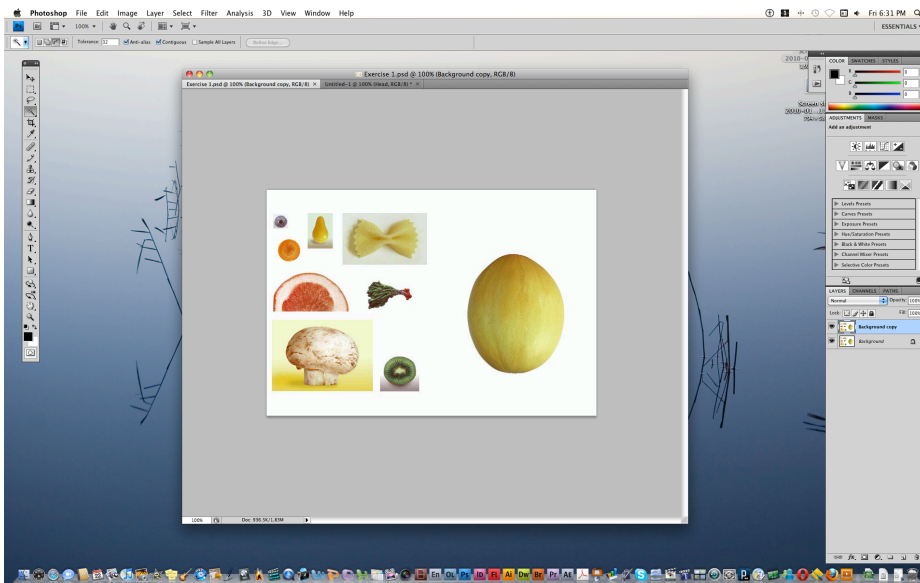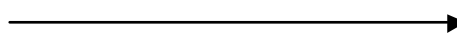# Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

Working with Selections in Photoshop CS3 and CS4

In this tutorial you will learn how to

- Create a new document
- Set document dimensions and properties
- Make selections using the
1. Magic wand,
2. Magnetic lasso,
3. Pen Tool, (Paths) *this is the industry standard method for extracting images*,
4. Marquee Tools
5. Extract Tool (CS3)

- Copy, paste and delete selections
- Edit the selection using *refine edge* and *transform*
- Use layer hierarchy to adjust visibility using the layers palette.
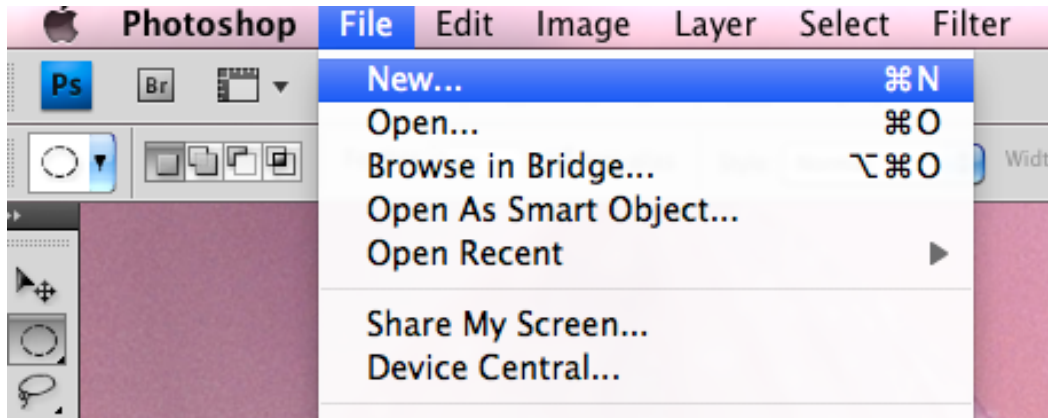- Rename layers, adjust workspace layouts. etc

FROM THIS ⟶ TO THIS!

Remember to be creative!!!
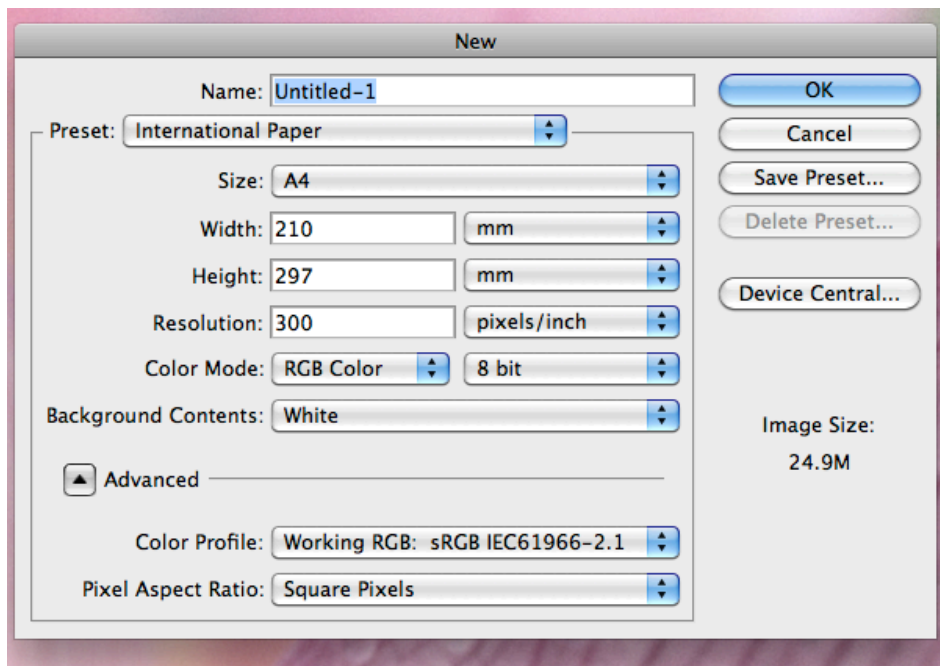
Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

To start with open Photoshop CS3/CS4
You can access this from the start menu. Choose 'programs' and navigate to Adobe Creative Suite, and locate Photoshop. Click on PHotoshop CS3/CS4.
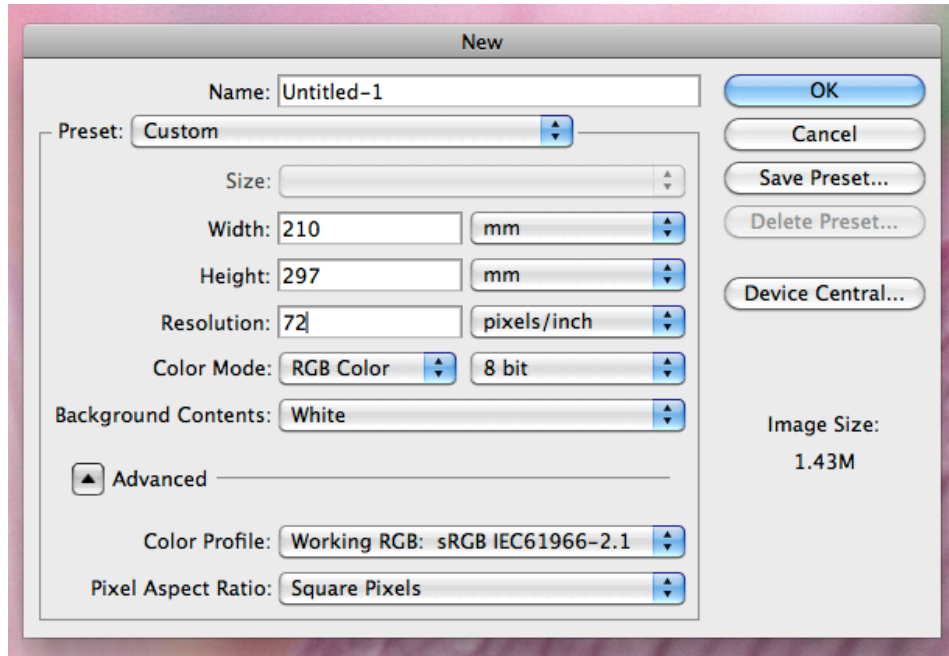

Photoshop will load and the default workspace will appear.

