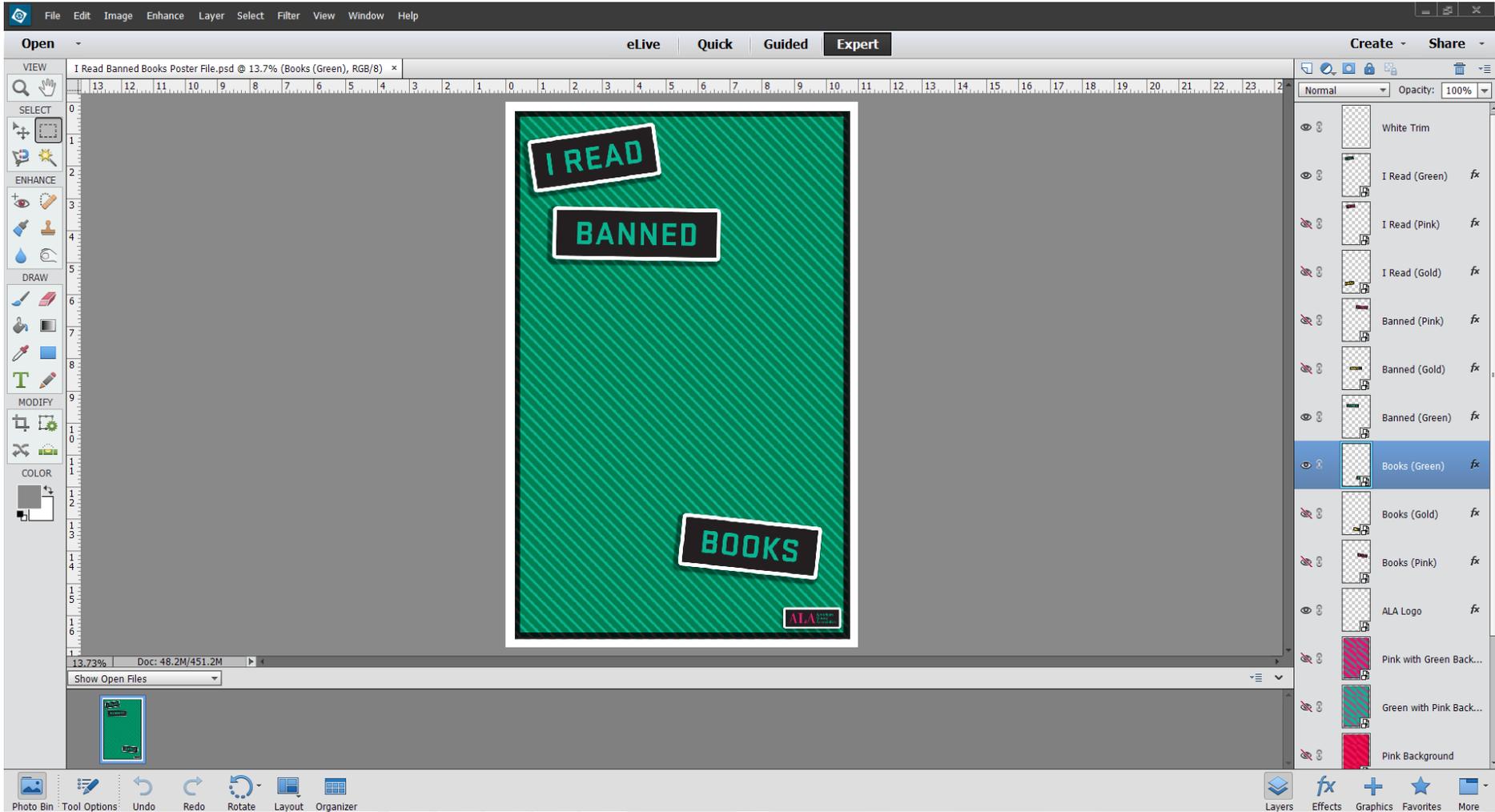


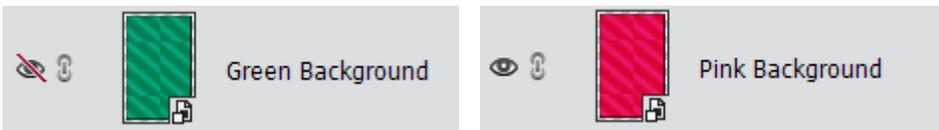
I Read Banned Books Poster File Tip Sheet

The Basics

Open the poster file using photo editing software that can support PSD files, such as Adobe Photoshop, Photoshop Elements, or [GIMP](#), a free photo editor you can download. For this demo we are using Adobe Photoshop Elements 13. When you open the file, you should see more than a dozen layers in the Layers toolbar.

