

# Beautiful Matte Photos

## Beautiful Matte Photos

by Nannette Dalton

It's funny how your tastes can change when it comes to photography. I have always worked towards getting the most clear crisp photos I possibly could, but I have noticed a new popular treatment to photos that my eye keeps being drawn to—photos with a gauzy matte finish.

The gauzy matte finish is an effect that has become very popular in portrait photography over the last year or two. My friend Jenifer Juris is a master at creating beautiful photos with this look. Check out [her gallery](#) for some wonderful examples.

If you like this look too, you'll be happily amazed at how easy it is to achieve.

### Step One: Open and Duplicate a Photo

- Open a photo (File > Open).
- In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate. Click OK. (Photoshop: Choose Image > Duplicate.)
- Close the original photo.

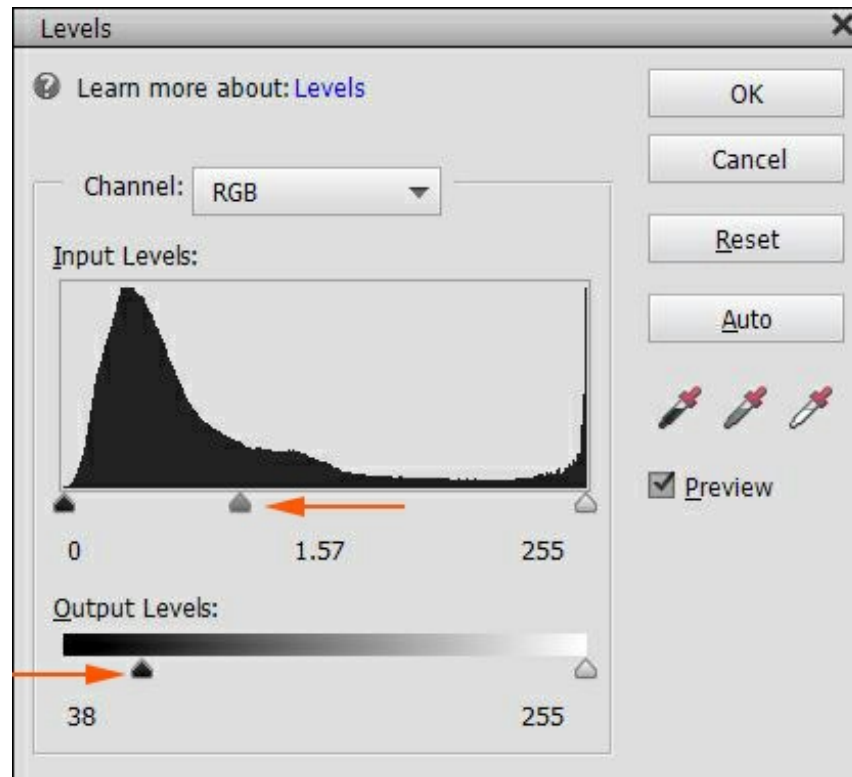
Here is the photo I will be working with.



### Step Two: Apply a Matte Effect

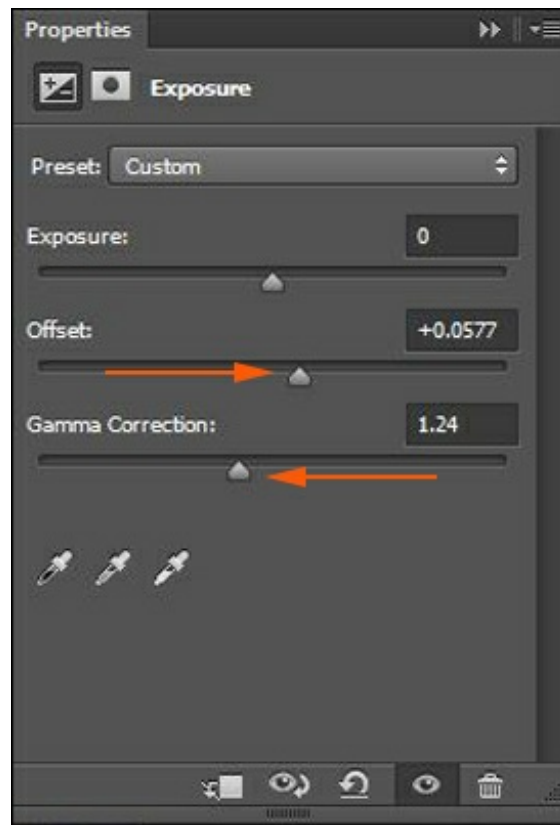
Photoshop Elements Only:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Levels.
- In the dialog box, click OK.
- In the Levels panel, click and drag the black Output Levels slider to the right till it looks good to you.
- If you want to lighten the photo a bit, which is also part of this look, move the middle Input Levels slider to the left.
- Press Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E) to merge layers.