Go to file > new

The new file dialogue will appear. For this exercise choose 'International Paper' in the preset. In **size** choose A4. The default resolution will be 300dpi, since we don't need to print the completed task we only need a resolution of 72dpi for viewing on screen.

When you change the resolution to 72dpi the preset will change to 'custom'. This will happen whenever you alter any default setting in the 'new file' dialogue.
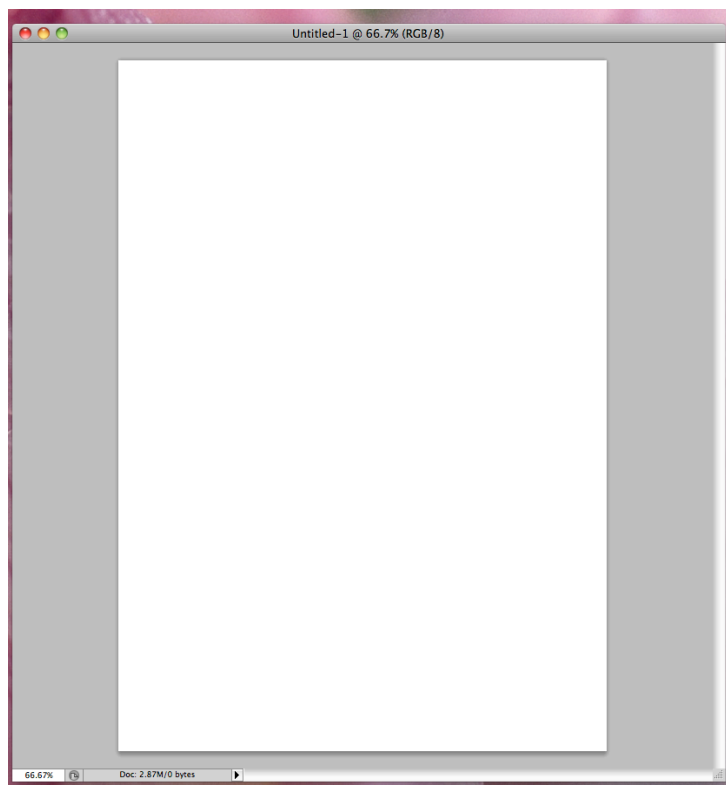
Leave the 'colour mode' set to RGB and the 'Background Contents' set to 'white'
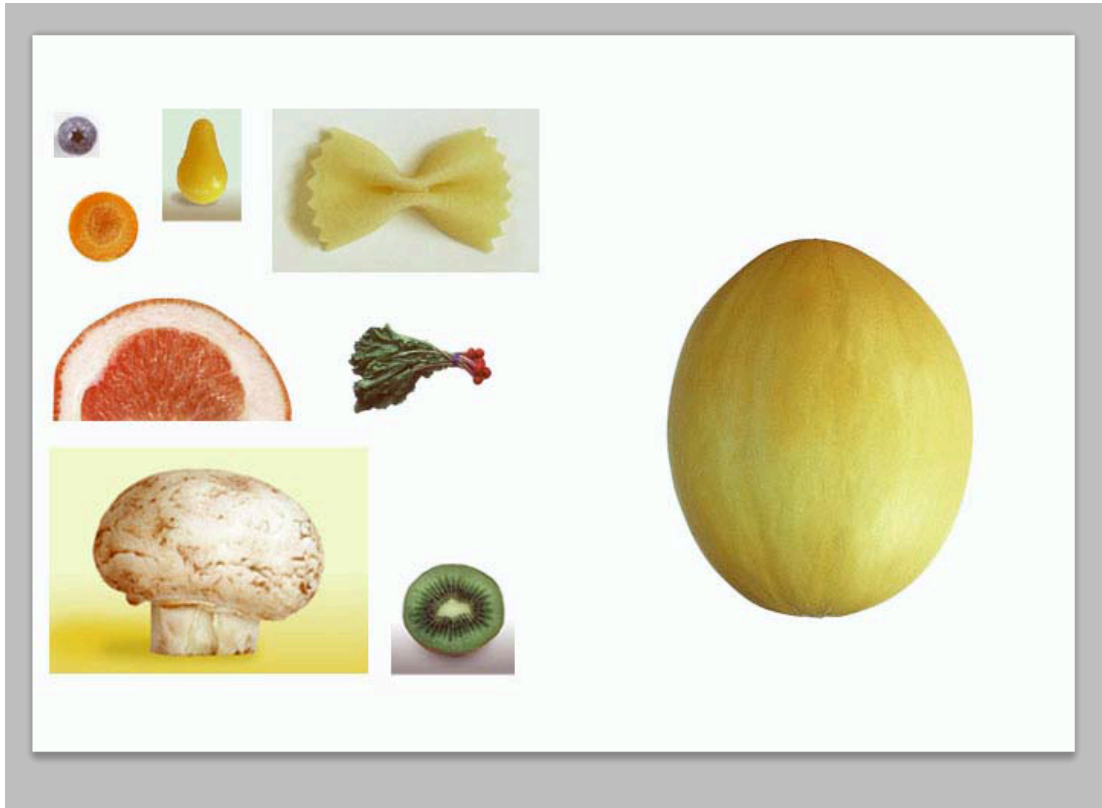
Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

A new blank file will appear in the workspace.
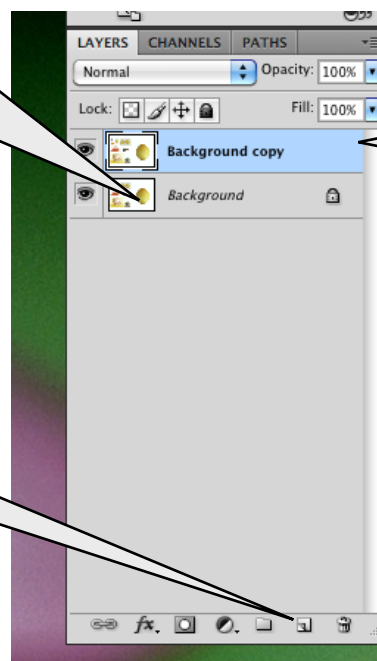Go to 'Public Drive' > Visual Design > Design 2010 and open the 'Lesson 1' folder.
Right click 'Vegiman Pieces.jpg' and select *open with* 'Photoshop CS3 or CS4' depending on which version is installed on the school drive.
The file will open in the workspace.

