Topic: Photoshop Photomerge: Putting the Pieces Back Together

How Do I Get My Oversized Art Digital?

At some point in your work you may choose to do something by hand and larger than 8.5 x 11, but run into a bit of a snag when it comes to getting a digital version of your work. Traditionally this work would be photographed but depending on equipment and photo skills you may not get the best results. The answer? Photomerge.

Photomerge is a process built into photoshop that can take multiple images and stitch them "back" together. It works really well with hand illustrations like the 18" x 24" poster I drew while in grad school, but also works to create panoramas from photos you take.

Step 1
Scan the artwork in sections as in above.
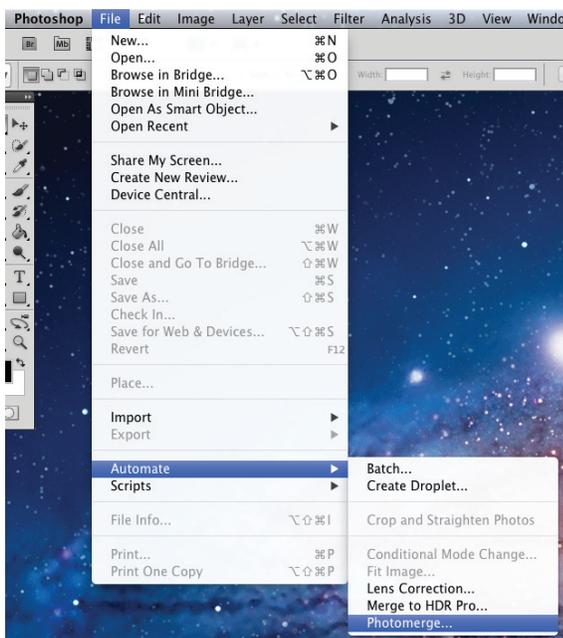
Step 2
In Photoshop go to File > Automate > Photomerge

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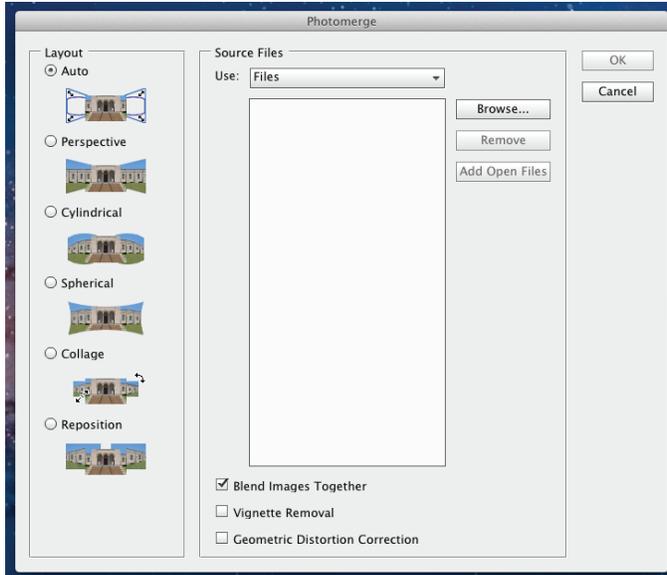
Step 3
Browse for the scans you created. Once you have them hit OK.
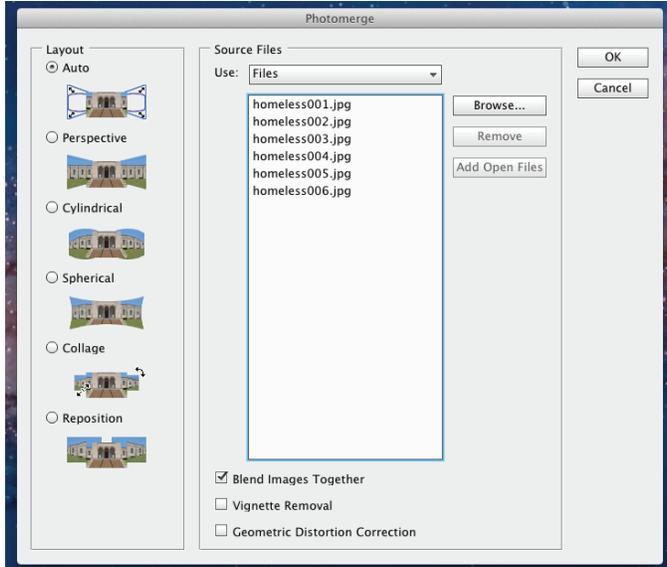
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Step 4

Once the image is merged you will want to flatten the layers (Layer > Flatten Image) it makes it easier to work with.

Step 5

You will most likely need to crop down the image a bit and in this case I also use the Clone tool to fix a bit of extra white in the bottom left corner. After that I suggest saving at 300dpi as well as 72dpi versions for print and web.