



CLONE STAMP

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1. Sometimes you take a photo of an interesting subject, but some obstruction in the background steals the emphasis that the subject should have (**Figure 1**). For such occasions, Elements offers the Clone Stamp tool. This is how to use it.



Figure 1

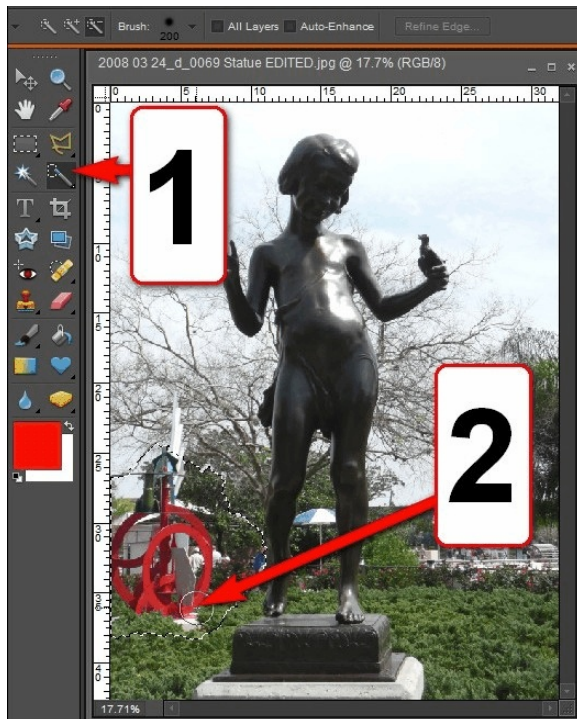



Figure 2

2. Use the Quick Selection tool to select an area to change (**Figure 2**).

- ① Left-click on Quick Selection tool.
- ② Left-click, hold, and drag the area to be changed. You'll see a broken, blinking line (called "marching ants").

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3. Select the area from which to clone — copy exactly (**Figure 3**):

- ① Left-click on Clone Stamp  tool.
- ② Change the size of the tool by using the sliding scale or use the left bracket (⌈) to *reduce* the size or the right bracket (⌋) to *increase* the size.

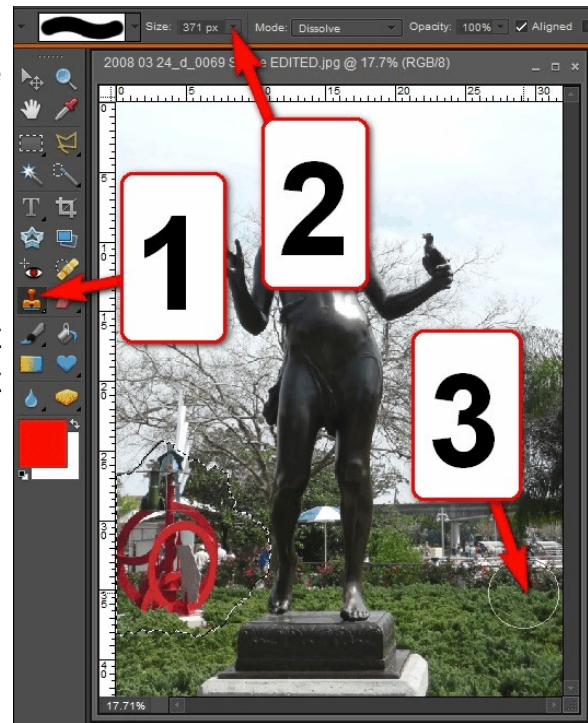


Figure 3



Figure 4

4. Hold down the Alt key as you Left-click on the center of the area to be copied verbatim, i.e., cloned (**Figure 4**).

5. Begin the cloning (**Figure 5**). Notice that I only cloned the ground cover and the hedge into the selected area.

① Left-click, hold, and drag in the selected area to replicate the area of the clone.

② The \oplus shows the area from which the Clone Stamp is copying the content.

★ To turn off the selected area, use Ctrl+D keys to “deselect.”



Figure 5



Figure 6

6. If I just clone from the right side of the photo to the left, even an amateur will spot the effects. So I used a series of simple clones from the bush (circled) to create a hedge where there was not one before (**Figure 6**).

7. Then, by using clones of the bushes created on the left, the resulting product (**Figure 7**) is much more realistic, but the offending nuisances are gone.



Figure 7