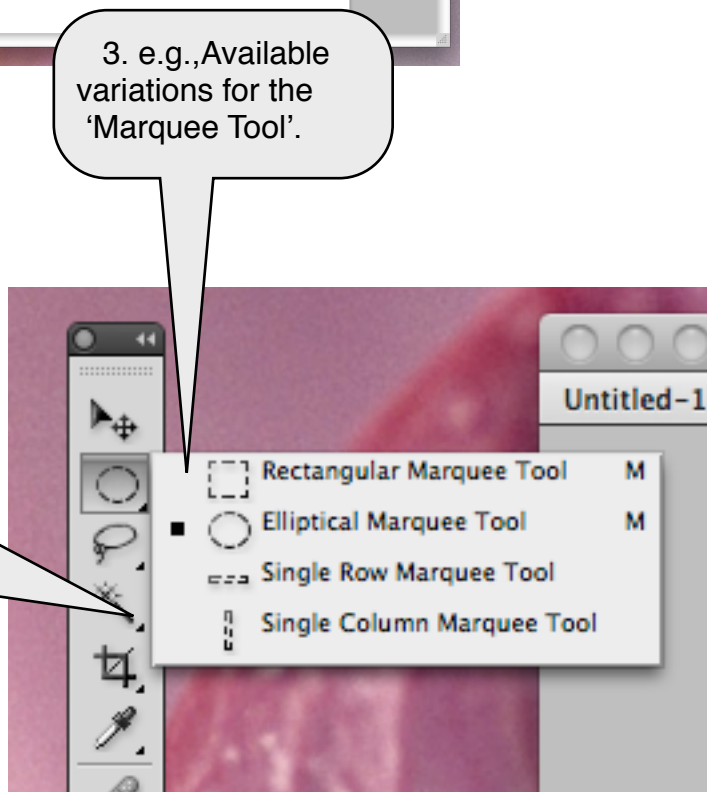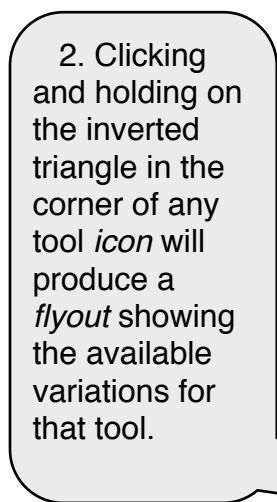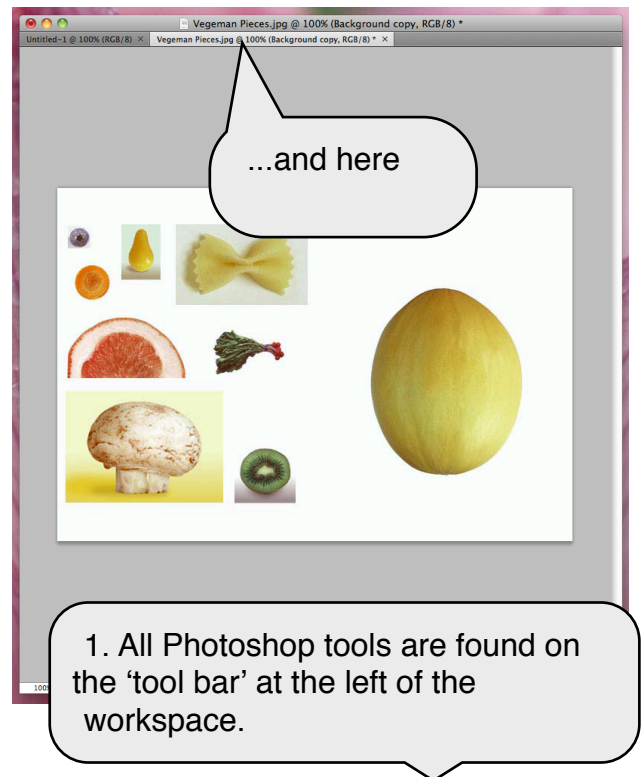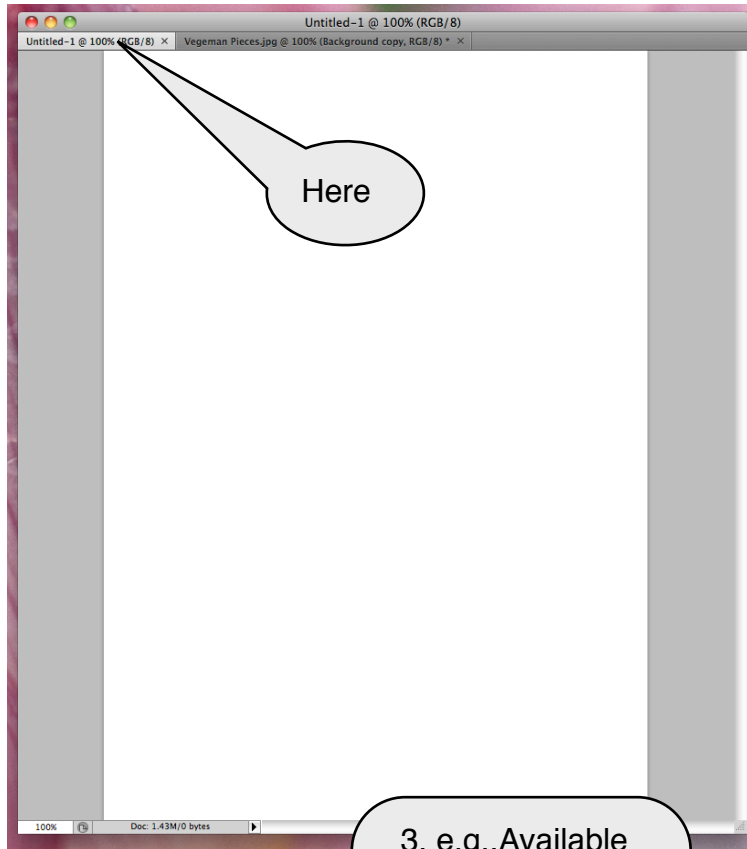1. Go to the layers palette, click and drag the background layer..........

2....down to the 'create new layer' icon.

3.This will create a duplicate layer in the layers palette. This will enable you to work in a non destructive manner on the 'vegiman pieces.jpg image.
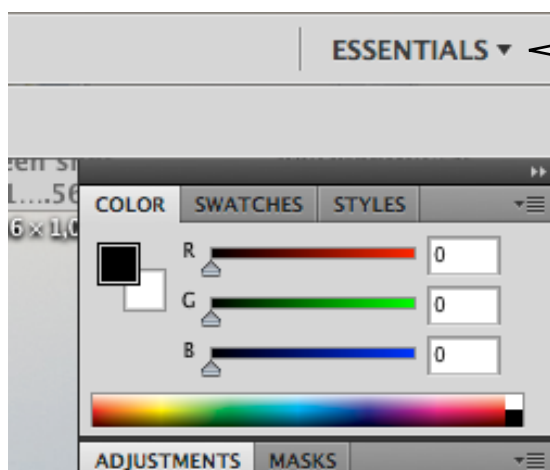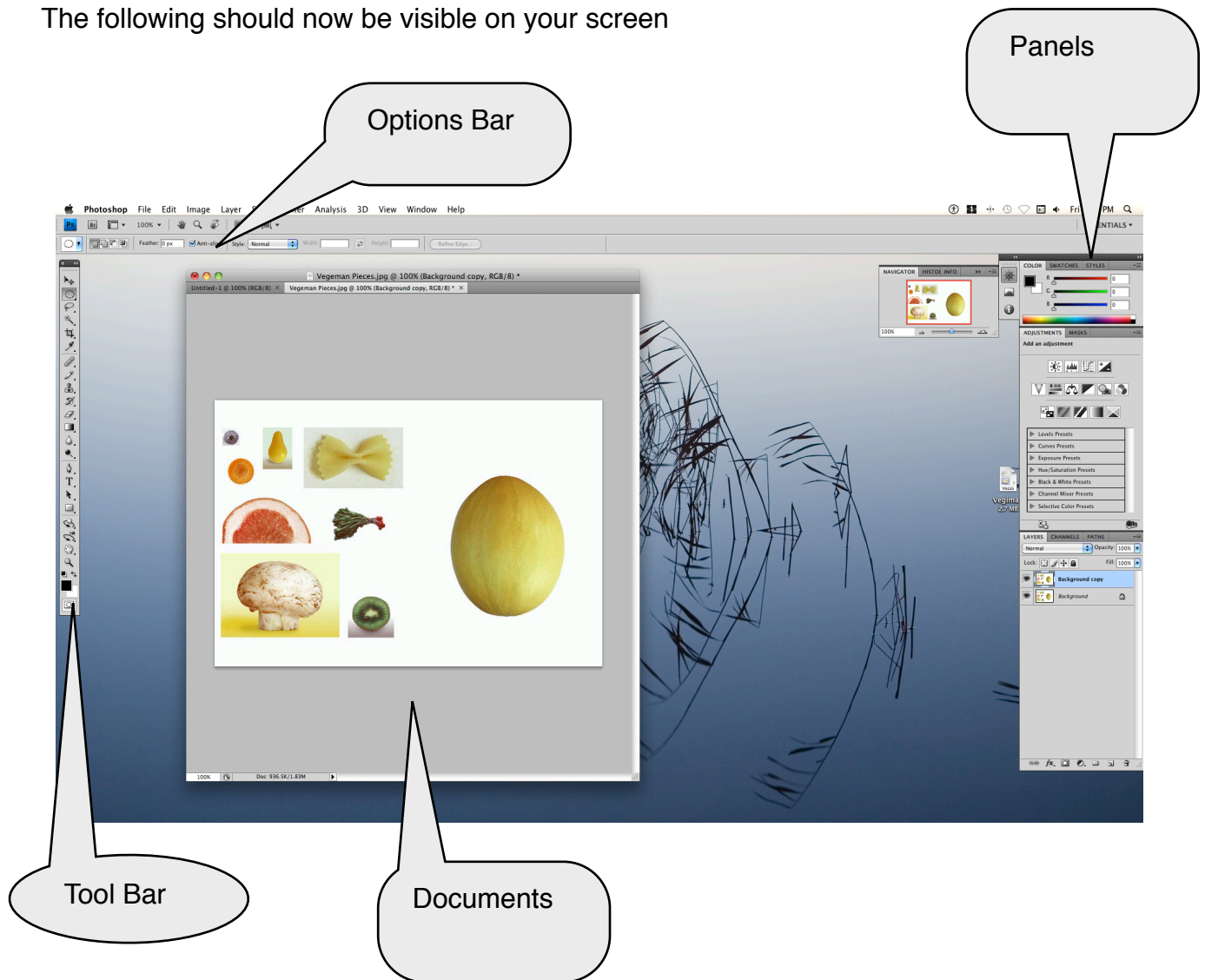
Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

If you are working in CS4 you can tab between open documents simply by clicking on the tabs. If you are working in CS3 then you will need to downsize the document that you are not directly editing.

