

# Seamless Mosaic Tiles



This tutorial will show you how to create unique backgrounds out of photographs or paintings that will compliment the photograph or painting that you wish to show off.

These tiles can be used in Outlook Express stationery or as a colorful background on a web page. The sample to the right is the tile I created while writing the instructions for this tutorial and I have included the files you will need to complete this tutorial as is. Feel free to use the image included in the tutorial or use your own.



## *PSP version and tools used*

PSP 6 or 7	Square Selection Tool
Gaussian Blur	Eye Dropper
Mosaic Antique Glass	Convert to seamless
Kaleidoscope	Photo I used or your own

Click on the picture below for a zip file of a larger version of this image. Don't use the sample image.



**Step 1:** Unzip the image provided for this tutorial or make certain that you have a duplicate copy of the image you want to try this on then apply a gaussian blur set at a radius of 10.

**PSP6 users:**

image/blur/gaussian blur.

**PSP7 users:**

effects/blur/gaussian blur

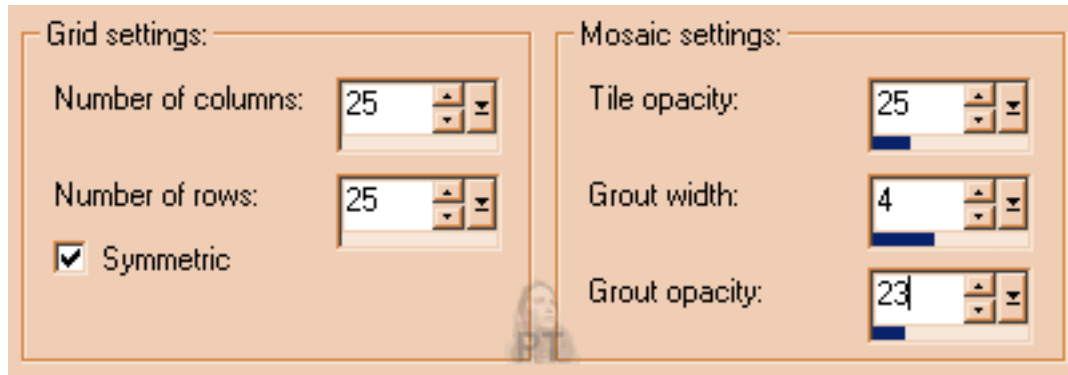
**Step 2:** Apply Antique Glass with setting as shown in screen shot.

**PSP6 users:**

image/effects/antique mosaic

**PSP7 users:**

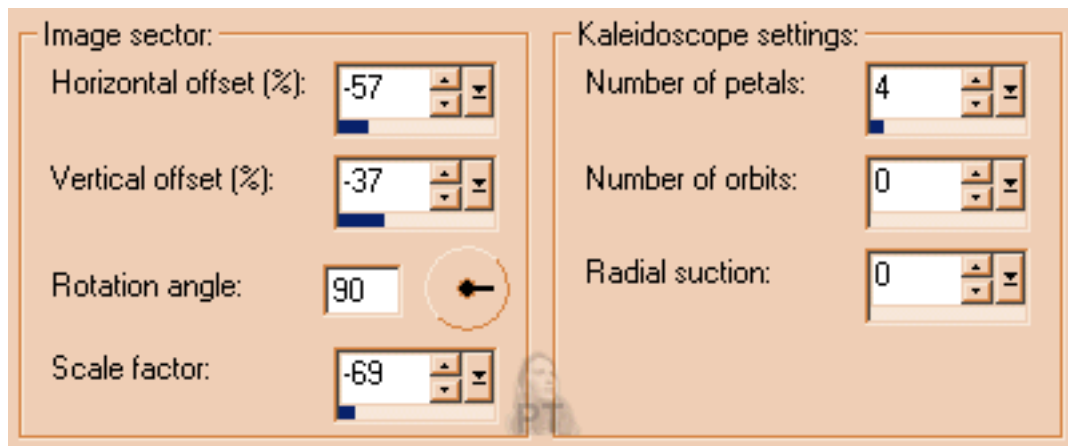
effects/texture/antique mosaic



**Step 3:** Apply Kaleidoscope with setting as shown in screen shot.

**PSP6 users:** image/effects/kaleidoscope

**PSP7 users:** effects/reflections effects/kaleidoscope



You should now have something similar to the image on the right of your screen. (30% of original size). As you can see, if you resize the image down to a usable size for background tiles, then you lose the mosaic effect. Here's where converting the tile to a seamless pattern using the PSP feature (NOT a third party plug-in or stand alone freeware program) actually comes in handy.



**Step 4:** Here's where things get a little tricky, not because this is going to be difficult, but because you now have several options. You are going to be using the selection tool to select a portion from the center of your image to be your tile. Choose square, anti-alias and no feathering.

Example to the left is cropped from the image you have been working on in order to reduce file size.



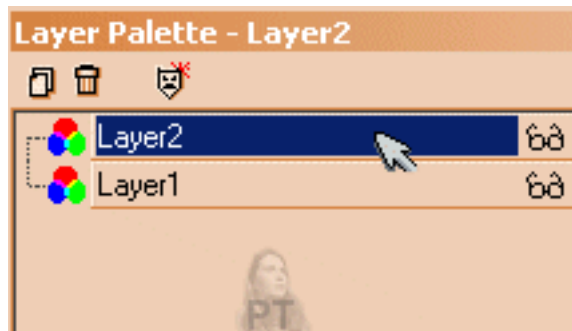
The marching ants represent the selection that I have chosen. You can choose to go a little larger or a little smaller if you choose. The 4 petal option from step three makes a guide that you can follow to make your selection.

Now use your eye dropper to set your background color to match one of the squares that fall right inside the marching ants area. You don't have to be exact.

**Step 5:** Now go to selections and convert to seamless pattern. You now have a seamless tile that you can use in all sorts of ways. To make this background, I added a new layer, flood filled with white and then lowered the opacity to make a muted background. Isn't it cool what you can do with a picture of a koosh ball?



**Step 6:** As you can see this tile is still a little too dark to use as a background. Go to your layers palette and promote to a layer. Add a new layer and flood fill with white. Go back to your layers palette and click on the white layer and still holding your left mouse button down, drag the white layer beneath the tile layer.



**Step 7:** Your tile should now be visible. Use the slider to lower the opacity which will give your tile a muted look so that text can be placed on top of it easily.

[Click here to view a full page example of a seamless mosaic tile background.](#)

This tutorial originally located at  
[http://www.geocities.com/pixel\\_tickler/mosaic\\_tile.htm](http://www.geocities.com/pixel_tickler/mosaic_tile.htm)

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