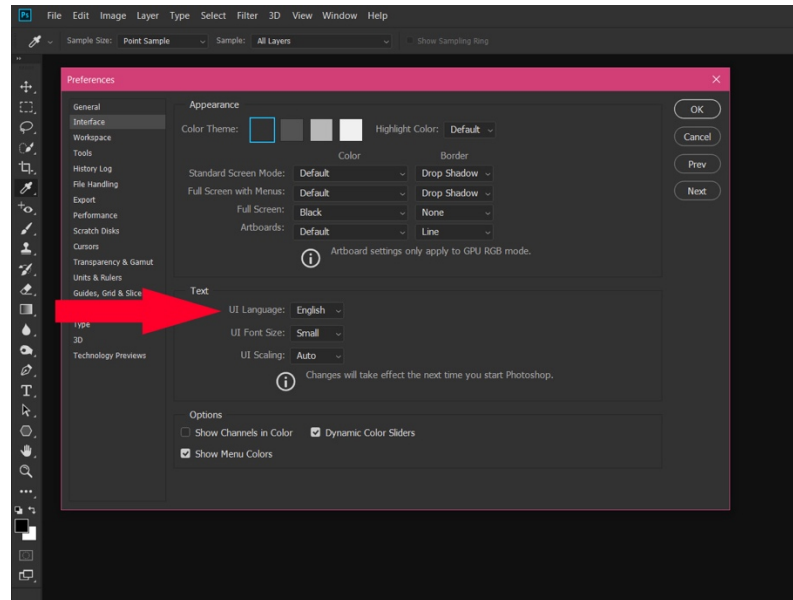


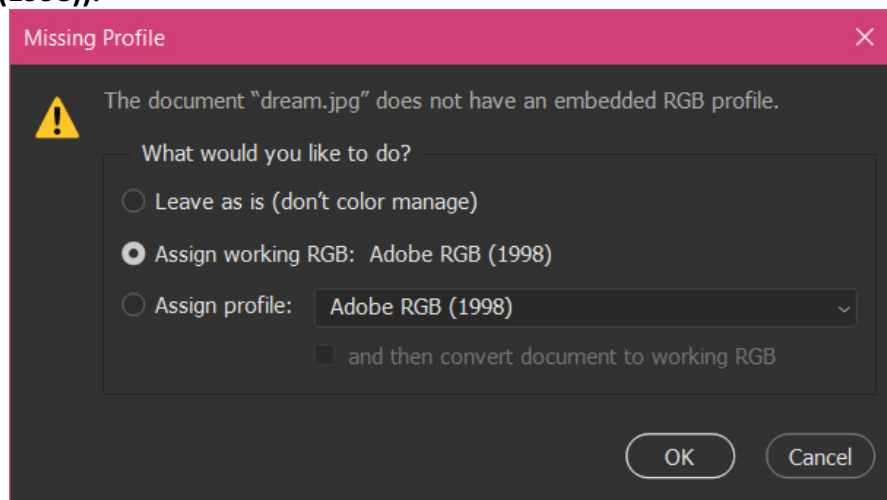
Hello and thank you for purchasing!

## How to use the Soft Pencil Art Action

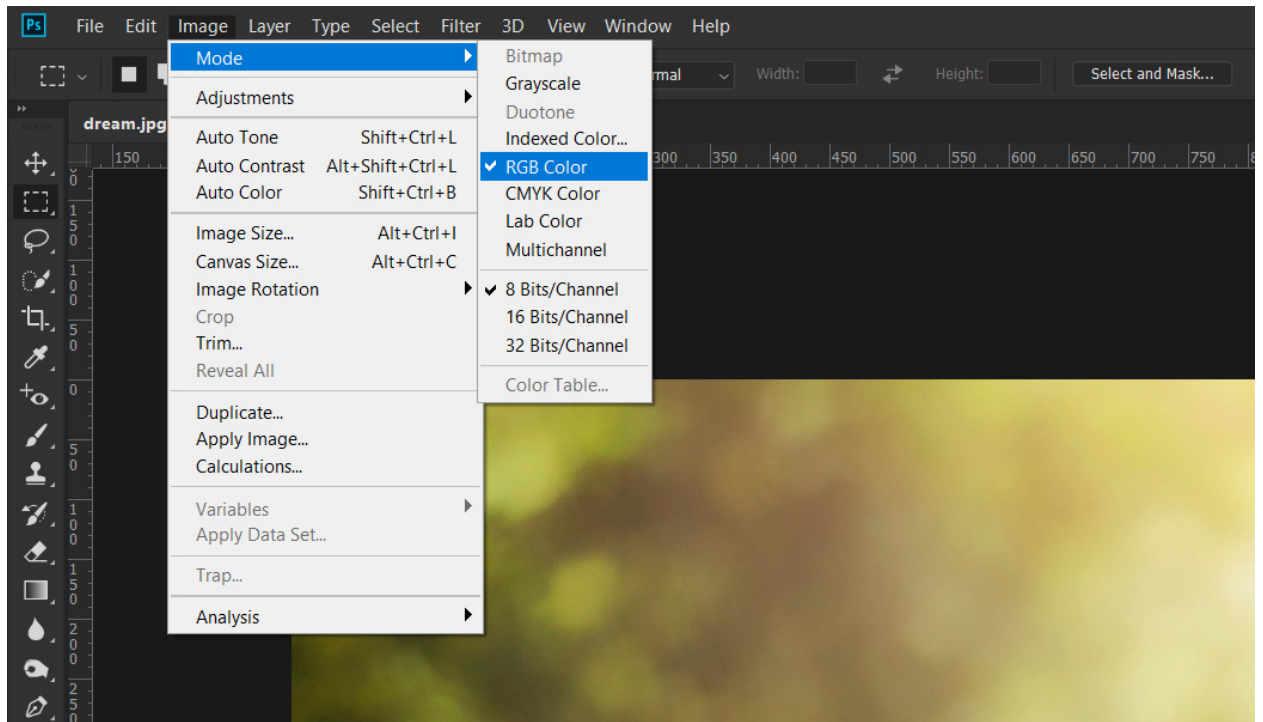
First, make sure that you are using the English version of Photoshop. Go to Edit – Preferences – Interface:



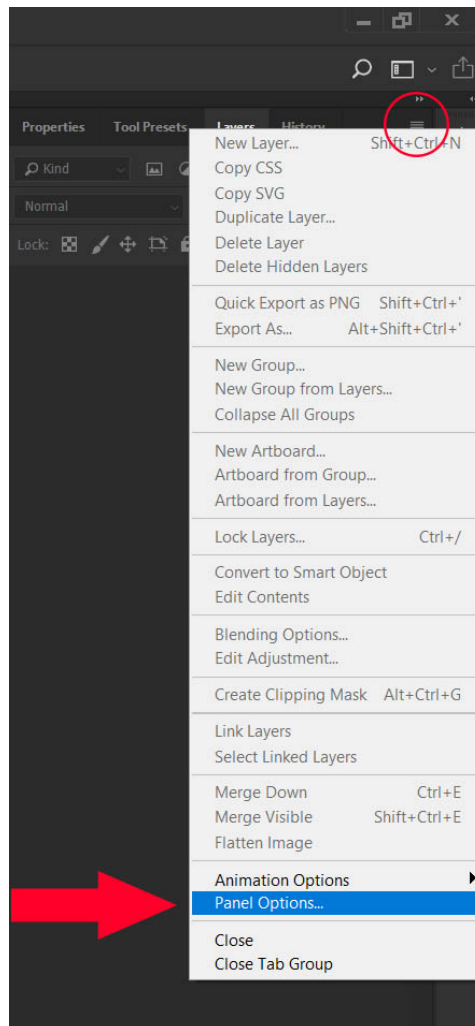
**Attention! When you open the image, don't forget to assign its profile to working RGB (Adobe RGB (1998)).**

