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ENGL 4376: Document Design

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## Professional Photo Editing with Photoshop

### ODIE THE DOG

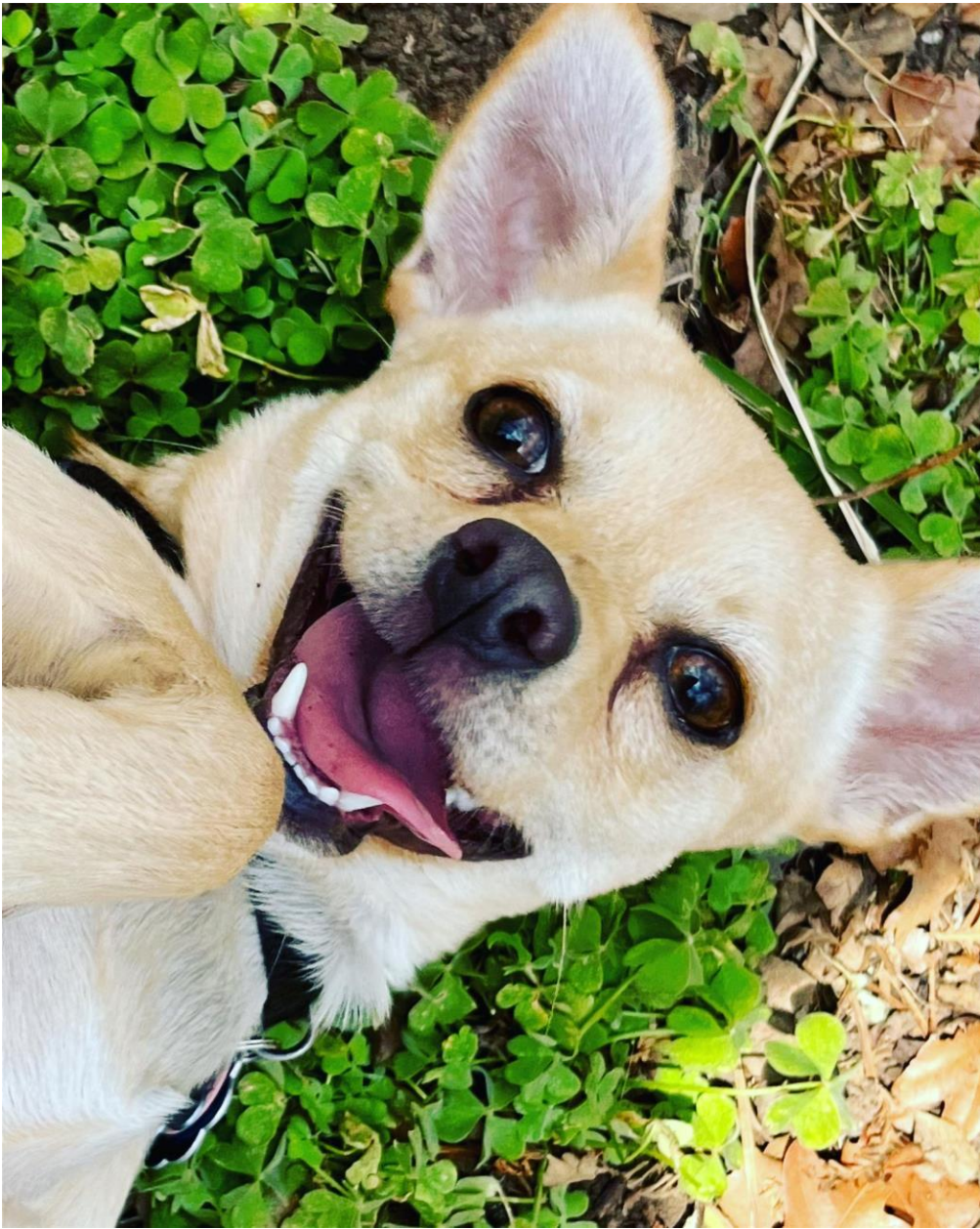
In Odie's picture, my goal was to enhance the natural beauty of the scene by focusing on the clover surrounding him. While the image was already endearing, the dark and dead patches in the clover distracted from its lush, vibrant feel. I wanted the greenery to appear uniform and lively to better complement Odie's presence.

To achieve this, I began by using the pattern stamp tool to replicate the healthy clover pattern over larger dead patches. For more irregular or intricate areas, I relied on the patch tool to blend the textures seamlessly with the surrounding greenery. Finally, for smaller sections, I used the spot healing tool to clean up any remaining inconsistencies and refine the overall look.