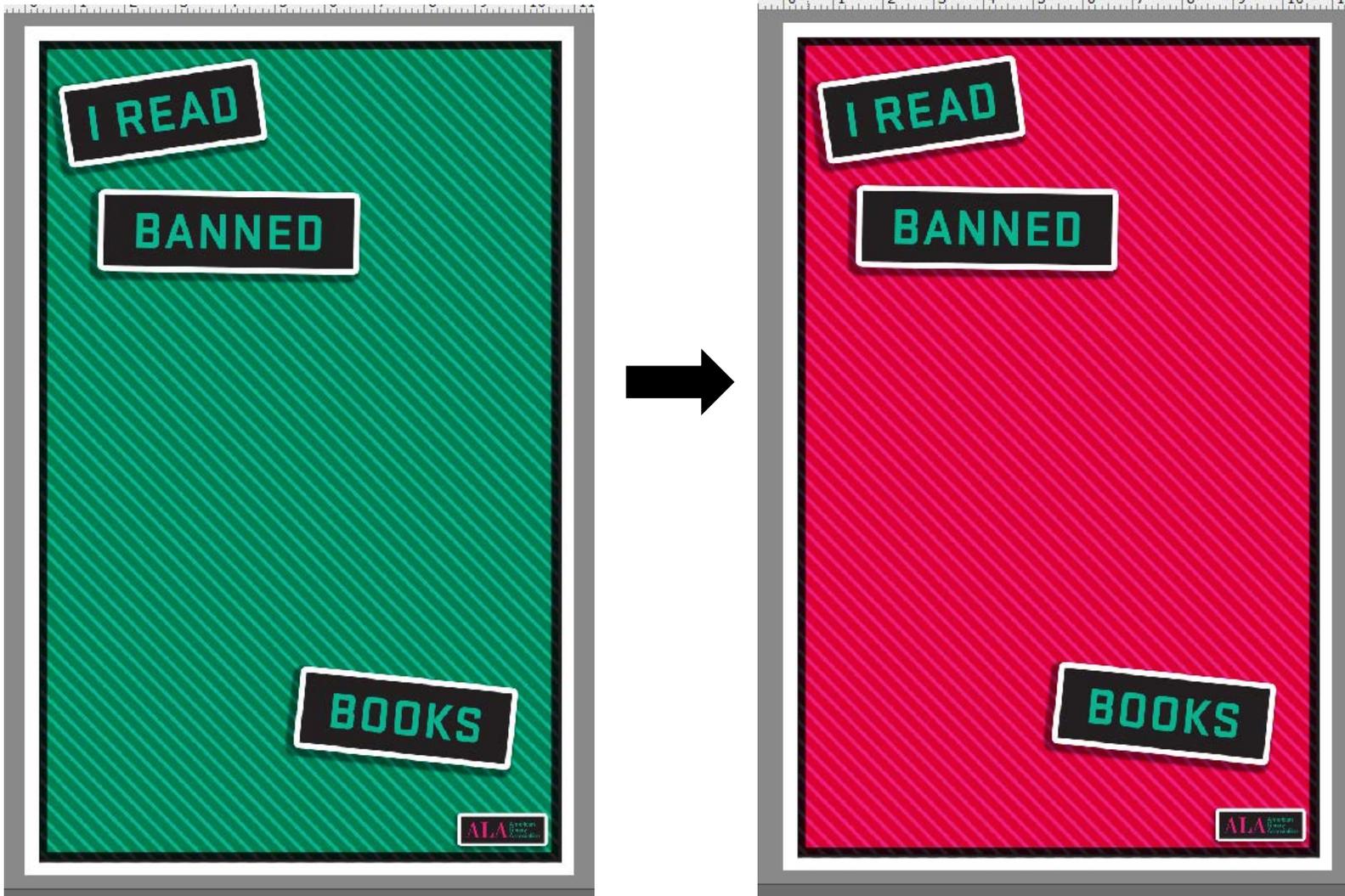


Notice that only a few of the layers are visible on the screen (the green-striped background, the I READ BANNED BOOKS text boxes, the ALA logo), while others are hidden. To toggle between what's visible and what isn't, click the eyeball icon next to each layer.  means the layer is hidden.  means the layer is visible. To change the background, click the eye next to the "Green Background" layer to hide it.

