

Tabloid Magazine Cover Project

The term “tabloid” in journalism has come to mean a magazine or newspaper that has sensational, if not always completely true, stories. You are going to create a full color cover for a new tabloid magazine. On your cover, you must have the following:

- A name for the magazine
- At least 4 “images” with headlines (see details below)
- Various bullets, bursts, and/or banners
- Details such as price, UPC code, publisher information, etc.

Your images will be created in Photoshop BEFORE you create the magazine cover. The photos must fall in the following categories:

- 1 photo must be a mutant creature - combining elements of 3 animals/birds/lizards/insects into a new creature.
- 1 photo must be a human oddity - combining elements of 2 different people or a person and an animal.
- 1 photo must be an unnatural discovery - some object discovered where it shouldn't or couldn't be.
- 1 photo of our own creation.

To create these images, use Getty Images and/or internet to collect needed images, and using various Photoshop techniques, create your “tabloid” images. All images should be saved around 10.5 x 8” and at 200 dpi. I am especially looking for evidence of you using the tools we learned in Lesson 7: Clone Stamp Tool, Pattern Stamp Tool, Healing Brush Tool and Patch Tool. You will have to rely on all previous Photoshop knowledge and don't forget to apply the Basic Photo Corrections to ALL images BEFORE you start working with them.

Coming up with these odd ideas is your first challenge. You are encouraged to come up with outrageous ideas AS LONG AS THEY ARE WITHIN GOOD TASTE. ANYTHING SEXUALLY EXPLICIT, RACIST, OR MORALLY INSULTING IS NOT ALLOWED. When in doubt, ask Mr. Faltinoski. I want these to be funny, even pushing the boundaries - but not crossing the line. Listed below are some ideas for headlines you may use. They lend themselves to the possibilities of some great images. You should use these headlines for inspiration, don't just copy them:

- "Dog Lands Plane After Pilot Has Heart Attack"
- "Man Wins \$25,000 Bet By Swallowing Watermelon Whole"
- "Earth Is a Giant Egg"
- "Ravioli Worker Rolls In Dough"
- "Walking Catfish Eats Farmer"
- "Veggie-Eating Mother Has Green Baby"
- "Air Force Pilot Reports Seeing Flying Pigs"
- "Dog Eats Eight Wristwatches"

- "Talking Dolphin Predicts Future"
- "Could this baby be the Love Child of Martha Stewart and Donald Trump?"
- "Burglar-Alarm Factory Robbed"
- "Man Collects 119 Pounds of Lint"
- "Metal-Eating Bugs Chew Through Car in Just Five Days"
- "Porcupine Falls Head Over Heels in Love -- With a Broom"
- "Elvis Opens Frozen Yogurt Stand on Jupiter"
- "Dog Missing Since 1940 Returns, Bites Master"
- "Your Remote Control Could Launch Nuclear Weapons"
- "Baby Grows Sideburns During Visit to Graceland"
- "Her Son Is a Werewolf"
- "Bodybuilder Explodes"
- "Love child of Ann Coulter and Al Franken - both parents reject baby"
- "Aliens Wrote the Constitution"
- "Roaches Take Over New York City Bus"
- "Plumber Goes Down the Toilet"
- "Missing Baby Found Inside Watermelon -- He's Alive!"
- "Talking Parrot Fingers Hit Man"
- "Ads on Tombstones Cut Burial Costs in Half"
- "Bigmouth Swami Swallows Himself"
- "Champion Bullfighter Killed By Bulldozer"
- "Researchers Discover Language That Only Women Understand"
- "Dead Hubby Buried With Winning Lotto Ticket in Pocket"
- "Man Weds 20 Women in One Year"
- "Mom Trades Twins for Lottery Ticket"
- "Girl Gets Pig's Arm -- Becomes Bowling Champ"
- "Girl With 36-Inch-Long Fingernails Kills Herself While Picking Her Nose"
- "Smoking Makes You Ugly"
- "Show-Off Drops Dead After Eating Two Telephone Books"

When designing your cover, you are going to want to have one dominant story/image, with the others as side stories. Design your cover so there is a variety in image size and emphasis.

This is a long-term project that requires you to manage many different factors. Complete the attached worksheet before you begin. You can deviate from your initial plan, but should have a good idea of all your images before you begin any.

Your final project will be graded with the following considerations:

- Quality of individual images - Do the individual images show a mastery of Photoshop skills? Is there evidence of Basic Photo Corrections? Has the student created "believable" images?
- Cover Layout - Does the cover have a well planned-out look? Is there a good use of color? Do the elements of the cover (pictures, text, and graphics) work together? Is the text spelled correctly?
- Details - Has the student added detail elements (banners, bullets, bursts, or other graphic elements) to make the cover more interesting. Are there magazine details (UPC code, price, page numbers, etc.) included on the cover?
- Directions followed - Does the cover contain all required elements? Is the humor appropriate?

Digital Imaging
Mr. Faltinoski

Tabloid Magazine Cover Worksheet

Complete the following worksheet before you begin your magazine cover:

Item #1 - Headline: _____

Description of cover image: _____

Images needed to make cover image: _____

Item #2 - Headline: _____

Description of cover image: _____

Images needed to make cover image: _____

Item #3 - Headline: _____

Description of cover image: _____

Images needed to make cover image: _____

Item #4 - Headline: _____

Description of cover image: _____

Images needed to make cover image: _____
