

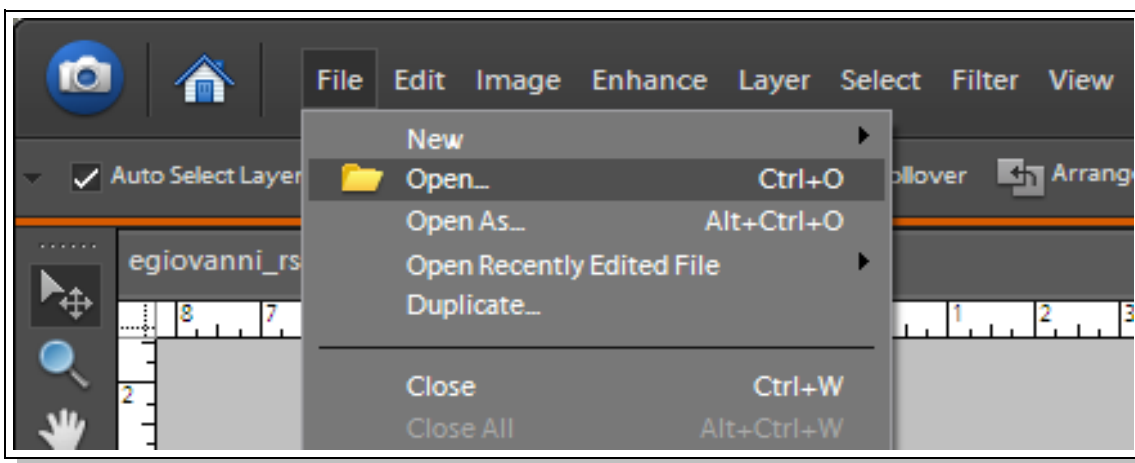
DIGI PAPER TIPS AND TRICKS by Kurtis Amundson

This is not meant to be an exhaustive guide to digi paper, but just a list of tips and tricks you can use to expand the versatility of your digi papers. These tips are mainly to be used when the digi paper is going to be printed rather than used in it's digital form, but you could use some of these tips in the digital realm.

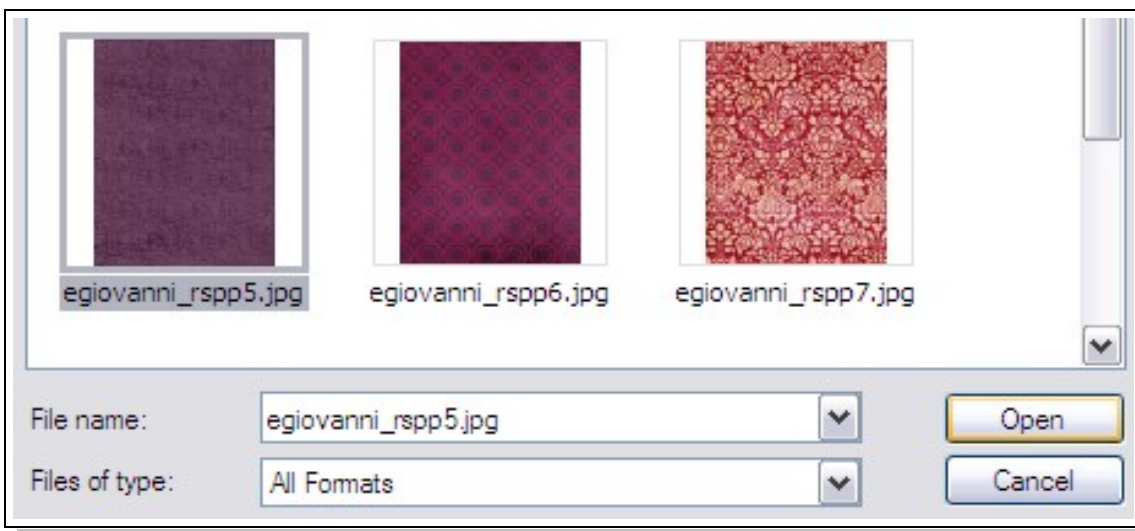
The Basics

We're going to start with the very basics of using digi paper - Opening your file and printing it. There are many different photo viewing programs but I'll try to keep the instructions clear enough to follow in any of them. After you open your photo viewing/editing software you'll need to open your digi paper file.

