

# Fading Paper

 [digitalscrapper.com/blog/qt-fading-paper](http://digitalscrapper.com/blog/qt-fading-paper)

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Do you wish you had a background with some pizzazz? Use the faded paper technique to create a background that pops.

For this tutorial you will need:

- a solid background paper
- a patterned background paper

The two papers you use must be complimentary to each other in color and tone for results of this tutorial to look good. Here are a few examples of paper combinations that would work well:



### Step One: Prepare the Workspace

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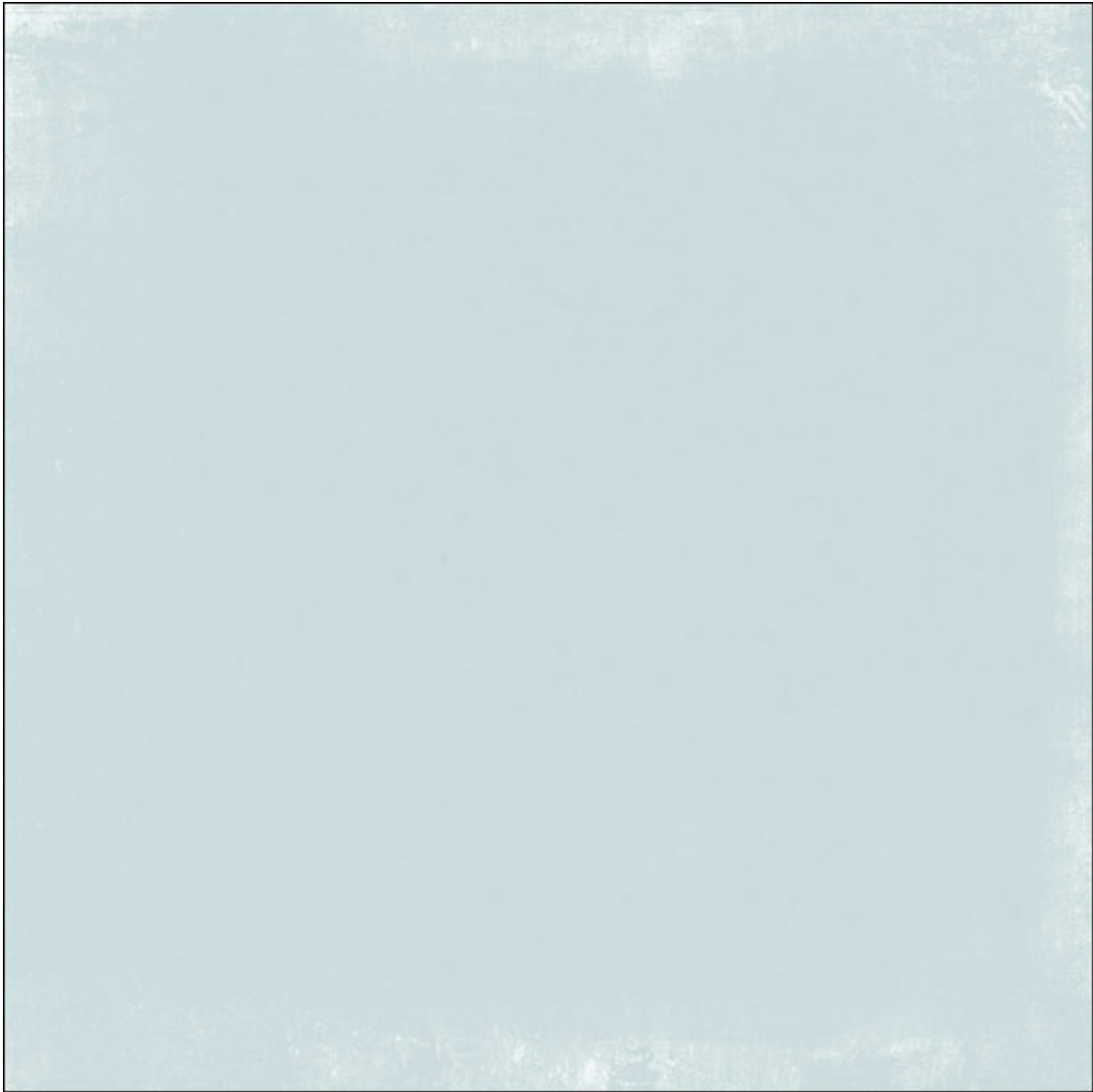
- Create a new 12×12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background. (PS: Choose File > New.)
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

### Step Two: Add Solid Paper

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- Open a solid background paper (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- Hold down the Shift key and click and drag the solid paper onto the new document.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while adding something to a document ensures that the item will land in the center of the document.



### **Step Three: Add Patterned Paper**

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- Open a patterned background paper.
- Hold down the Shift key and click and drag the patterned paper onto the document.



