



33 Adding Motion Blur

The Motion Blur filter in Photoshop Elements is great for adding motion to pictures of movable objects. It is commonly used on images of vehicles such as cars and trains. You can also use it on a shot of people walking or even on a shot of a fan.

In the Layers palette, click and drag the Background layer onto the Create a New Layer button () to make a copy of the layer. In the following steps, we will be adding motion blur effects to the copy and overlaying it onto the background.



Angle refers to the direction in which the motion blur will be applied. An angle of 0° applies the motion blur horizontally and an angle of 90°, vertically. In this example, an angle of 5° applies the motion blur at a slight angle from the x-axis. Distance refers to how far the motion blur is applied.







3 Select the Eraser Tool () from the toolbox. In the options bar, set Size to 300 pixels. Erase everything in the picture but the train. This allows the background to show through areas that we want to keep in focus.





4 In the options bar, set Opacity to 30%. Drag over the front portion of the train to reduce the motion blur. This gives the image an illusion of depth.