#### Adobe Photoshop Only:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Exposure. Click OK.
- In the Properties or Adjustment panel, drag the Offset slider to the right till it looks good to you.
- If you want to lighten the photo a bit, which is also part of this look, move the Gamma Correction slider to the left a bit.
- Press Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E) to merge the layer.

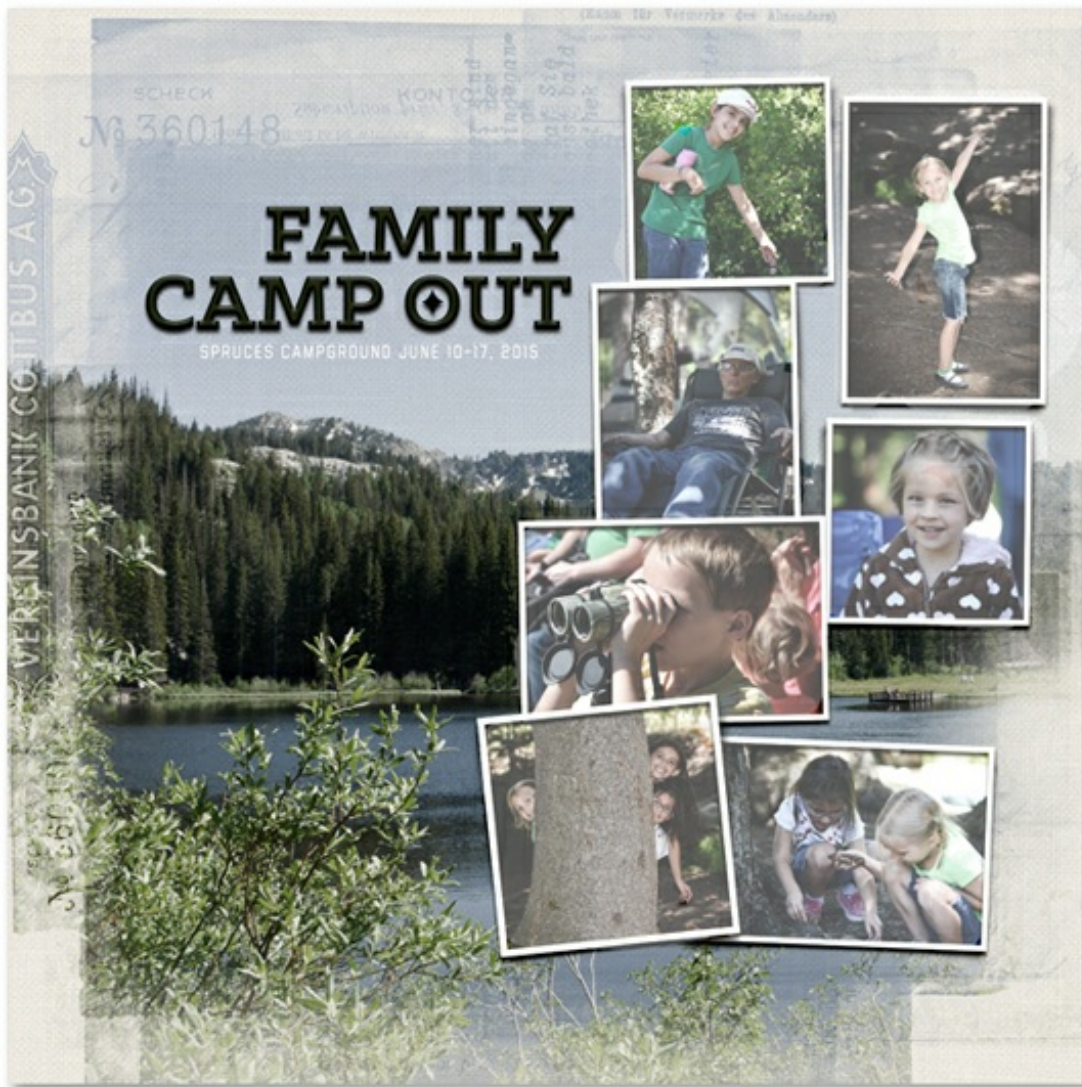


### Step Three: Desaturate the Photo (Optional)

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Hue/Saturation. Click OK.
- In the Hue/Saturation panel, slide the Saturation slider to the left a bit to desaturate the colors in the photo.
- Press Ctrl E (Mac: Cmd E) to merge the layer.
- Save the new photo (File > Save As) as a .jpeg file with a unique name.



You can see how this effect looks on a layout. I like the bright gauzy effect it gives it.



