## Christmas Ornament

digitalscrapper.com/video/christmas-ornament.html

#### By Linda Sattgast

At our house, decorating the Christmas tree is a festive family tradition. Shiny or decorated bulbs constitute a significant percentage of our Christmas ornaments, so I thought I would share a tutorial on how to create a digital bulb using a favorite photo.



### Make a Selection On your Photo

- Open the photo you want to turn into a Christmas ornament. (File > Open) The best kind of photo is one that has some space around the main subject.
- Get the Elliptical Marquee tool. In Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Feather should be zero and Aspect Normal. (Photoshop: Style should be Normal.)
- Click in the center of your subject's face (or whichever area you want the least amount of distortion. Then add Alt Shift (Mac: Opt Shift) and drag outward to create a selection outline. Don't allow the selection to go outside the bounds of your document. When you're satisfied, let go of the mouse, and then let go of the keyboard keys.
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to copy the selection to a new layer.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the Background layer to hide it.

# Distort with the Spherize Filter

- Ctrl click (Mac: Cmd click) on the thumbnail of the new layer to bring back the selection outline.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Distort > Spherize.
- When the dialog box comes up, adjust the percentage of the preview image until you can see the entire ornament in the Preview window.
- Adjust the Amount slider. Most of the time you'll need 100%. The Mode should be Normal. Click OK. Your photo will appear slightly rounded.
- If you want a rounder effect, you can run the filter again.

## Optional: Add a Reflection

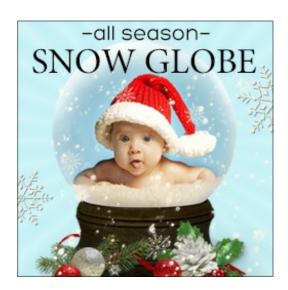
- In the Menu Bar, choose Filter > Render > Lens Flare.
- When the Lens Flare dialog box comes up, choose "105mm Prime" and click on your photo preview where you want the cross-hair, or the brightest center of the flare, to be. Adjust the slider to the brightness you want and click okay.
- Press Ctrl D (Mac: Cmd D) to deselect.

# Add the Ornament Hanger

An ornament hanger is the finishing touch you need to make your Christmas ornament look authentic.

Click here to download the ornament hanger

- Open the ornament hanger, and with the Move tool, click and drag it onto your photo.
- Move the Christmas ornament and hanger until they are lined up.
- If you need to resize either the photo or the hanger, press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get Transform options. Click and drag from a corner handle to resize. (Photoshop: press Shift as you click and drag from a corner handle.) When you're satisfied, double click inside the outline to commit the change.



#### Learn More

If you enjoyed this tutorial, you'll love our All Season Snow Globe mini class! It contains a glass globe template that you can use on your Christmas ornaments to make them even more shiny.

Find out more about the Snow Globe class.

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