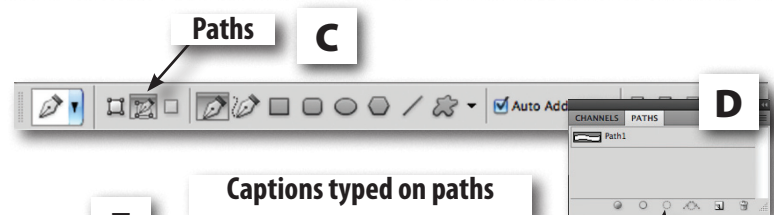
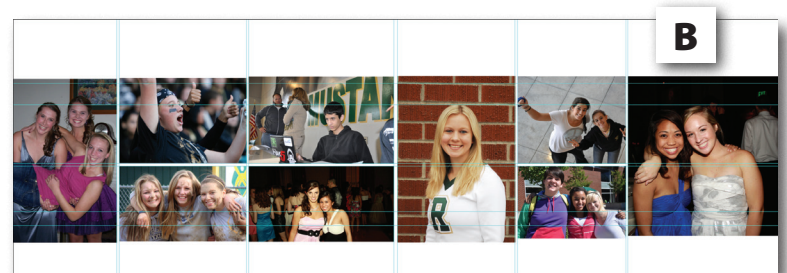
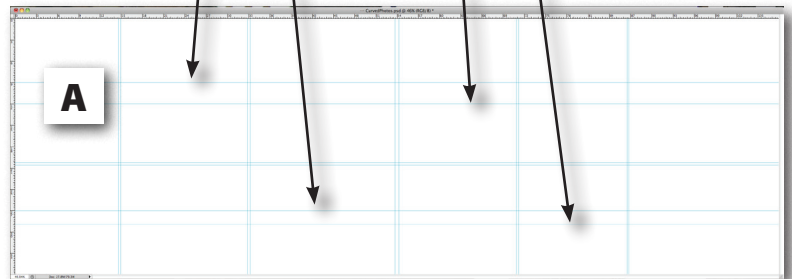


Bending Photos for YTO

The 2010 Gotcha' Covered Look Book featured a very cool design for doing mug shots. You can see it at right. And of course I got all kinds of requests asking, "How did they do that?" and "Can you teach us how to do that for YTO?" Well, the truth is, this is one of those things that is a lot easier to do InDesign. In fact, a WHOLE lot easier to do in InDesign. But I love a challenge, so here's how I would do it. If you know a better way, let me know.

- Step 1: Open a Photoshop document that is as wide as your double-page spread is at 300 ppi. I did mine at 18 inches wide by 4 inches high.
- Step 2: Drag in guides that show where the top and bottom of the photos will go as well as the margins between pictures. (Figure A)
- Step 3: Drag or copy/paste your photos into place. Position them where you want them to print. (Figure B)
- Step 4: Now comes the fun part. Using the Pen tool, we are going to create a mask that is curved and covers portions of our photos. On one page, it would be impossible to teach you how to use the Pen tool. Suffice it to say, you should read the Help file and any other books you have about Photoshop and learn to use the Pen tool to draw unusual shapes. The one thing you have to remember is that when you choose the Pen tool, make sure that you have chosen Paths in the Control Bar at the top of the page. (Figure C)
- Step 5: To create the path I am going to use, I cheated and scanned the DPS from the Look Book and traced it. You can, too. It is a lot easier than freeform drawing.
- Step 6: Once you have drawn your path (and closed it by making sure your last click is on top of your first click), open the Paths panel and save your path on the drop-out menu.
- Step 7: With your path saved, create a new layer in the Layers panel and drag it so it is the top layer.
- Step 8: With that layer selected, choose your path in the Paths panel and click the Load Path as Selection button at the bottom of the Paths panel. (Figure D)
- Step 9: With the top layer selected, choose Select>Inverse so that everything but the area you want to show is selected. Fill that area with white. (Make your foreground color white and click Option/Alt Delete.) Your file should now look like this. (Figure E) At this point you can (if you need to) move your photos around to position them better. Just click and drag them with the Selection tool.
- Step 10: Now we will add text. Click where you want to place the first caption and drag to create a text layer the width of the photo. Then type the caption.
- Step 11: When you are done typing the caption, choose the Pen tool and draw a path again that will flow exactly how you want the caption to flow.
- Step 12: Choose the first line of the caption you typed, hover over the path you created, click and paste. Your first line of type is now placed and on its own layer.
- Step 13: Duplicate that type layer and copy the second line of type, select all the type on your second text layer and paste. Continue with steps 11 through 13 until all your captions are placed. (Figure E)



To be honest, this isn't a perfect solution to creating this design, but we think it looks good, and it is about the only way to do it in Photoshop. We would love to hear if you find a better way to create this awesome layout.