Here

...and here

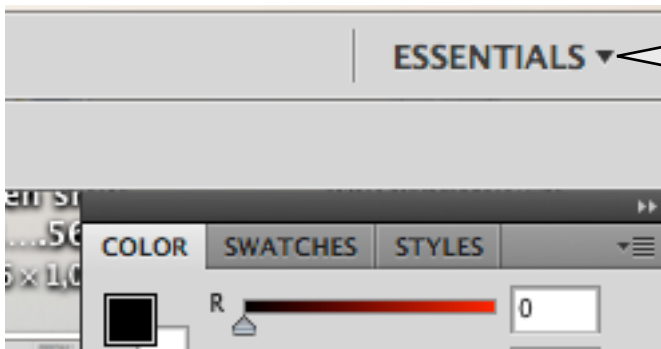1. All Photoshop tools are found on the 'tool bar' at the left of the workspace.

3. e.g.,Available variations for the 'Marquee Tool'.

2. Clicking and holding on the inverted triangle in the corner of any tool *icon* will produce a *flyout* showing the available variations for that tool.

Untitled-1

[ ] Rectangular Marquee Tool   M
○ Elliptical Marquee Tool   M
Single Row Marquee Tool
Single Column Marquee Tool

Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

The following should now be visible on your screen

Panels

Options Bar

Tool Bar

Documents

ESSENTIALS ▾

Make sure that your workspace options are set to 'Essentials' on CS4 or 'Legacy' if you are on CS3

COLOR   SWATCHES   STYLES

R   0
G   0
B   0

ADJUSTMENTS   MASKS

Gary Poulton l Wyndham College l 2010

Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

To access these...

ESSENTIALS ▾

Click on the inverted triangle to access the dropdown options box

COLOR   SWATCHES   STYLES

R   0

✓ Essentials
Basic
What's New in CS4

Advanced 3D
Analysis
Automation
Color and Tone
Painting
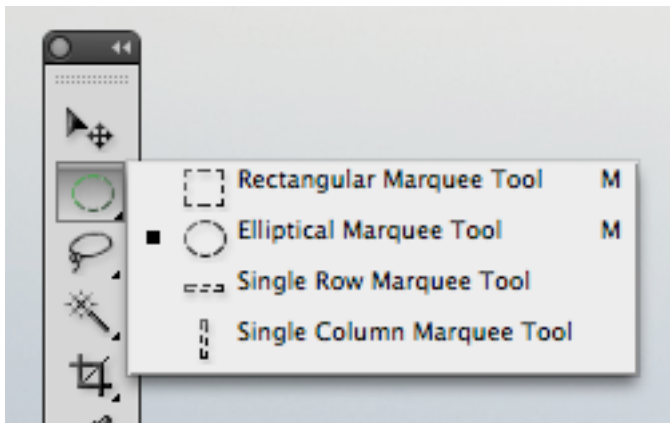Proofing
Typography
Video
Web

Save Workspace...
Delete Workspace...
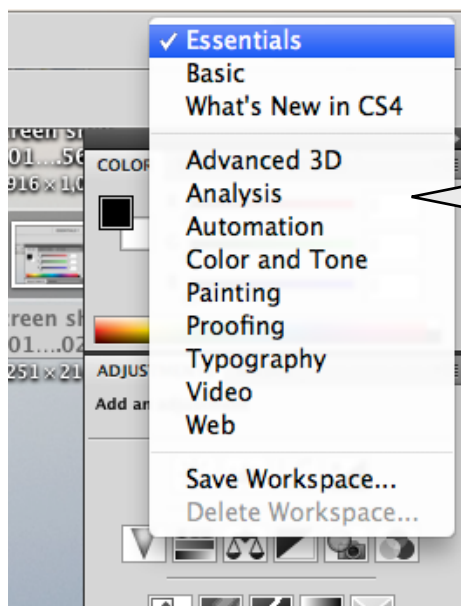
These are the available workspace options in CS4. The default setting is 'Basic' for both CS3 and CS4

The 'Basic' setting will collapse all palettes and create a little more room in the workspace.

Select the rectangular Marquee tool
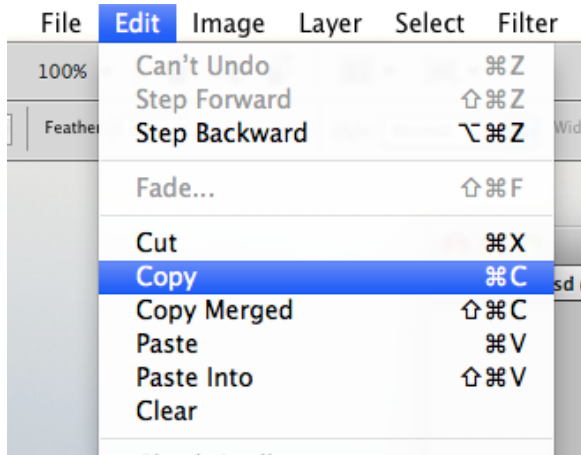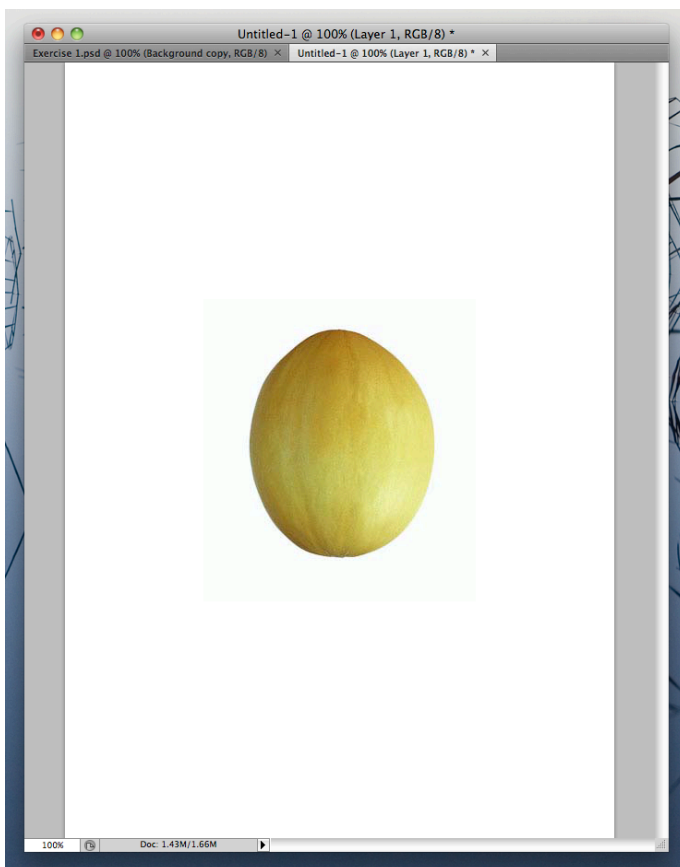

