



Start Image



Click on the Background layer and drag over the New Layer Icon at the bottom of the Layer palette (second one from the RHS in order to make a duplicate layer. Turn off the Background layer.

This is a good workflow process on any image because the original is always held safe.



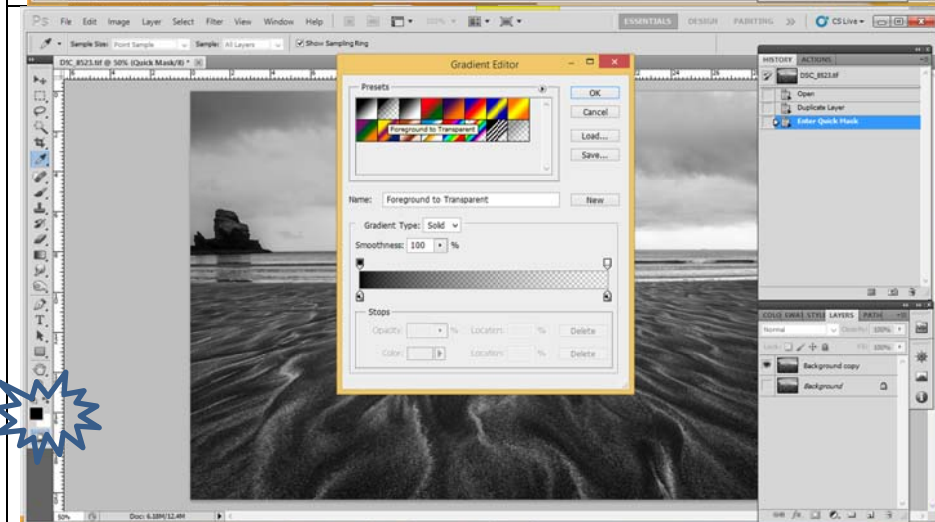
Click on the Quick Mask Icon at the bottom of the Toolbox. See screengrab. It is right at the bottom.



With the Quick Mask now active, click on the Gradient Tool.



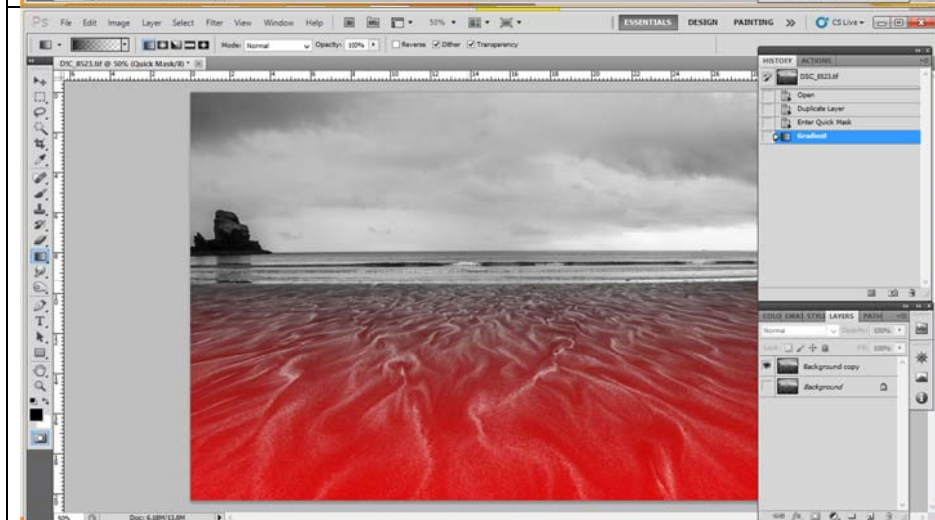
You need a solid to transparent gradient. Click the Gradient Editor icon to make sure it is set to Foreground to Transparent, as shown below,



Make sure that the Gradient Editor is set for Foreground to Transparent.

Click OK. The Gradient Editor will disappear.

Now press D on the keyboard to make sure that Black is set for the foreground colour and white is set for the background, as shown here.



