

SOFTEN EDGES

One way of softening the look of digital photographs is to soften the edges of the image on the paper. The digital medium is so exact and the resulting look is very hard. Softening the edges takes an image closer to the look of darkroom prints made with a filed-out negative carrier or takes a photo closer to the appearance of lithographs or etchings made in the Printmaking studio. This process also adds a bit of emotive quality.

<u>select</u>	the BACKGROUND LAYER		
<u>set</u>	the BACKGROUND COLOR to white	D	
<u>select</u>	all	[CMD] A	
<u>modify</u>	the border size	SELECT > MODIFY > BORDER > 4 pixels	
<u>feather</u>	the selection	SELECT > MODIFY > FEATHER > 4 pixels	[SHFT] F6
<u>delete</u>	the background	DELETE > [BACKGROUND] > [WHITE]	
<u>double-check</u>	the look	hide the selection edges	[CMD] H
<u>add</u>	some distortion	FILTER > NOISE > ADD NOISE > 16% gaussian	
<u>save</u>	the file	[CMD] S	
<u>print</u>	the file	[CMD] P	or use ImagePrint...

notes:

for small prints (3 x 4") use 2 pixels for Modify and Feather values

for larger prints (10 x 15") use 8 ~ 16 pixels for Modify and Feather values

$$8 \text{ pixels} / 300 \text{ ppi} = 0.02667 = 25/1000\text{th of an inch}$$