Click and drag the cursor to make a selection around the main shape
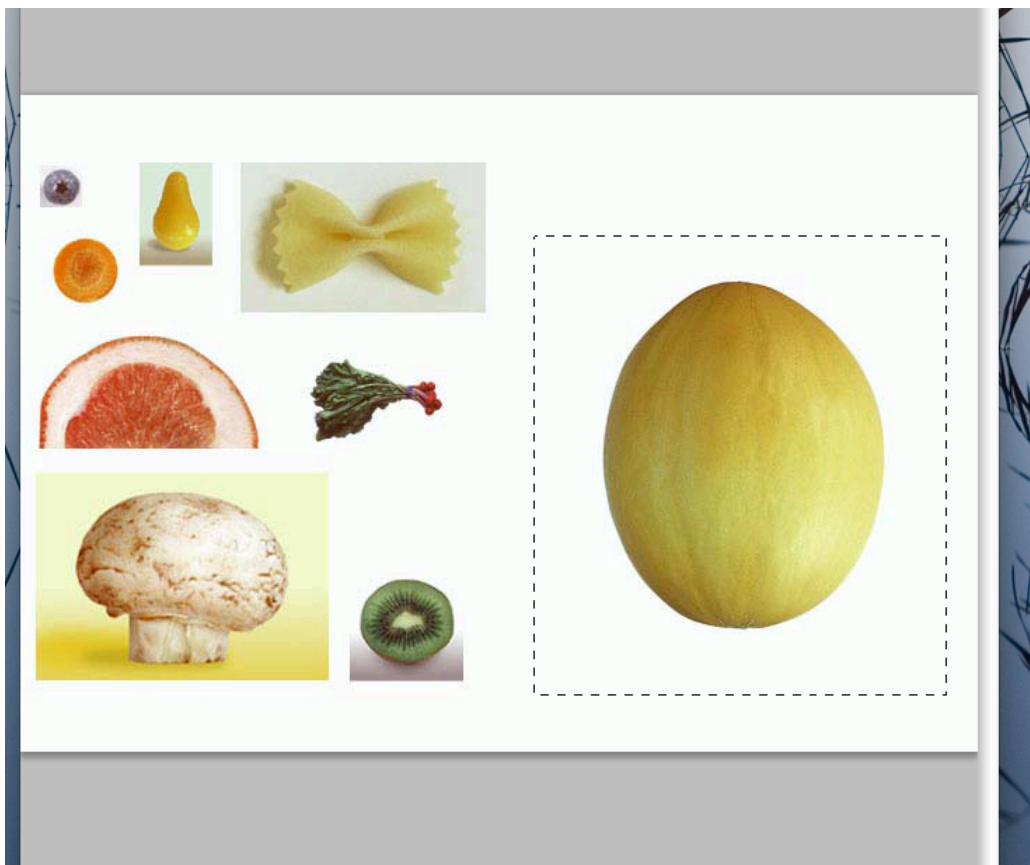
Command + C (pc) or Ctrl + C (mac) to copy the selection or go Edit > Copy

Select the new document and ctrl + v (pc) or cmd + v (mac) or go Edit > Paste to paste the selection into the new document.

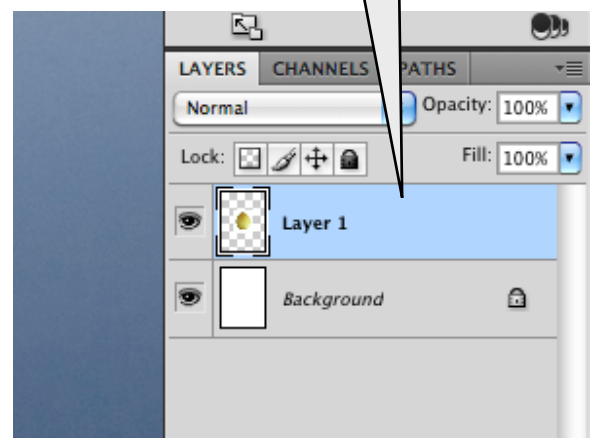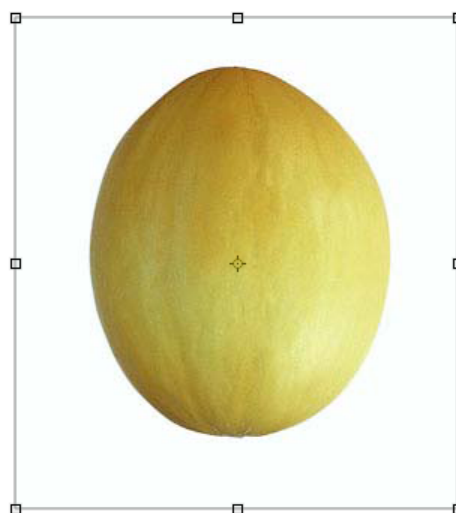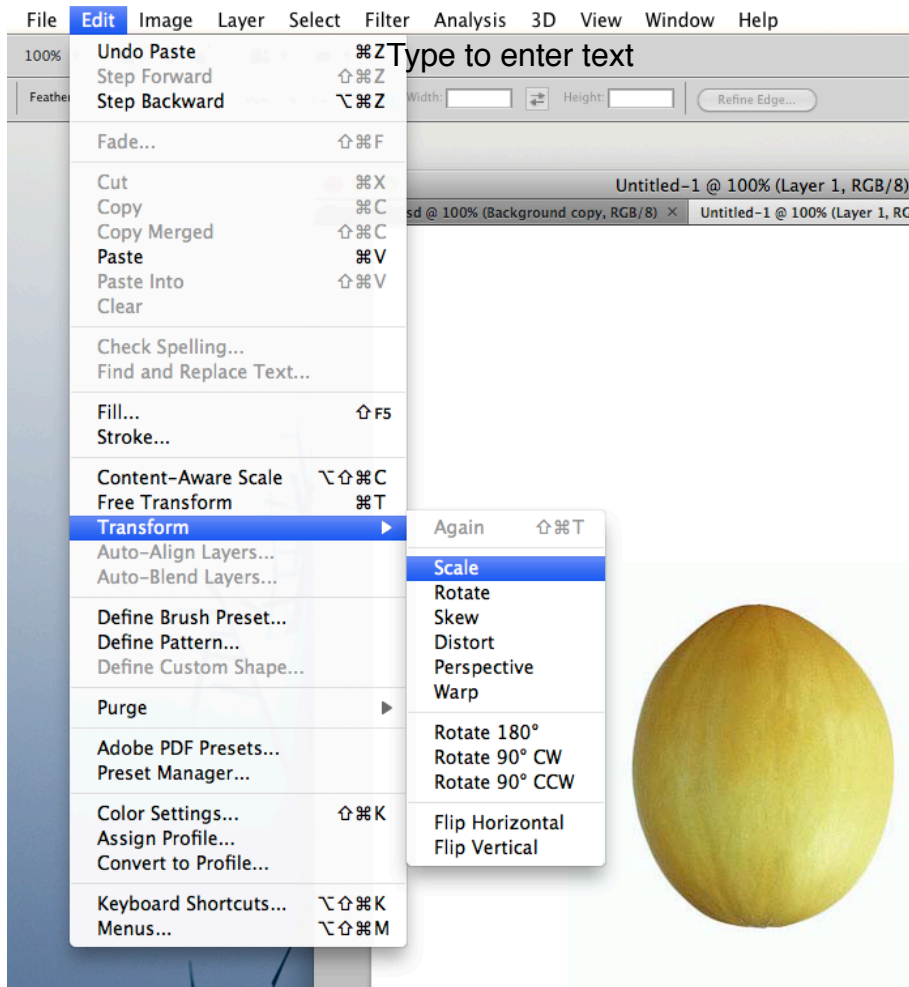Note that your layers palette has updated to show the new layer
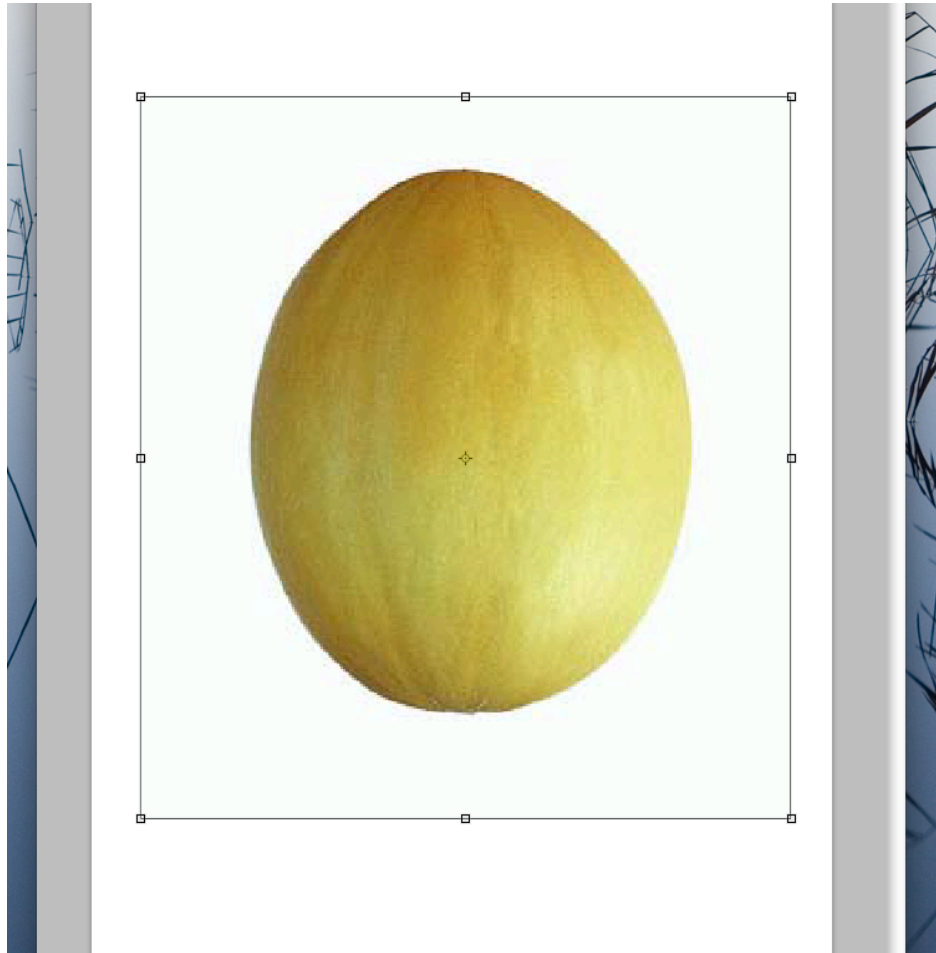
Fig 1

Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

To transform the object to fit into the document window go Edit > Transform > Scale

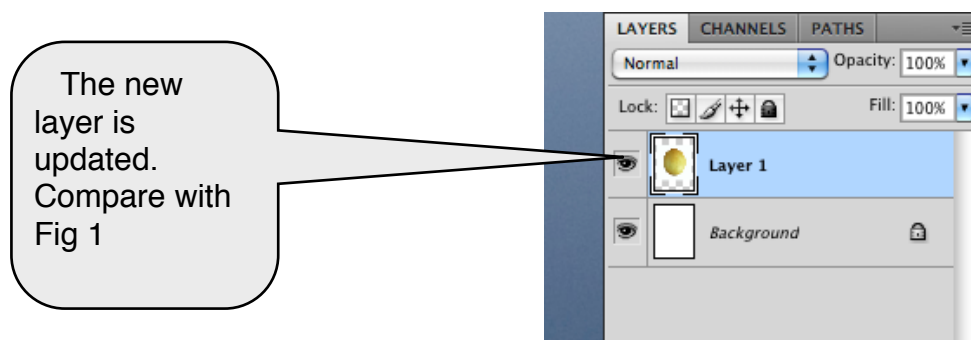The transformation bounding box appears around the selection

Hold down the *shift key* and drag the corners of the bounding box outwards at 45 deg.
Holding down the *shift key* will ensure that the object keeps the same proportions.

Press the return key to activate the transformation.

The new layer is updated. Compare with Fig 1

LAYERS | CHANNELS | PATHS

Normal   Opacity: 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

Layer 1

Background

If you turn off the visibility of the *background* layer (by clicking once on the eye icon) the document window will update to show the selection area only in layer 1.
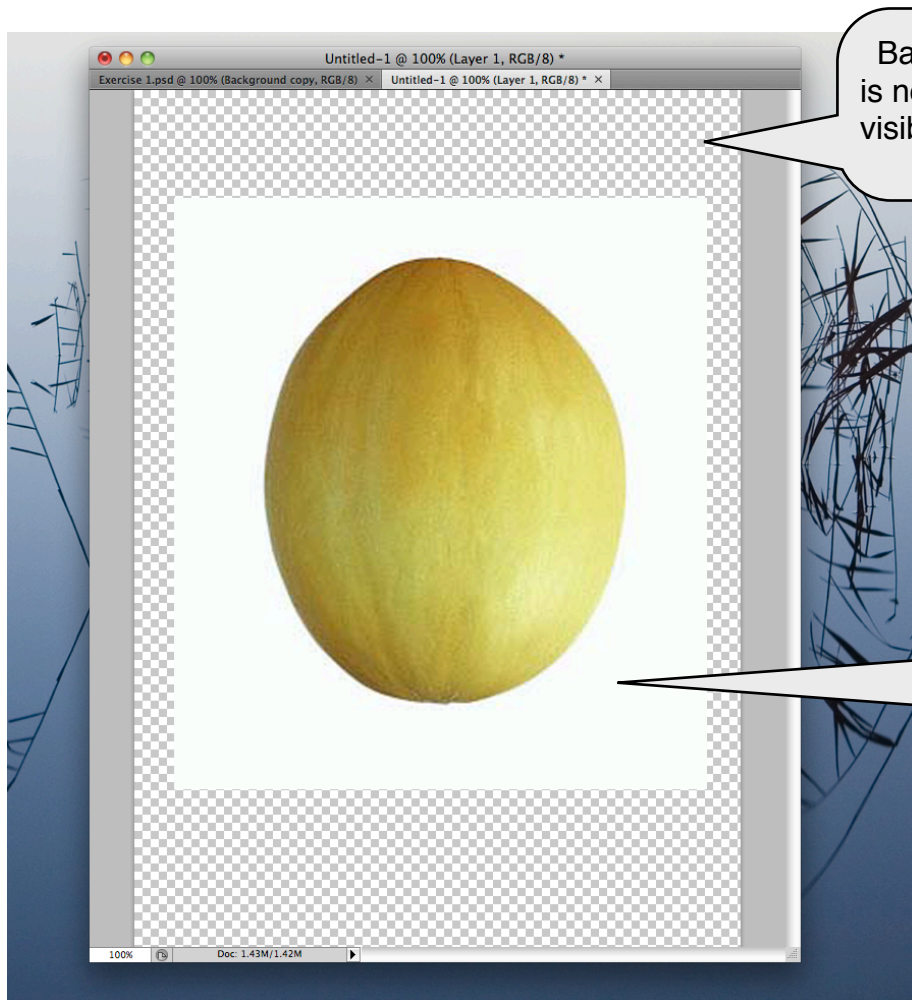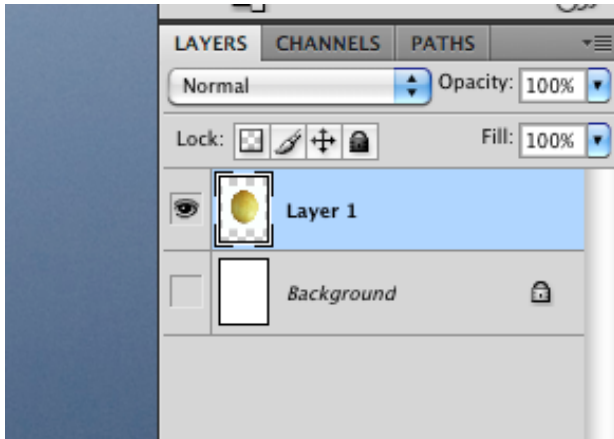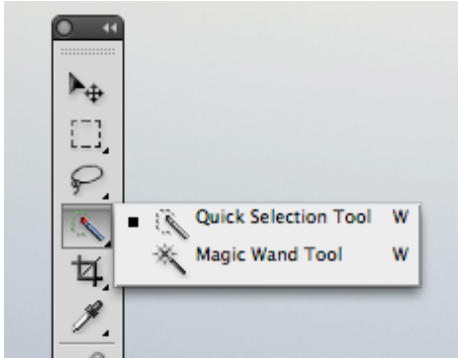



Background is no longer visible.