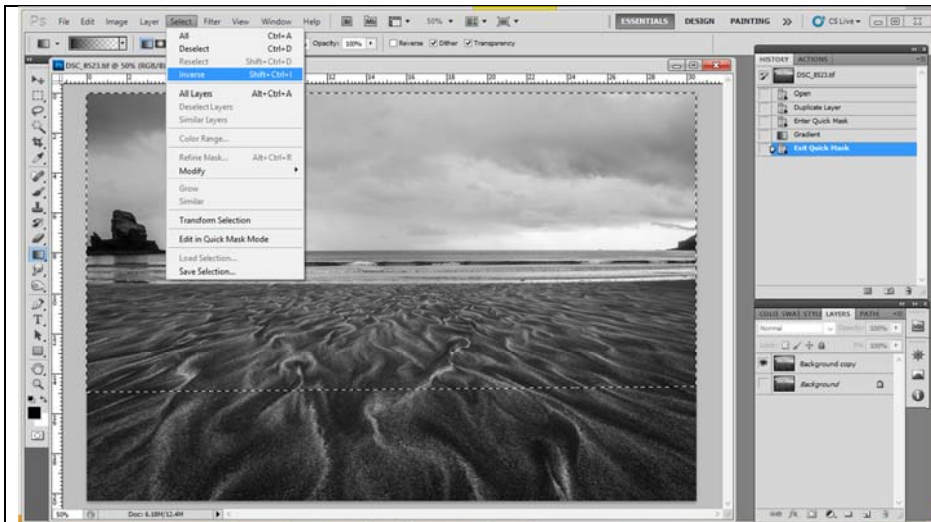
Dealing with the foreground of the image, you now need to click at the bottom of the image and drag upwards, in this case to the start of the water line.

The mask then applied shows up as red, as shown in this screengrab.

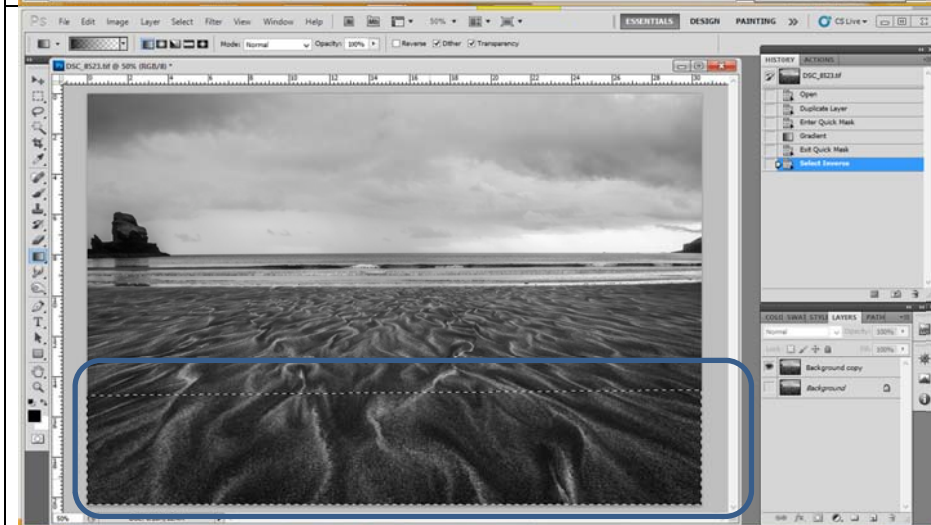


Now click the Quick Mask icon to come out of it back to normal.

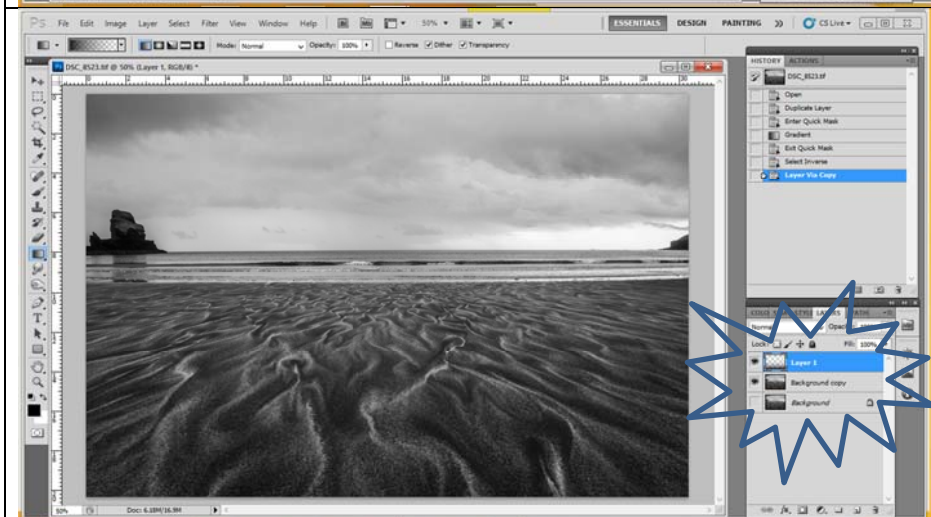
You should now see marching ants. On Photoshop CC the area defined by the Quick Mask selection is displayed, namely a rectangle at the bottom. On Photoshop 5 (that which I am using here) and the versions prior it is the area outside of the mask that is surrounded by the selection, as shown here.