**Credits:**

**Page & Photos:** Nannette Dalton

**Kits:** [Classic Linens Deck Chair](#) by Susie Roberts, [Photo Masks Vol 4](#) by Susie Roberts

**Fonts:** Klinik Slab, Liberator



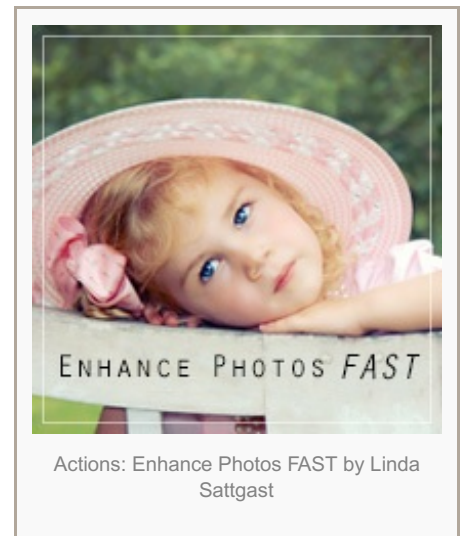
Click here to download the  
**Digi Scrap Tutorial**  
PDF Transcript for this lesson

Interested in digging in deeper?

## Actions: Enhance Photos FAST! Class

by Linda Sattgast

Give your photos an instant makeover—even if you know nothing about photo editing.



## Making New Photos Look Old Video Tutorial

by Jan Walker

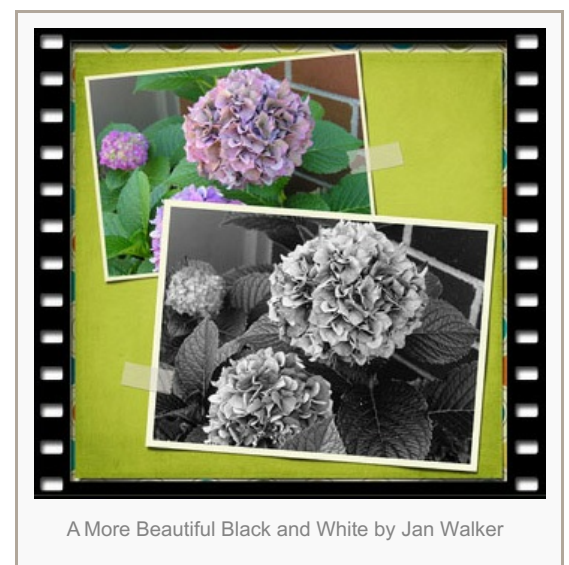
Take a photo shot yesterday and age it 30 years in a few simple steps. We'll use filters and adjustment layers to accomplish this popular look.



## A More Beautiful Black and White Video tutorial

by Jan Walker

Learn to make the most of the tools available to convert your color images from basic to a more beautiful black and white!



---

Author: Nannette Dalton | [Contact Us](#)

All comments are moderated.

Please allow time for your comment to appear.