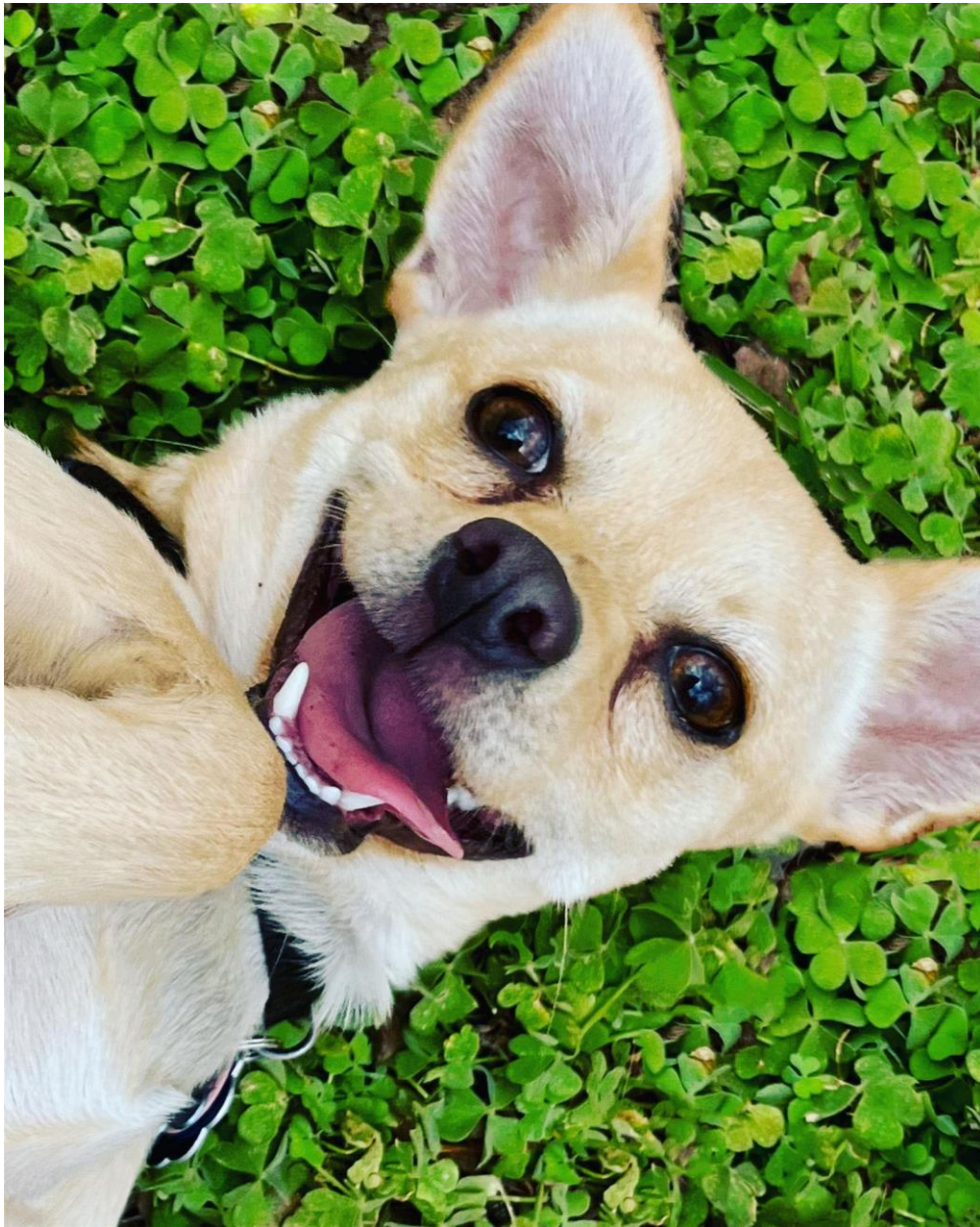
These edits transformed the clover into a rich, cohesive background, making the image feel more polished and visually appealing. The enhancements not only bring focus to Odie but also elevate the natural charm of the scene, turning it into a photo I'm proud to share.

Please note that this example will be on two pages so you can see the full image close up.

BEFORE:



AFTER:



## BEACH DAY

During our trip to Surfside, Texas, I captured a stormy beach scene that was both moody and captivating. However, the image was cluttered with distracting elements like posts, a porta-potty, scattered chairs, and dark patches of sand that detracted from the natural beauty. To bring out the essence of the scene, I carefully edited these elements out while leaving the sign and house intact, as they added character and visual interest to the composition.

Initially, I considered repositioning the seagull to join its companions near the dark cloud. However, its current placement and wing span gave it a triumphant, almost symbolic presence that enhanced the overall mood of the image. I decided it was perfect as it was.

For the edits, I utilized the remove feature to eliminate unwanted objects seamlessly and the patch tool to blend lighter sand over the dark spots. These adjustments transformed the photo into a cleaner, more evocative representation of the stormy beach's atmosphere.

BEFORE:



AFTER:



## CAKE PLEASE

The Jaws birthday picture has always been a favorite of mine, but it had one detail that consistently distracted from its charm—stray strands of hair that drew attention away from the overall composition. These stray hairs made the image feel less polished and kept me from using it as a social media avatar, despite its otherwise fun and memorable qualities.

To address this, I used the lasso tool to carefully select the problematic strands of hair. Once highlighted, I applied the Fill > Content-Aware feature, which seamlessly replaced the strands with textures that matched the surrounding areas. The result was a natural and clean image that retained the original essence of the photograph while eliminating the distraction.

This small but impactful adjustment transformed the photo into something I could confidently use for a social avatar or share in other contexts. The edit highlights how subtle refinements can elevate the usability of a favorite image without compromising its authenticity. Now, the focus stays on the moment captured in the picture, rather than being drawn to an unintended detail.

BEFORE:



AFTER:



## FREE PLAY

The Free Play birthday picture needed some touch-ups. The main challenge was a lighting issue that created a shiny spot on my husband's head and some flyaway hairs that caught the light. Additionally, a little girl in the background was a bit distracting, though removing her proved to be a fun editing challenge.

To address the shiny spot, I started with the healing brush tool to remove the glare. While effective, it left some noticeable edges around the area, so I switched to the clone stamp tool to carefully blend the spot into the surrounding texture. This combination helped create a more natural look and eliminated the distraction.

For my flyaway hair, I used the spot healing tool, which quickly cleaned up the stray strands without affecting the rest of the image. As for the little girl in the background, I experimented with the Content-Aware Fill feature. Unfortunately, the background's intricate details made it difficult to achieve a seamless result, but I enjoyed the process of exploring different techniques.

While I couldn't completely remove all distractions, the edits I made significantly improved the overall composition of the photo. It's now a polished keepsake that captures the fun and spirit of the day while letting the key subjects take center stage.



BEFORE:



AFTER:

