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Applying and Using a Layer Mask

1. Open your image in Photoshop.
2. Duplicate the layer. **(Ctrl J)**
3. Desaturate the top layer by going to Image in the menu, down to Adjustments, and choosing Desaturate from the list. **(Shift Ctrl U)**
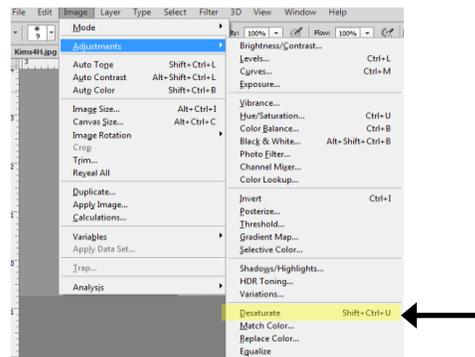
4. At the bottom of the Layers Palette, click the Add Layer Mask button.
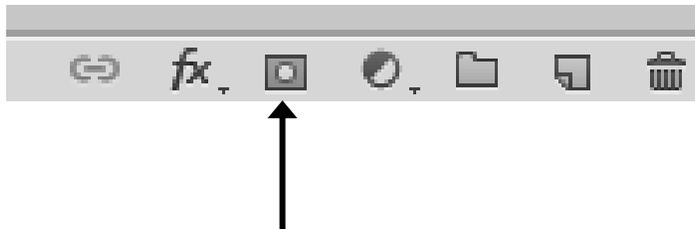
5. The mask is shown next to the layer thumbnail in the Layers Palette. Click the Mask icon to make it the active component of the layer, it should display a black border around the mask.

6. Select the brush tool, set the foreground and background colors to the default **(D)**.

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7. Paint to areas where you want the color of the under lying layer to be visible.
    a. Foreground set to **Black** will remove the mask and allow the image from the layer below to show.
    b. Foreground set to **White** will show the current layer content to show.
    c. To change the Brush size use the **([)** key to shrink the brush and the **(])** to enlarge the brush.
    d. To change the brush hardness use **(Shift [)** to soften or **(Shift])** to sharpen.
    e. Use the **(X)** key to toggle the foreground / Background colors as needed.