How to
Improve Your Hair Extractions - 7 Tips

Shift Art

Although Photoshop has some very powerful and sophisticated tools, they require time and practice to master. Take your time and learn the basics before diving into extracting wild frizzy hair against a complex background.

<u>Improve your hair extractions with these 7 easy tips:</u>

➤ Try using decontaminate color. After finishing your mask, go to Layer > Matting > Decontaminate Colors. This option is also found in the Select and Mask workspace, but it does not allow you to adjust the amount there.

➤ For a very slight adjustment, try Layer > Matting > Defringe

➤ From Caroline Julia Moore: Duplicate the layer, set the layer beneath to multiply (or screen depending on the background color), then use a layer mask on the top layer to paint away bright (or dark) halo areas.

➤ If you are feeling artistic and have a steady hand, mask out a little too much and paint in hair with a tablet pen. This method is a solid choice if you are extracting a furry creature against a busy background for example. Start with a pen tool extraction, then paint in the fur outline with one or more of Photoshop's hair brushes.

➤ To remove messy gray in your hair mask, try painting over your mask with a brush set to Overlay blend mode at low opacity. Painting with black or white in this mode will only affect the gray areas. Go nice and slow here!

➤ From Jason Hahn: With the mask selected apply a 1 or 2 pixel gaussian blur to the mask. Then, go to Image > Adjustments > Levels and slide the black (left) slider towards white until the fringe is gone.

➤ Use a plugin such as Topaz Labs ReMask 5, a powerful tool to create extraordinary results. Watch a <u>tutorial on using Topaz Labs ReMask 5 here</u>.