From the toolbar choose **FILE >> OPEN**.

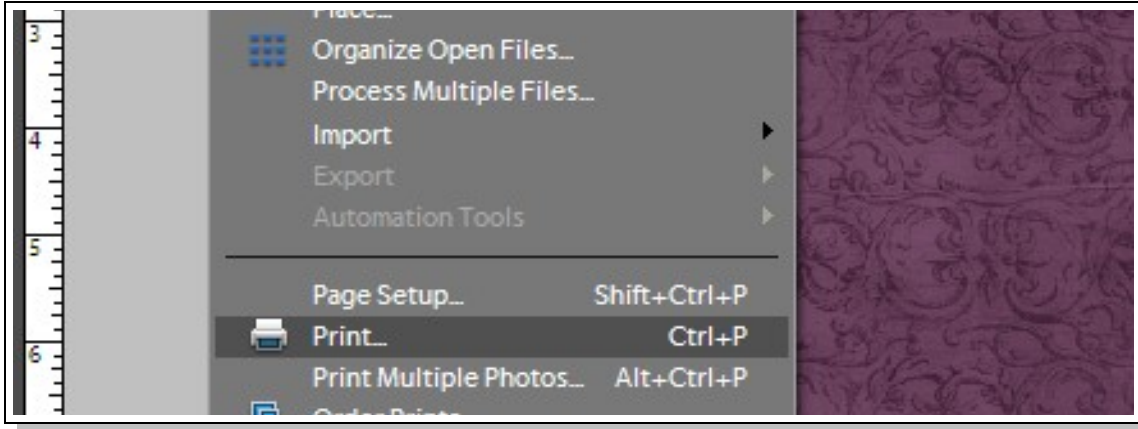


Now browse for your digi paper file and click **OPEN**.



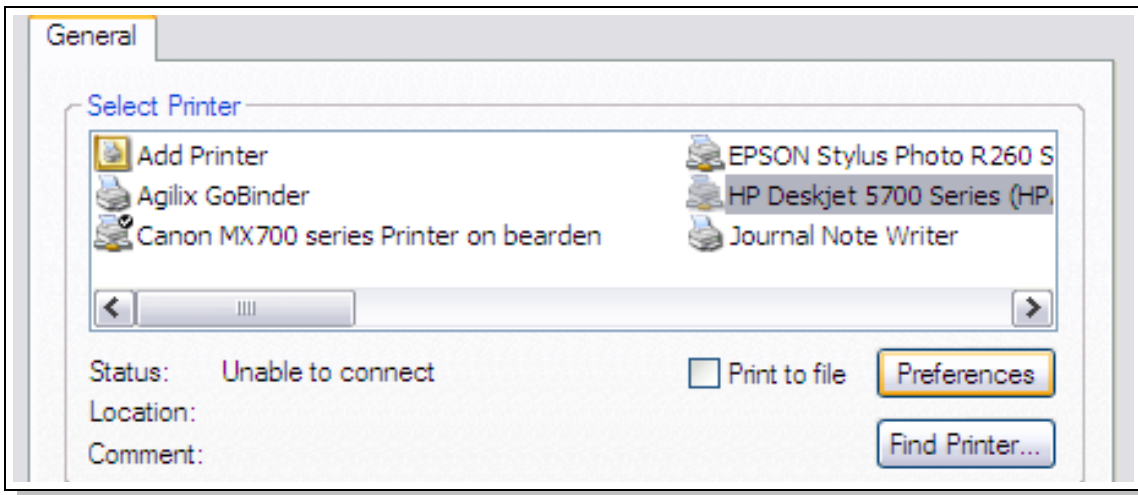
Now that your file is open, we're ready to print...

From the toolbar choose **FILE >> PRINT**.

