

SOME CONCLUSIONS ABOUT PROSHOW PRODUCER MASKS

ASSUMPTIONS (for the given tutorial)

- The MASKING LAYER is Smaller than the Masked Layer.
- The viewer perspective for what layer is revealed or hidden is the masked layer. THE MASKING LAYER REVEALS or HIDES THE MASKED LAYER!
- Using any color or group of colors as a masking layer is permitted!

ALPHA (Transparency)

- The masking layer color is irrelevant! What IS RELEVANT is whether or not the mask is inverted.
- Non-Inverted Mask – The amount of the masked layer available for viewing is limited to the masking layer size.
- Inverted Mask – The entire masked layer is visible and the masking layer is punching a hole through it.

INTENSITY (Grayscale)

- Non-Inverted Mask. The entire masked layer will appear except for where the masking layer has punched a translucent hole through it. The amount of translucency in the hole is determined by the masking layer color(s).
- Inverted Mask.
 - The amount of the masked layer available for viewing is limited by the masking layer size.
 - The masked layers' opacity is determined by the color(s) used in the masking layer.
- **A BLACK Masking Layer**
 - Non-Inverted – Hides the masked layer
 - Inverted – Shows the masked layer
- **A WHITE Masking Layer**
 - Non-Inverted – The portion of the masked layer immediately beneath the masking layer is visible
 - Inverted – The masked layer is visible except immediately beneath the masking layer (it is transparent)
 - Can act like its Alpha (Transparency) counterpart (i.e., inverted or not)

NOTE:

The masked layer is transparent for masking colors with the value of #000000 (hexadecimal)/ R0G0B0 (decimal) or Black. The masked layer becomes less transparent as the numerical value increases. When it reaches 50% transparency, the masking color has a value of #777777 or R128B128G128 (Gray), which is halfway between #000000 (Black) and #ffffff/R255G255B255 (White). Finally, the masked layer is completely opaque when the masking color's value reaches #ffffff (White).

A quick table using various shades of gray can also help. The colors are presented in RED, GREEN, and BLUE sequence for the numbers below. Each hexadecimal value is a two-number value while the RGB decimal values are given as Rx, Gx, and Bx where 'x' is a decimal number.

Hexadecimal	Number			Percent (%)	
	Decimal	Transparency	Opaque		
#000000	R0 G0 B0	100	0		
#555555	R85 B85 G85	67	33		
#777777	R128 G128 B128	50	50		
#AAAAAA	R170 G170 B170	33	67		
#FFFFFF	R255 G255 B255	0	100		

Note that BLUE represents a darker color than RED which is darker than GREEN.