

# Photoshop Elements – Selection Tools and Layers

## Combining Images

Start with two images. We will practice by adding clouds from the farm scene to the alpine meadow sky.



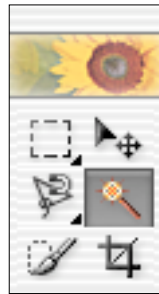
Alpine Meadow



Farm Clouds

Make sure that both images are the same size and resolution. Open each image. Go to the **Image** menu and select **Image Size**. For help changing the size and resolution, see the handout – **Image Size and Resolution**.

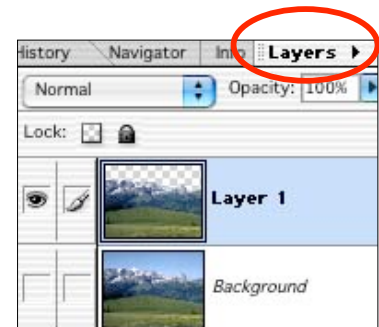
1. Use the **Magic Wand Tool**



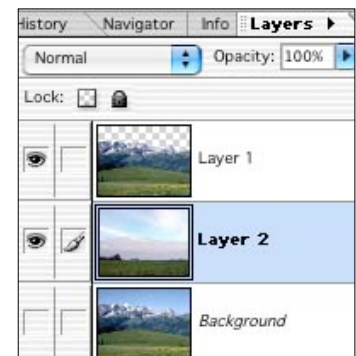
and the **Selection Brush Tool**  to select the sky in the Alpine Meadow image.

2. Go to the **Select** menu and choose **Inverse** to select the meadow and mountains.
3. Go to the **Edit** menu and choose **Copy**; then **Paste**.

4. Open the **Layers Palette** and drag it onto your screen. Note that you now have 2 layers. Layer 1 is transparent where the sky was.
5. Now go to the Farm Clouds image. Use **Window** menu to switch between open images.



6. Go to the **Select** menu and choose **All**. Choose **Copy** from the **Edit** menu.
7. Switch to the Alpine Meadow image. Go to the **Edit** menu; **Paste**.
8. Check the **Layers Palette**. You should see 3 layers. You can **reorder** the layers by dragging the thumbnail pictures up and down. Position the farm cloud layer (2) below the meadow layer (1) that has the transparent sky. The original background layer should stay at the bottom.



9. To fine-tune the position of the clouds, click on the farm layer (2).



Use the **Move Tool** to drag the image up or down in your main document window (point to the sky).

10. Finally, go to the **Layers** menu and choose **Flatten Image**. **Save**.