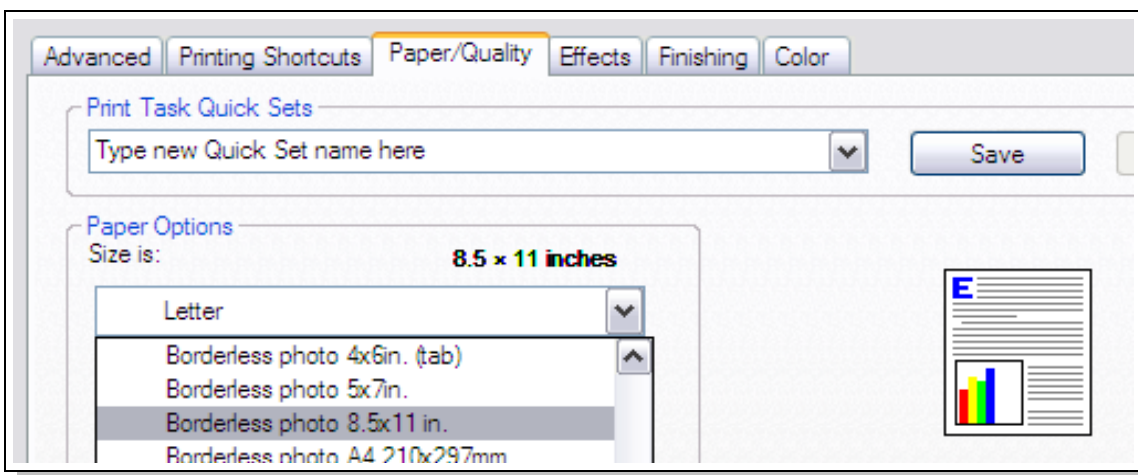


Depending on your program you may have different options on the print screen, but you should be able to follow this step.

Select your printer and click **PREFERENCES**.

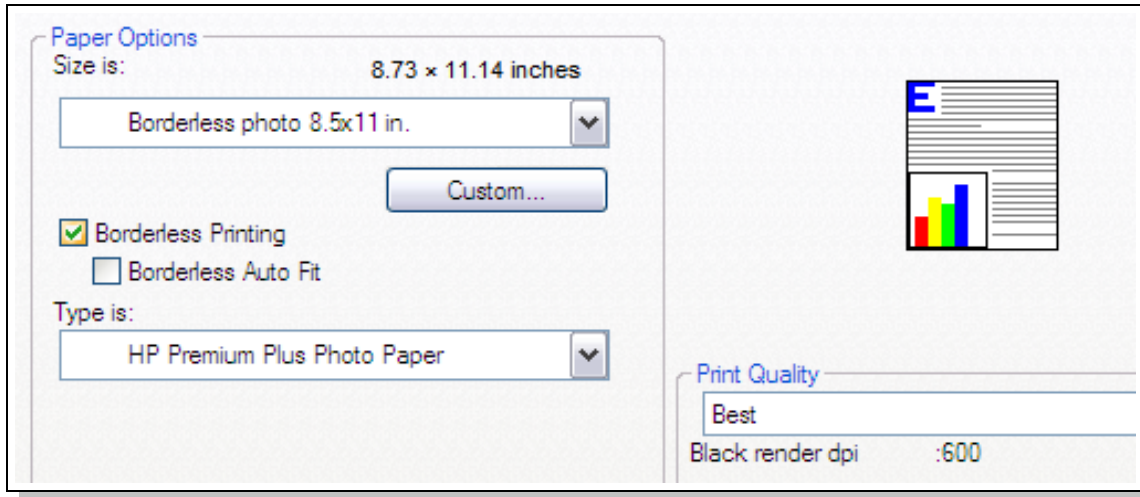


Find your paper size and quality options.



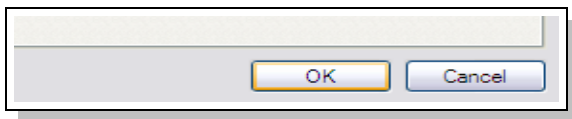
Most digi papers are designed to be printed borderless but not all printers have this option. In that case, just select Letter size or 8.5x11 in.

Choose 8.5x11 in. and select borderless printing. Make sure that Print Quality is set to Best.

