

PREPARATION

1. Before meeting determine the theme of your cluster. Something that will work for your project.
2. Before meeting look for elements to be in the cluster.
 - a. Everything must be a png (transparent).
 - b. It is nice to have a 'base' element.
 - c. You will need 3-10 elements to go in the cluster.
3. Before meeting open these elements in your Elements and have them in the Photo Bin.
4. In meeting we will set up a page where you can build 4 cluster.
 - a. File > New > Blank File > Document Type: Scrapbooking > OK
 - b. Confirm that Menu Bar > View > has Guides and Rulers Checked.
 - c. Position your cursor on the upper ruler, hold down your left mouse key and drag it down to the 6-inch mark.
 - d. Position your cursor on the left ruler, hold down your left mouse key and drag it down to the 6-inch mark.
 - e. Your page is now divided into 4 quadrants.

BUILDING THE CLUSTER

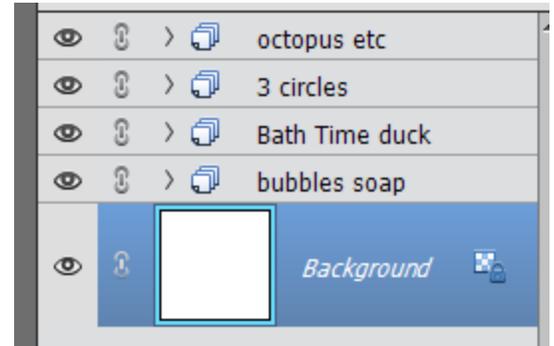
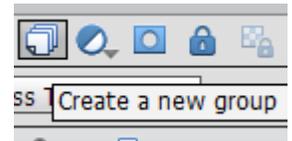
My project is a baby book. I am guessing that I will have a baby getting a bath picture. So, I collected elements that would work for this theme. I don't know exactly what I will need so I built 4 possibilities. They are all different to show you options. In practice, I would probably set a look for the book and build ones that matched that look.

1. You will build the first cluster within the upper right quadrant.
2. Using your Move tool move the base element to this quadrant. Size it.
3. Just add elements to the cluster you are building.
4. Move things around in your Layers panel to get the look you want.
5. A good practice would be to use some of the same elements and build 4 versions of clusters. Some could be corners, horizontal and vertical.



SAVING THE CLUSTERS

1. You can save it now as a TIF or PSD so you maintain the layers and transparency.
2. But I like to save it as a Group.
3. Select all the elements that are in your cluster.
4. Click on the Create a New Group icon at the top of the Layers panel.
5. Name the group, just like you would a layer.
6. To open the group click the > next to the link icon.
7. The advantages of having it a group are:
 - a. Your Layers panel is not so long and fill up the area.
 - b. You can move the whole group at once.
 - c. It is like linking all of the parts together but when you open the group you can move or change them individually.



Here are some cluster examples to give you ideas. I didn't build them.