1. To add new shapes you now need to remove the white area around the shape.

Select the 'magic wand' tool and click anywhere in the white area of 'layer 1'


Clicking in the white area around the shape with the 'magic wand' selects the white pixels. At this point, if you hit the delete key the white pixels will be removed leaving an empty selection area. (see below)
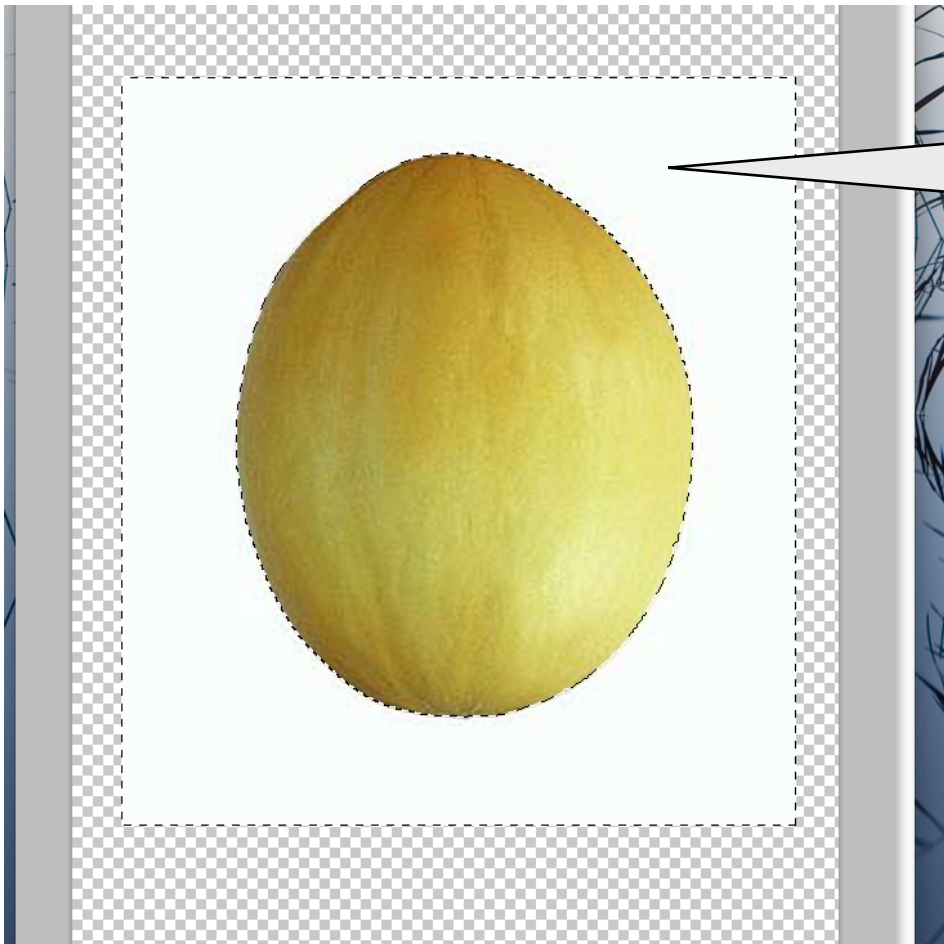
After deleting the pixels and before deactivating the selection, you will *feather the selection* so that the edge of the shape is not so hard. If you do this with all the following selections they will integrate into the existing image satisfactorily without that distinct *cut out* look.

Photoshop Preliminaries Part 1b

To soften the selection edge go to Select > Refine Edge
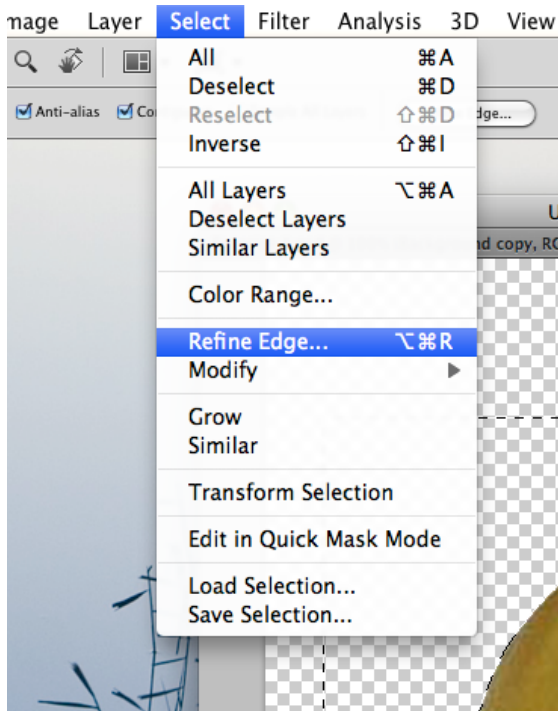
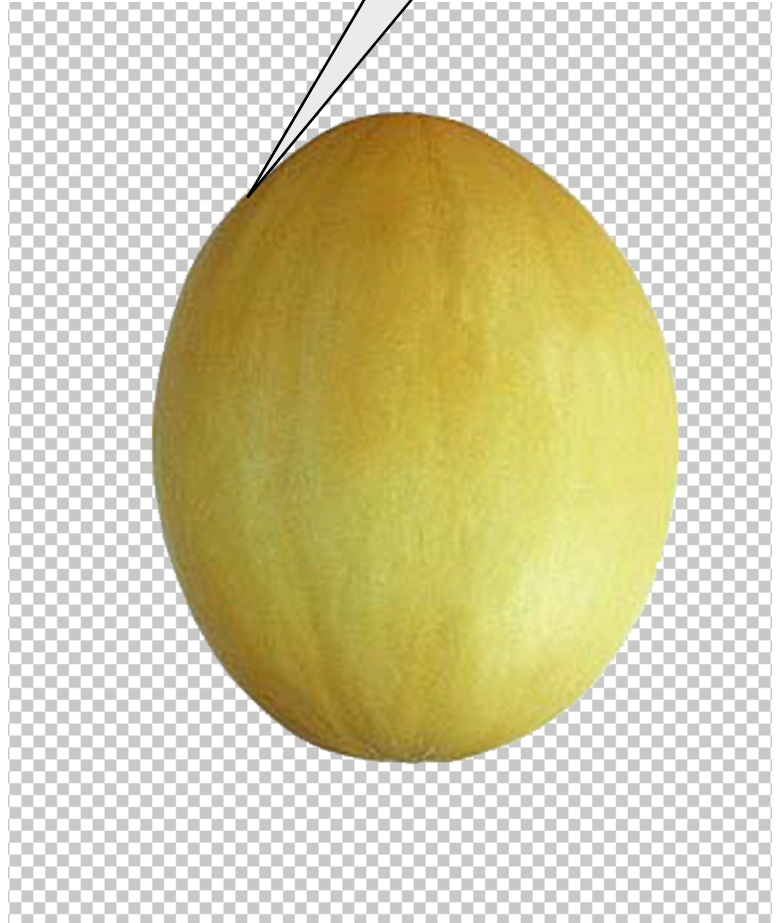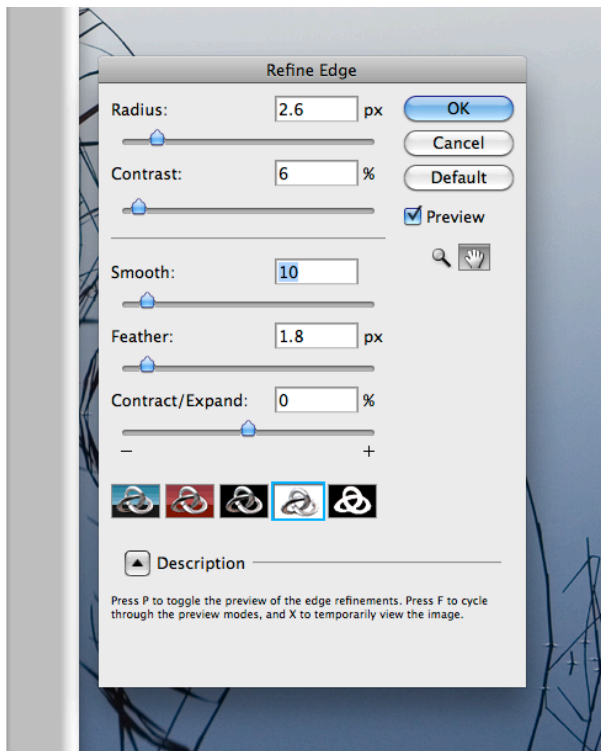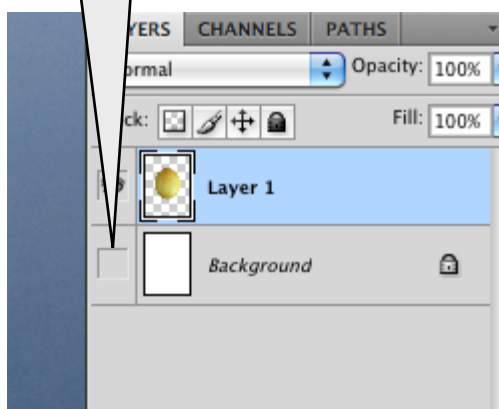As you change settings the preview on the left updates.
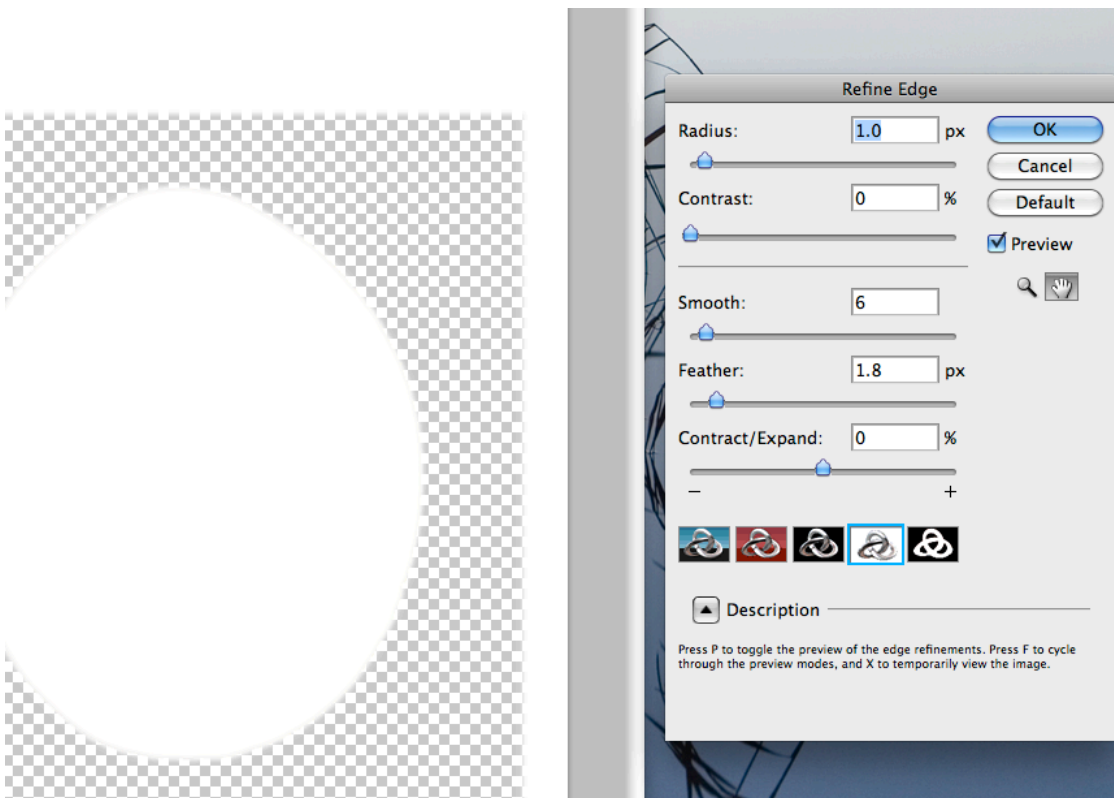
The main shape or 'head' now has a more realistic edge.