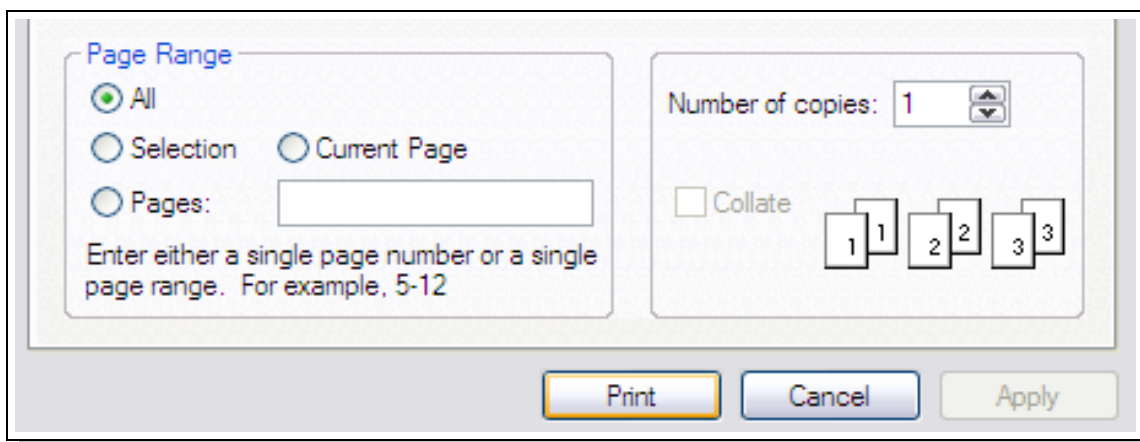


My printer automatically chooses Photo Paper as the paper type when I select borderless printing even though I print on cardstock.

Click OK to close the preferences window.



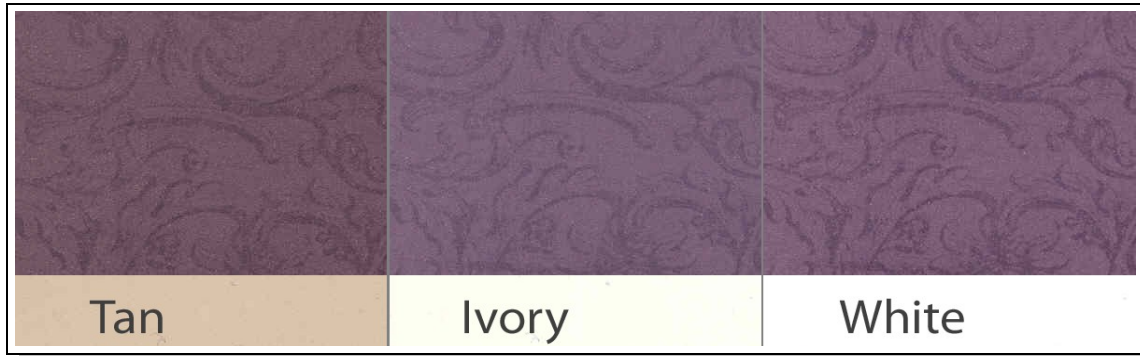
Click **PRINT**.



Now you can admire your brand new patterned paper made right from your own computer. The best thing about digi paper is that you can print it forever and not worry about it going out of stock or out of style!

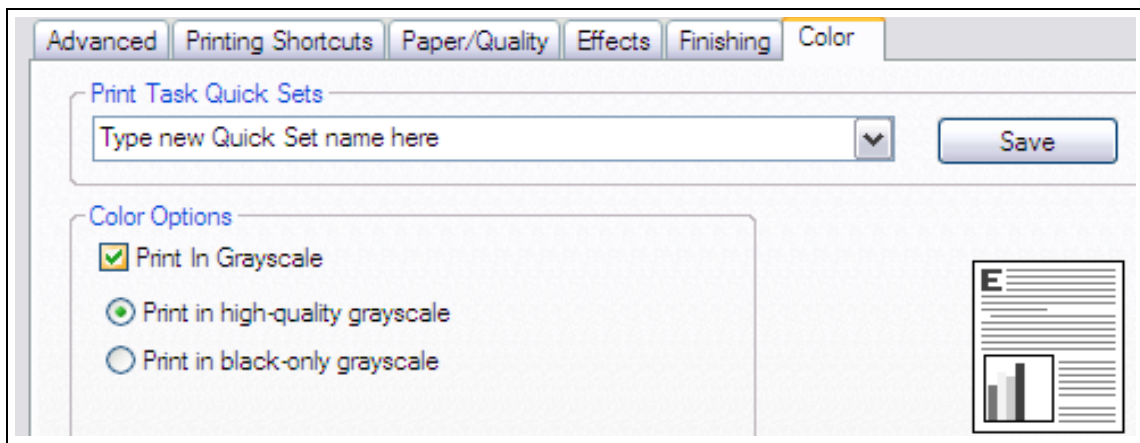
Tip #1 – Base Color

You can get different tones by printing a design on different colored paper. Try experimenting with neutrals (whites, creams, light grays, etc.) as well as light colors. Below is the same pattern printed on three different colors of cardstock.