On versions other than CC, you will need to inverse the selection by clicking on Select > Inverse as shown hereor just use the keyboard shortcut of Ctrl+Shift+i



Your selection should now be a rectangle at the bottom, as here.



Now go to Edit > Copy > Edit > Paste or simply use the keyboard shortcut of Ctrl+J

This should now give you a new layer of the gradient selected by the above process, as shown here



Now the magic begins by using a Blending option. At the top of the layers palate the Blending mode is set to "Normal" by default. Click on the drop-down box and change this to "Multiply"

The area at the bottom of the image should now be noticeably darker but seamlessly and without any of the problems you can get with some of the other methods of burning/dodging large areas of an image.



With Layer 1 still active adjust the opacity of the layer to suit your eye by using the slider highlighted here. You need only concern yourself with the shadow, darker areas.

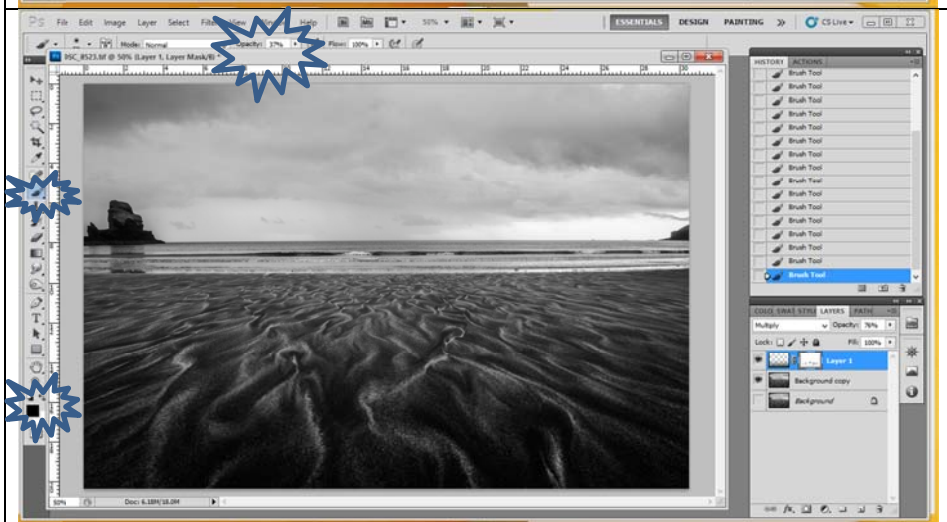
The lighter areas will be treated separately in the next sequence of this workflow.



Now add a Layer Mask to Layer 1 by clicking the icon at the bottom, shown here.



You should now see a Layer Mask sitting alongside Layer 1 as shown here



Click on the Layer Mask. Select the Brush Tool, making sure that you have a sure you have a suitably sized, soft edge brush.

Reduce the opacity of the brush, in this case say to around 15%.

Gradually and slowly paint on the mask over the lighter areas of the sand in the foreground in order to bring back some of the lighter areas, making sure that the foreground colour still remains as black.



Having dealt with the foreground area to your satisfaction you can, if you so wish, gradually darken some of the sky by using the same technique as described above, except in this case the gradient fill should start at the very top on the image and you drag down with the mouse using the Quick Mask/Gradient method. Make sure that you create this mask whilst on the Background Copy Layer.

See this screengrab.

JOB DONE ...ENJOY!!