

Simple frames for photos.

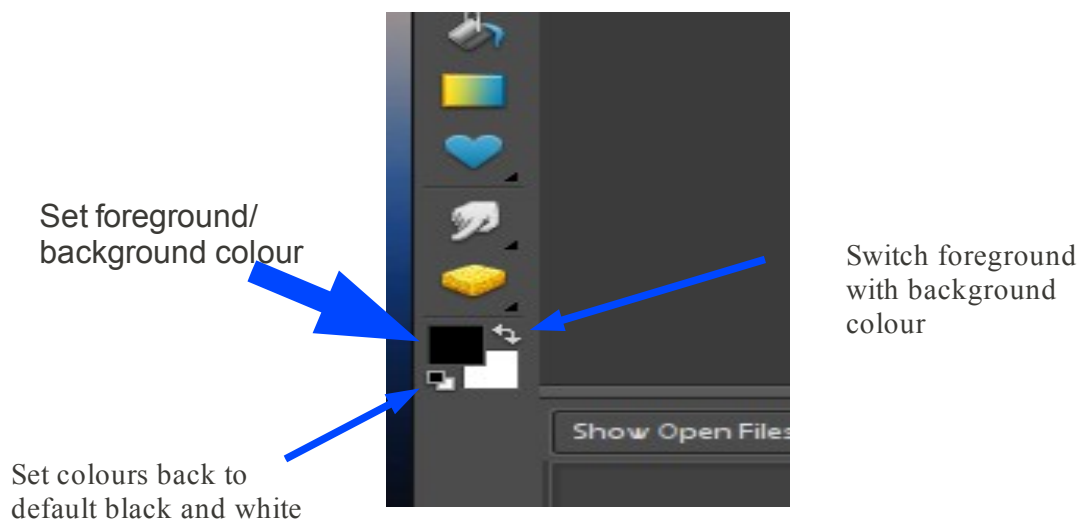
Sometimes it helps an image if there is a boundary around the image similar to the traditional white border you often get when pictures are printed. In Photoshop Elements (PSE) you can experiment with a number of types of boundary to see what you think works best with your image before committing to saving or printing. As in many things with PSE there are a number of ways to accomplishing the same outcome so these notes give you a couple of options.

One keystroke which you may find useful is the short cut to deleting the previous actions is holding down Control (Marked “Ctrl” on the keyboard) while you type the letter “z”. Often abbreviated to “Ctrl+z”. This works to undo most actions in PSE!

Simple White border.

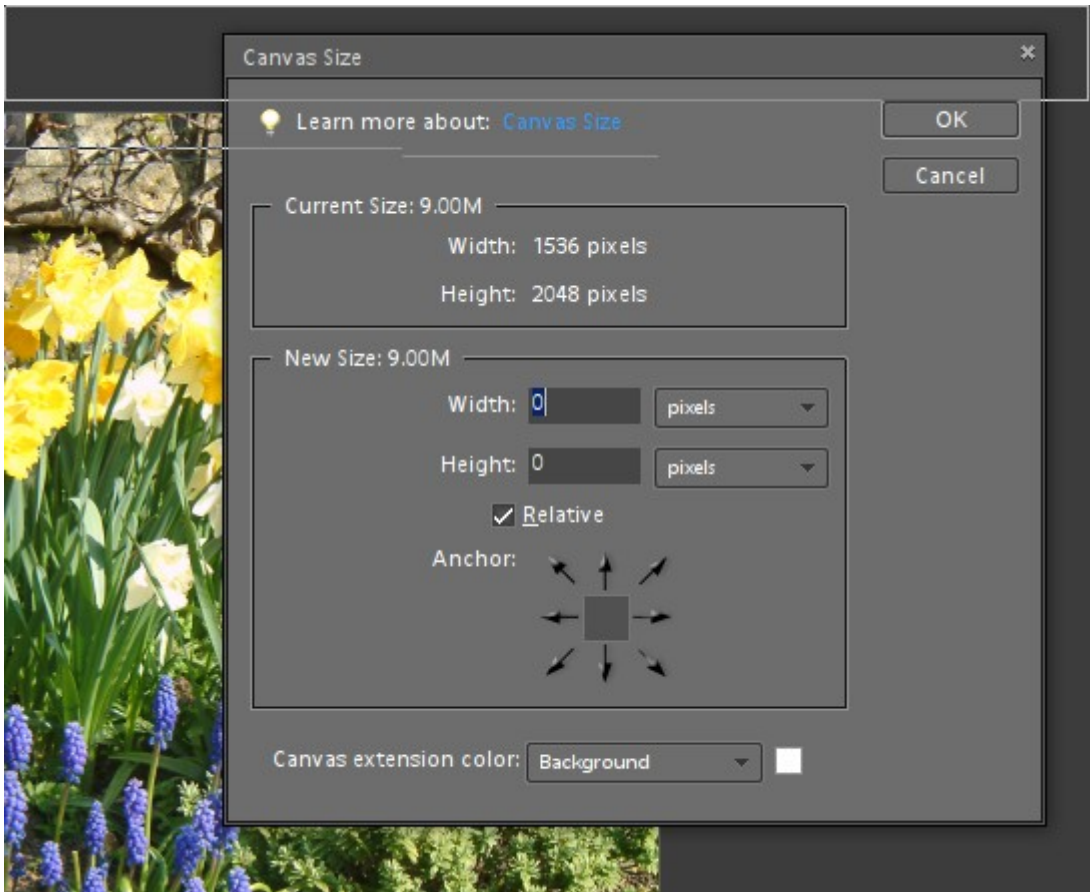
Assuming you have finished any editing of your image in the Full Edit mode of PSE.