Tip #2 – Grayscale On Color

Patterns that have high contrast (lights and darks) can be printed in grayscale on colored cardstocks to create a monochromatic effect. In your printer's preferences you should find some sort of color management and then select Grayscale.



Below is the original file printed on white and in grayscale on colored cardstock.



Tip #3 – Digi Layers

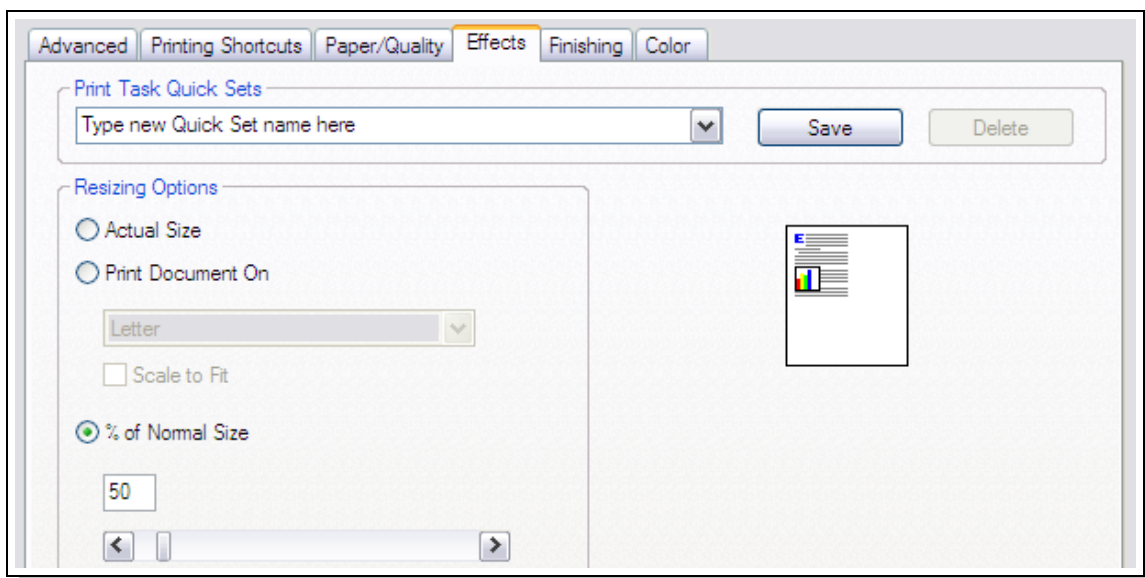
I discovered this from Melanie Muenchinger - melaniemuenchinger.blogspot.com

Using photo editing software, you can create your project digitally and print it out. I used Photoshop Elements to arrange a few layers; the White base, Red Patterned Paper, and Black Oval. I added the shadows and the sentiment with an embossed effect and then printed the design onto white cardstock.

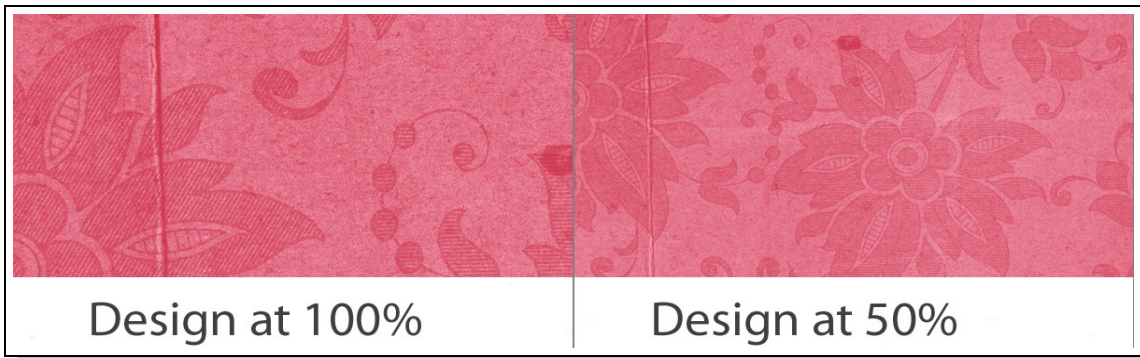


Tip #4 – Resizing Paper

You may have a large pattern that would coordinate better if it was smaller.