Set the Refine Edge settings as follows.
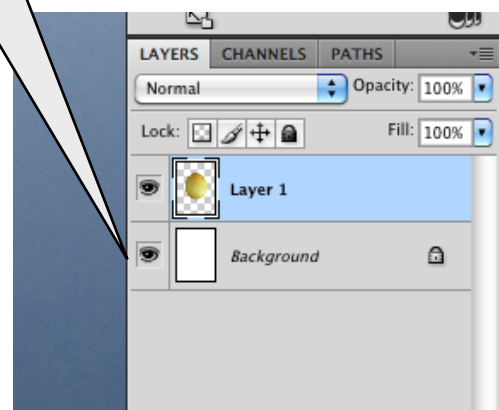Click OK when finished and ctrl+D (pc) or cmd+D (mac) to deselect.

Now turn the visibility of the background layer back on by clicking in the empty icon space.
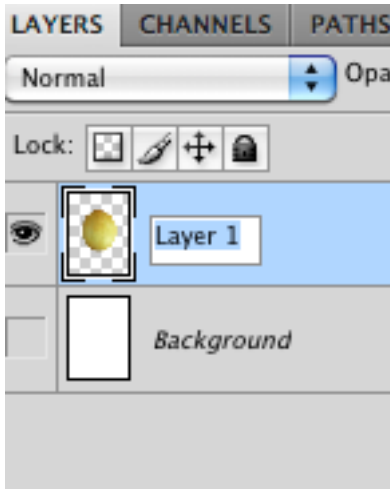
Background layer is now visible.

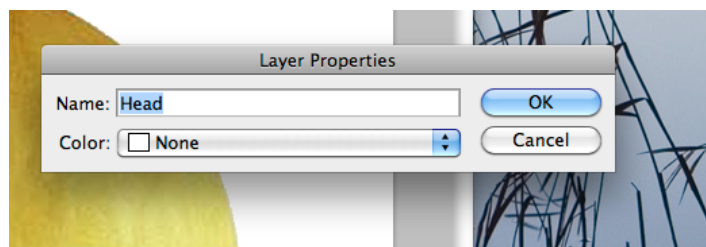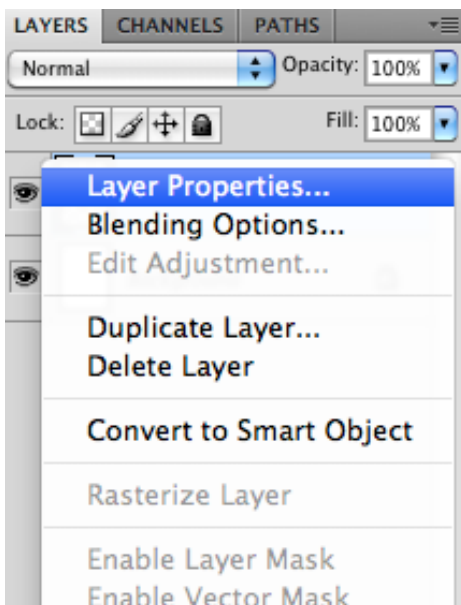Double click on the text of Layer 1 and rename this layer 'Head'.
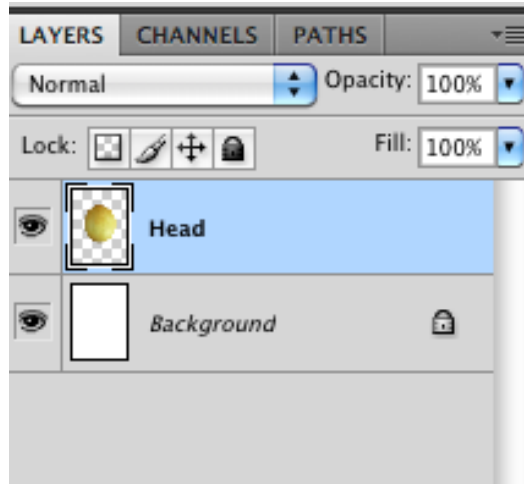
You can also do the same by *right clicking* on the layer and selecting **Layer Properties** and renaming the layer in the layer properties dialogue that appears on the screen.

Select the Vegiman pieces file and deselect the remaining selection.

Ctrl+D Cmd+D to deselect this shape.

You are now ready to continue building your image.

The remainder of this tutorial can be viewed online as a Flash file at the Yr 11 Preliminary Design page under Visual Art using your Moodle login at http://web1.wyndhamcol-h.schools.nsw.edu.au or by viewing or downloading from the Preliminary Design page (under Design) at http://rewired.edublogs.org
In the remaining instances you need to see how the tools behave so that you can decide which technique best suites the shape you want to extract.