette.