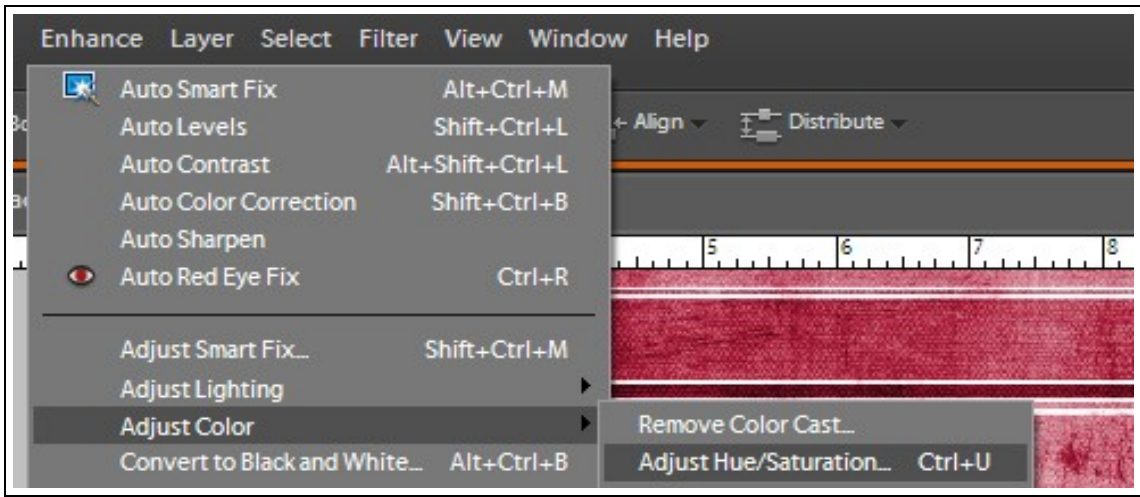


If your printer preferences have a Resizing Option then you can use this to shrink your design. Below is the original design at 100% and the same design at 50%.