#### Step Four: Add Layer Mask

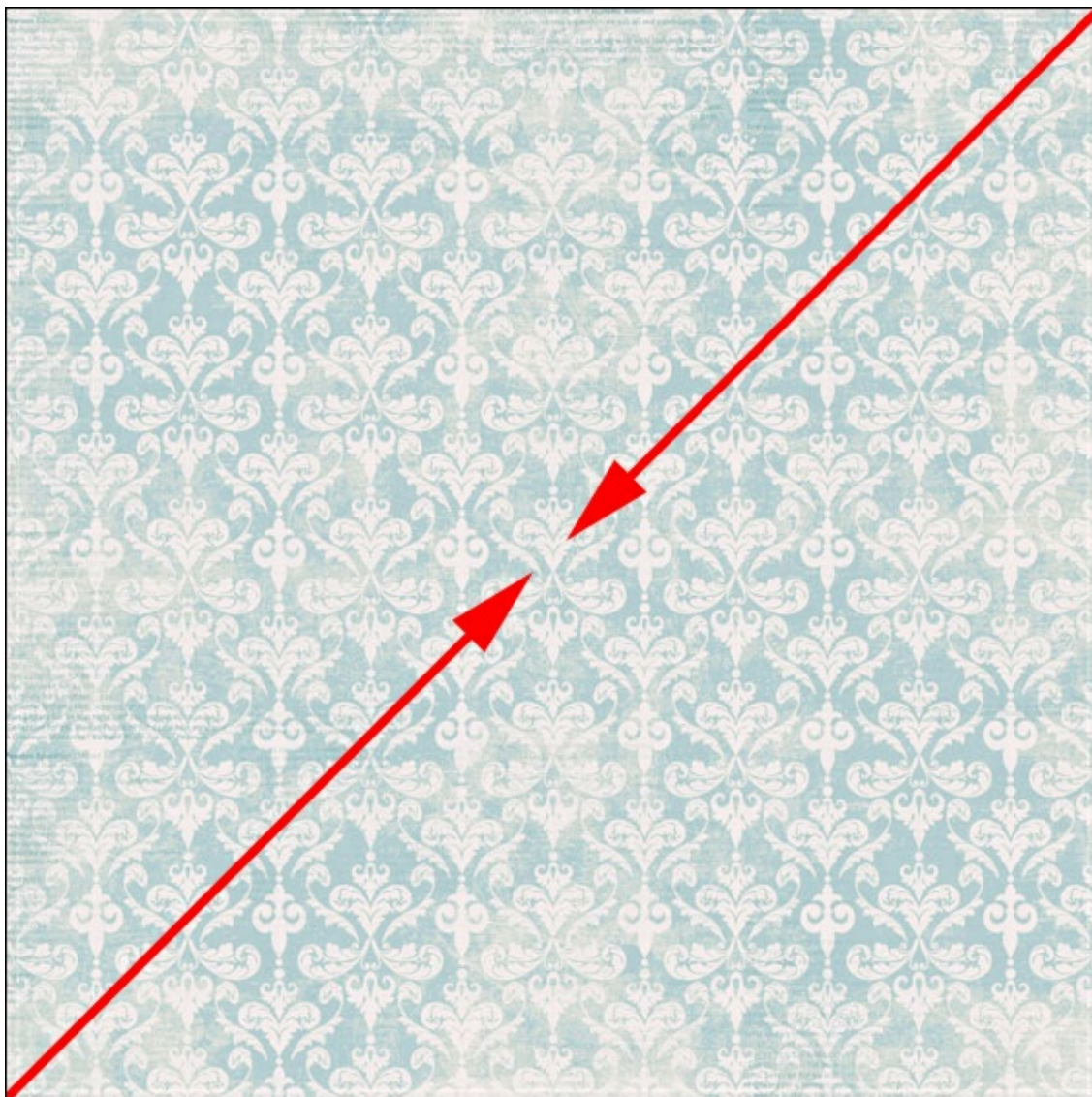
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- In the Layers panel, make sure the patterned paper layer is the active layer.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Add Layer Mask icon.
- Black should be the Foreground Color Chip. If it isn't, press the letter X.
- Get the Gradient tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Gradient picker and choose Foreground to Transparent.

Note: If you do not see Foreground to Transparent, open the menu and choose Default. Then, open the flyout menu and choose Large List. (PS: Open the menu and choose Reset Gradients. Click OK. Then, open the flyout menu and choose Large List.)

- In the Tool Options, set the Mode to Normal and the Opacity to 100%. Check Dither and Transparency but uncheck Reverse. Click on the Linear Gradient icon.
- In the Layers panel, make sure the Layer Mask is activated. If you are not sure, click on it.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag from the top right corner to about the center of the document. (See the screenshot below.)

- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag from the bottom left corner to about the center of the document.
- Repeat the last two steps if you want the solid paper to shine through stronger.







Here is how I finished my page after using the Faded Paper technique:



Credits:

Page: Jenifer Juris

Photo: Jodi Finley (Sister)

Kit: Soul Searching by Kristin Cronin-Barrow

Fonts: Gabriella Two Bold, Bebas Neue