Photoshop brushes can be made from photos, sketches, line-art, silhouettes, scanned images…well from all sorts of images. 😁

I suggest you to choose your image wisely, because Photoshop brush is something you create when you'd like to use the image many times.

IMPORTANT NOTES:
1. Objects that suppose to be brushes cannot be bigger than 2500×2500 px
2. Black color in your image will give you 100% opacity of your brush color.
It means if you don't want your object or signature look like ghost – it should be black.
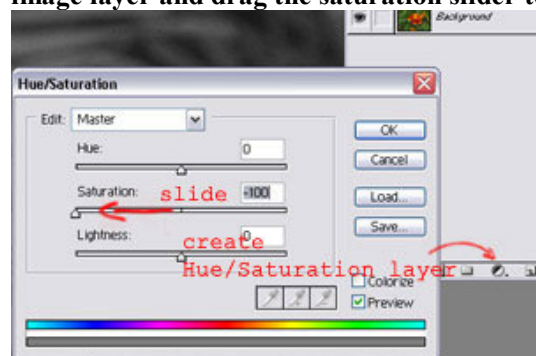**3. White color in your image will disappear in your brush.**
So the best background for your object would be white.
4. Colors appears in brushes as grey values.
It means that every color other than black or white will be seen as a grey color and it will have lower opacity in your brush.

TIP:
If you want to see your brush before you'll actually define it, create Hue/Saturation adjustment layer above your image layer and drag the saturation slider to the left end (-100).

This is how your brush will look (if you define it now without editing) if you use it with black paint on white background.
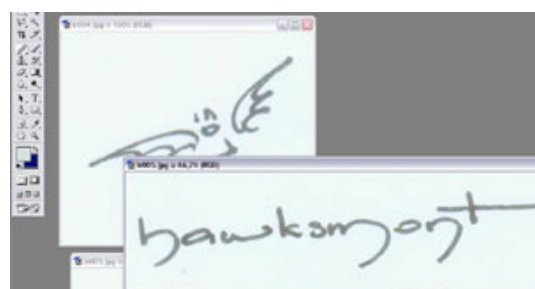

You think your image looks OK?
Then skip the rest of this part and go to **How to make Photoshop Brushes: Part III – Saving a single brush** 😀

OBJECTS WITH "WHITE" BACKGROUND

This part is mainly about images with light (not white) background. You can check your background color with an Eyedropper tool. If your image background is really white, you can skip it and go
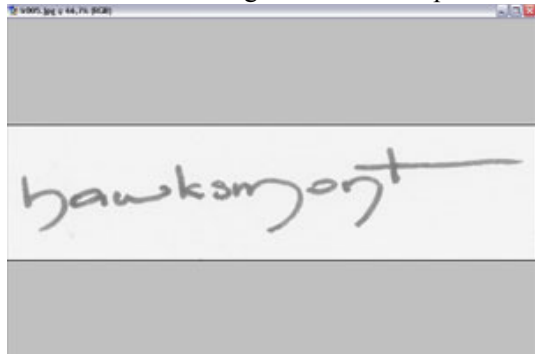
Those are my scanned signatures. I wrote them on a white paper, but it looks like rather light green than white here 😀
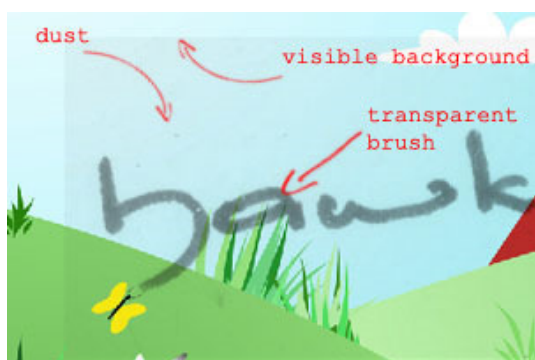
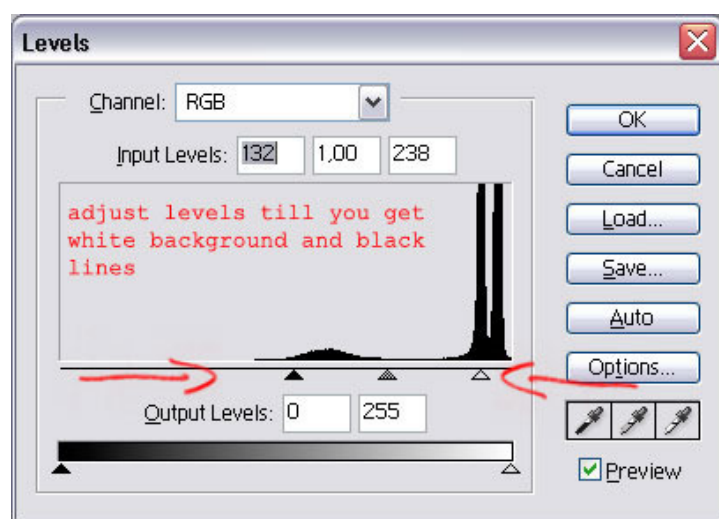## WHY THE WHITE BACKGROUND IS SO IMPORTANT?

I desaturated the image. So this is the preview of my signature brush:

It looks OK, but…:)

I personally don't like brushes with unplanned borders so Levels Adjustment is a must (Ctrl+L). Move sliders to get a white background and a nice contrasted or black object. Spots and dust can be removed with a soft white brush tip. You can also clear edges of your obejct if they are not smooth enough
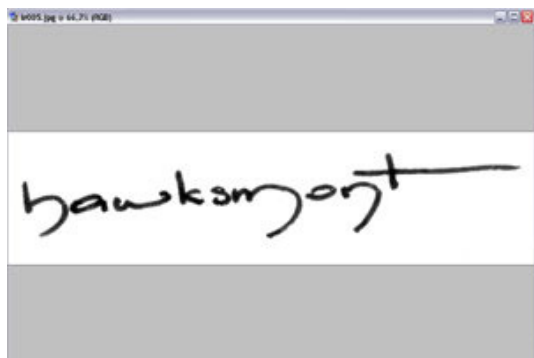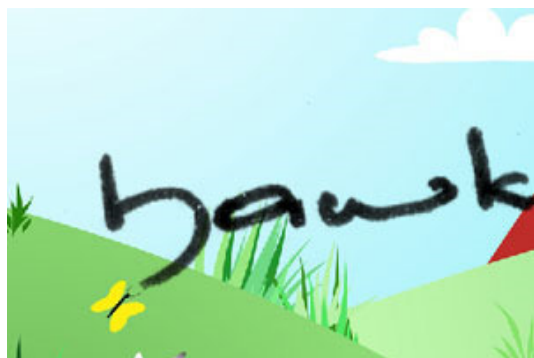

Now check the background color:

If you have an image like that…

…you'll have a brush like that:

–
Explore Free Photoshop brushes created by hawksmont

READ MORE ABOUT MAKING PHOTOSHOP BRUSHES

How to make Photoshop Brushes: Part II – Image preparation II
How to make Photoshop Brushes: Part III – Saving a single brush
How to make Photoshop Brushes: Part IV – Saving a set of brushes