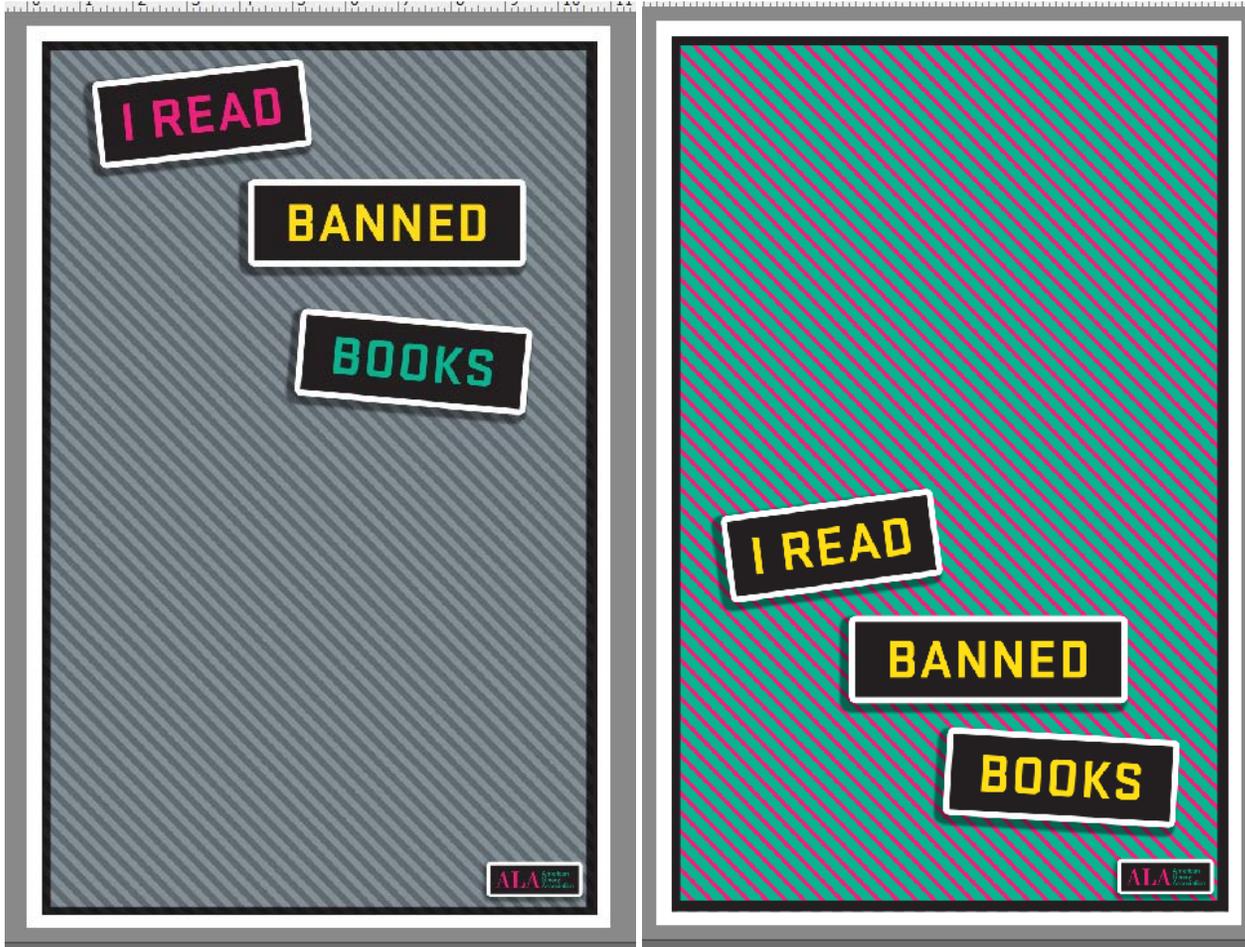


To choose the Pink Background, click the eye next to this layer.

And now your background has changed from green to pink:



Create your unique design by selecting or hiding different background and text color options!



To move text layers around, use the Move Tool in your left-hand toolbar. Select the Move Tool and select the layer you want to move. Then drag the text boxes to reposition them.



You can resize and transform elements as well. Using the Move Tool, select the layer you want to transform, and a bounding box will appear around the element in the layer. Hover over one of the small squares of the of the bounding box and your cursor will change to a rotating or resizing cursor. Click and drag to resize or rotate.



Adding Your Reader

Now, let's add an image of your reader!