Check the Set Foreground/ Background colours (bottom-most tools in the vertical list of tools; these should show as a black and white square). If they are not click on the very small b&w squares on lowest left to reset. Make the background square white by using the double headed arrow to switch between b&w or w&b



Screen shot of bottom of PSE tool bar

On top tool bar select the drop down menu for **Image > Canvas Size**. We are going to make the canvas size a bit bigger than the images size to give a white boundary outside the image. The Canvas Size dialogue box shows, for reference, in the top box current image size. At the bottom it should read Canvas Extension Colour (Background) with a white square.



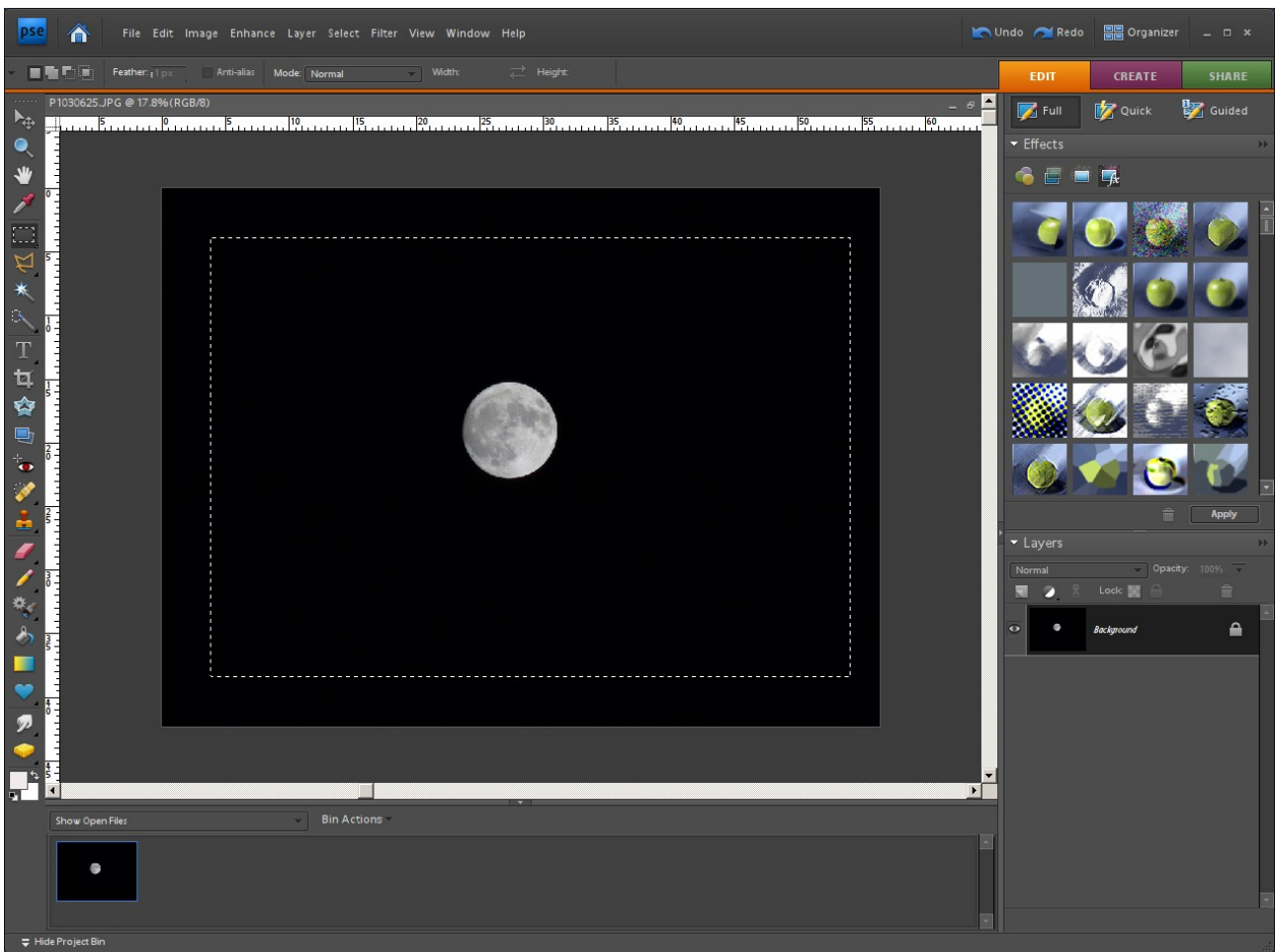
Screenshot of dialogue box to alter Canvas Size

Click in the box that says **Relative** to get a tick. Alter the values in the New Image size. You have the choice of units (pixels, cms, inches etc). Choose, say to 2cm in height and width boxes. Click OK and your new boundary appears.

To get a **black boundary** switch the Set Foreground/ Background colours so black is the background colour. Change the value in the New Image Size boxes to give a narrower or broader line.

To use a different colour boundary click on the background square in the Set Foreground/ Background colours to bring up the Select Background colour pallet, choose your colour and click OK. Proceed as above.

Inserting a frame line inside the image



Screenshot showing the “marching ants” laid down by the Rectangular Marquee Tool

Use the Rectangular Marquee tool (5th on down in tool bar on the above screen shot) to draw a rectangle where you want your internal frame. Use Ctrl +Z if you don't like your first selection!.

As above check the Set Foreground/ Background colours are set to white (or the colour of your choice).

Edit > Stroke and this brings a dialogue box asking for width (try 5 pixels); colour should be white; location (I have used outside here) and then leave the rest of the defaults. Click OK, wait a moment while it is drawn. Click Ctrl + D to stop the marching ants.

This can look stylish!