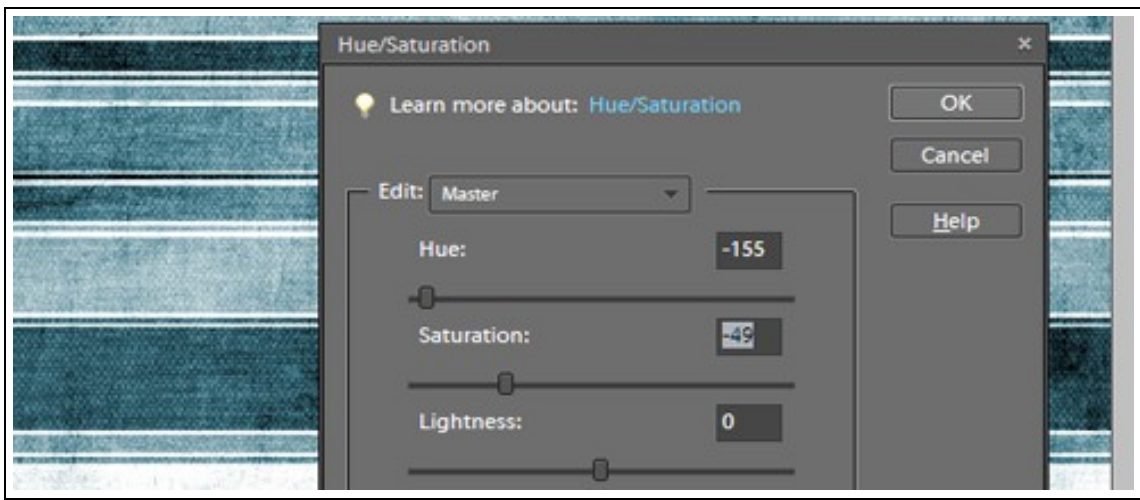


Tip #5 – Hue Change

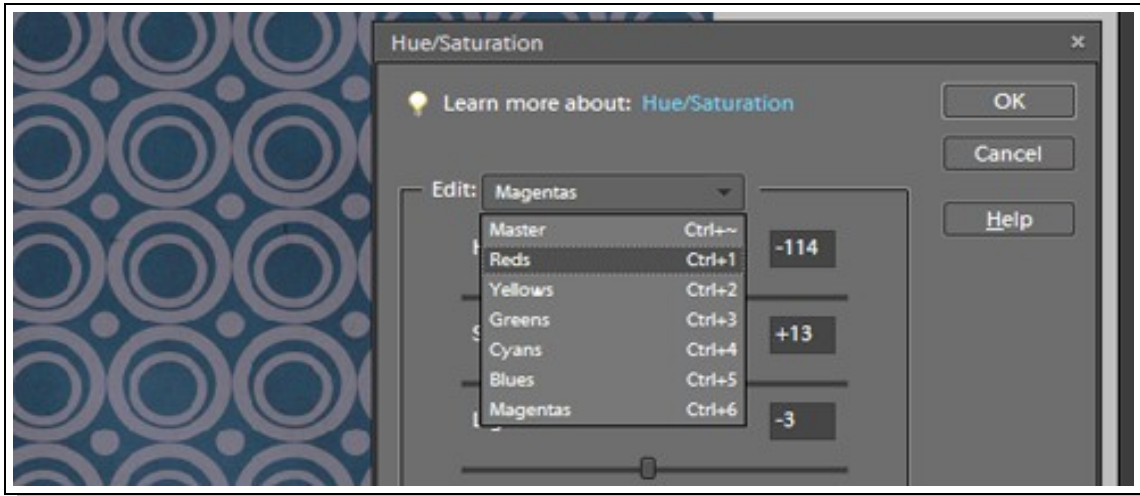
Use your photo editing software's Hue/Saturation tool to alter the color.



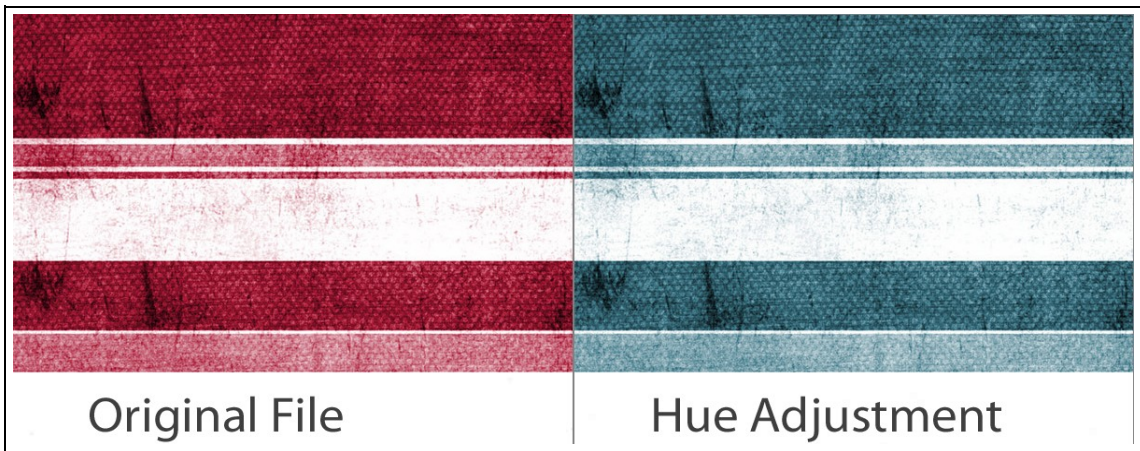
Slide the Hue and Saturation point around to alter the color of your digi paper.



If you have a digi paper file that has multiple colors on it then use the different color channels to alter each color individually.



Below is the original file along with the Hue/Saturation adjustment.



On this file, I adjusted the Red and Magenta Channels independently to get the new colors. You can use this tip to easily create coordinating projects.