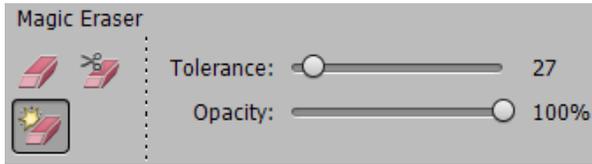
Open an image file using your photo editing software. You can use Ctrl + O on your keyboard or click File -> Open in Photoshop Elements. Select your image and it will open in a new tab on your software.



You will want to “erase” the background in your image so that your poster design shows. It's best to start with a photo where there's a big contrast between your reader and the background. As shown here, the contrast of the reader's black dress against the light wall color will make erasing the background pretty easy.

There are several ways you can erase a background:  Magic Wand,  Magnetic Lasso,  Magic Eraser,  Background Eraser, and  Eraser. You can get to the Magic Eraser by selecting Eraser, and different options will appear.

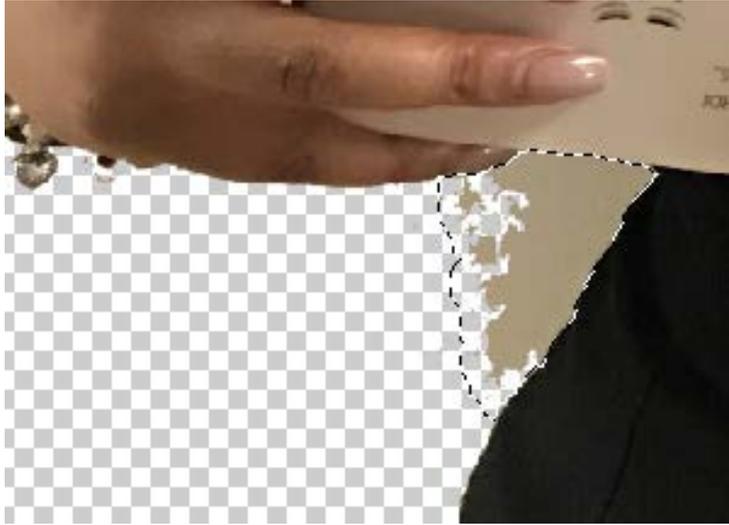
Using the Magic Eraser, you see an adjustable slider for the Tolerance. This affects the sensitivity of the tool you're using. A low tolerance erases pixels within a range of color values very similar to the pixel you click. A high tolerance extends the range of colors that will be erased.



I toggled the slider and tested different levels of tolerance. Due to the high contrast between the reader and the background, I chose a tolerance of 53. The eraser removed most of the background, but not everything was cleared. You can see the remaining background color is similar to the color of the book cover, so based on my tolerance level, the tool did not select those areas. We don't want the book cover removed, just the background.



To clean up the remaining background, use the Eraser to carefully erase these pixels or any of the other previously mentioned tools. For example, you can use the Magnetic Lasso and trace around the area you want deleted. You'll see a bounding box when you connect the start and end of your lasso:



Simply press Delete on your keyboard and it will become transparent!



Once you have the background erased, use the  Rectangular Marquee Tool to select the subject. A bounding box will appear.



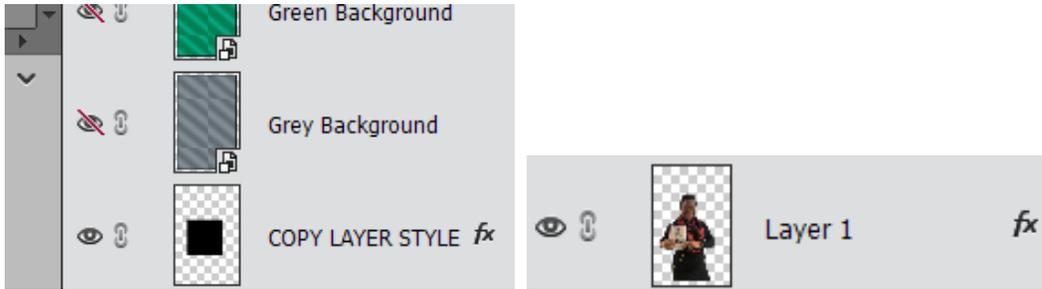
Using your keyboard, press Ctrl + C to copy. Click the tab the Poster File is opened in and press Ctrl + P to paste the layer.



Move the layer behind the other elements by clicking the layer on the right-hand toolbar and dragging it below other layers.



You can also add a white border around your reader so the style matches the poster file and its elements! To do so, scroll to the bottom of your layers and you'll see one named COPY LAYER STYLE. Hover over the **fx** Effects symbol, left click and hold to drag the effect to the layer with your subject.



Now the effect is moved to your layer!