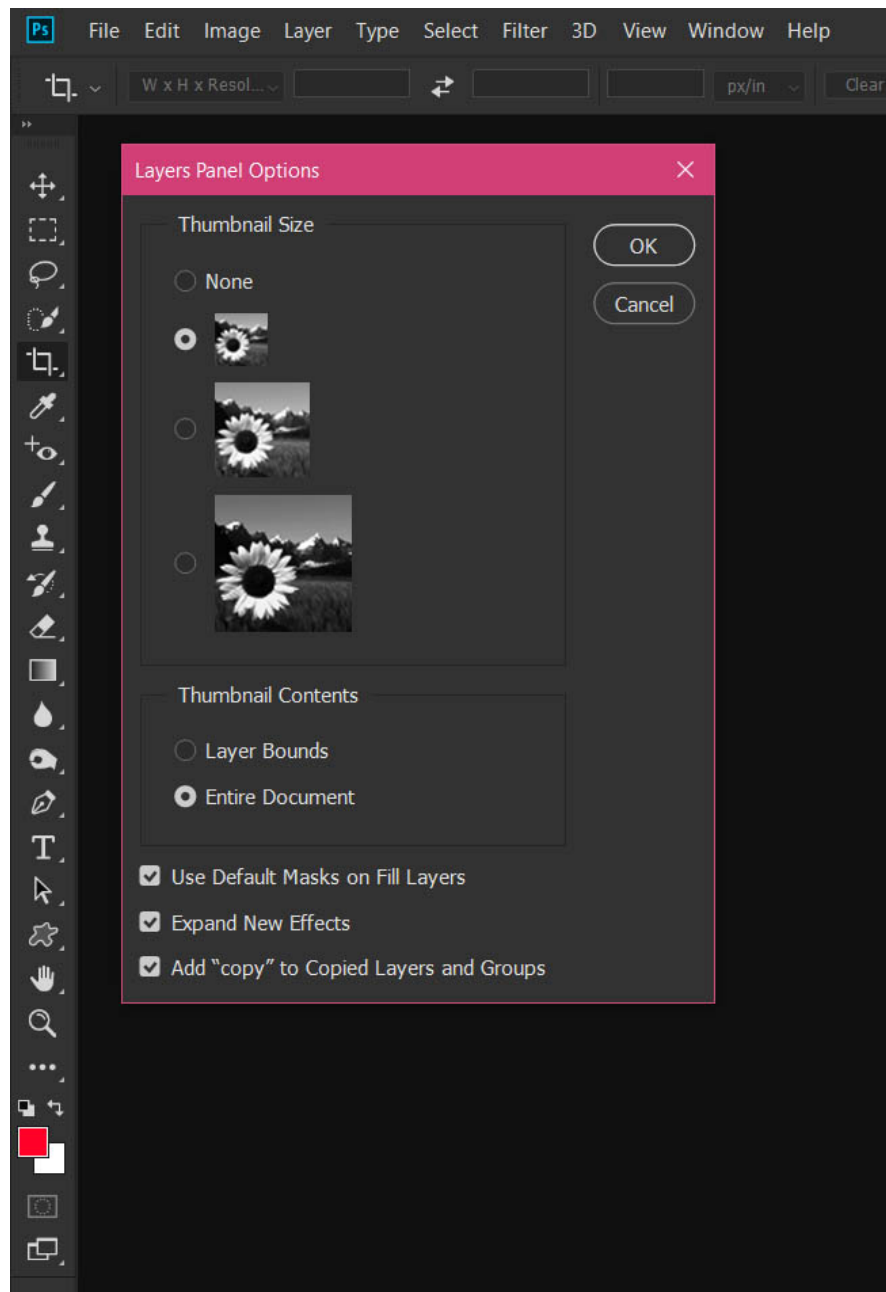


Set brush opacity and flow to 100%. Best use photos 2000-4000 pixels.  
Now make sure that your image has an RGB format of eight bits. Go to Image – Mode:

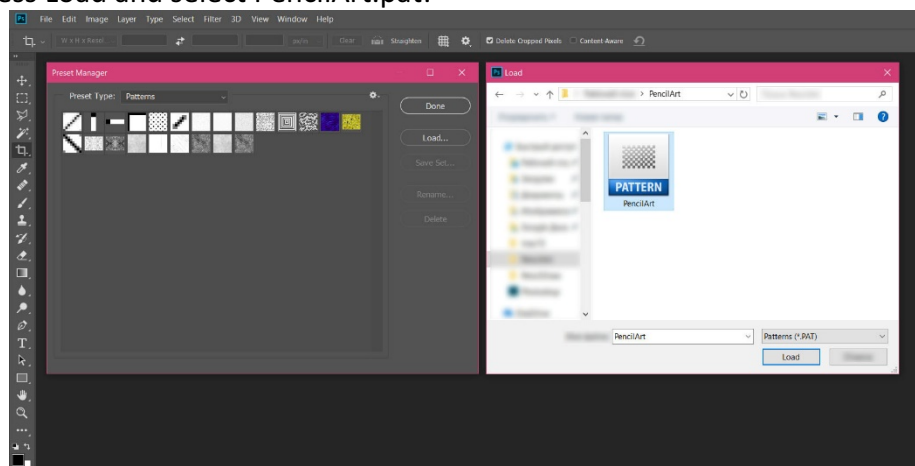


The next step is going to the Layers tab - Panel Options, make sure that you have all 3 items in the bottom of the window:

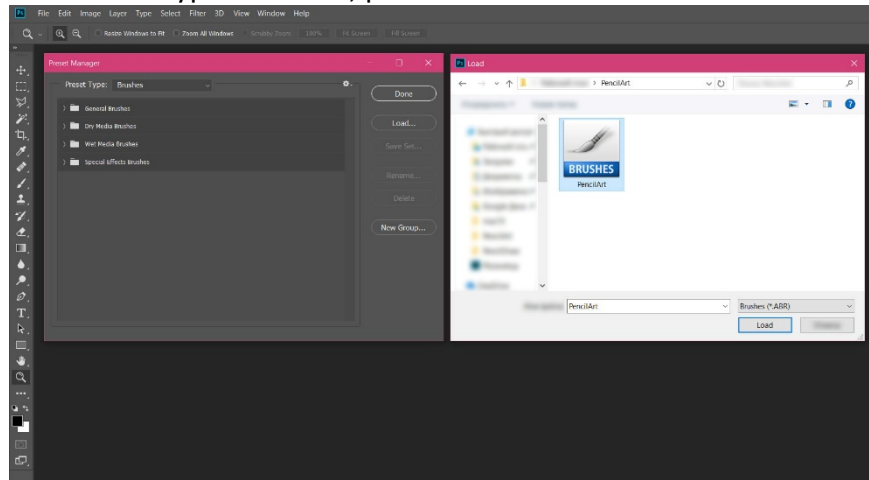




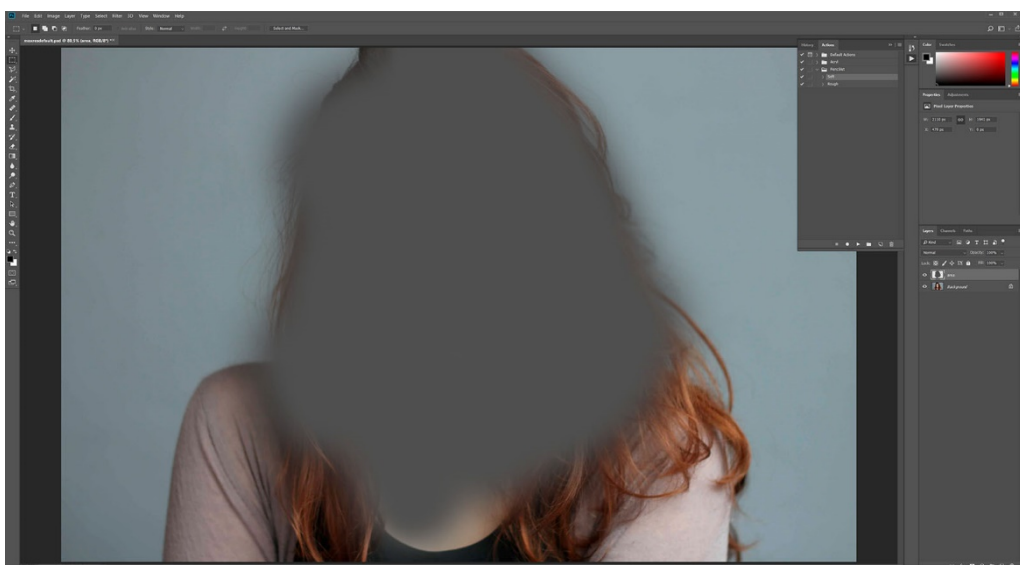
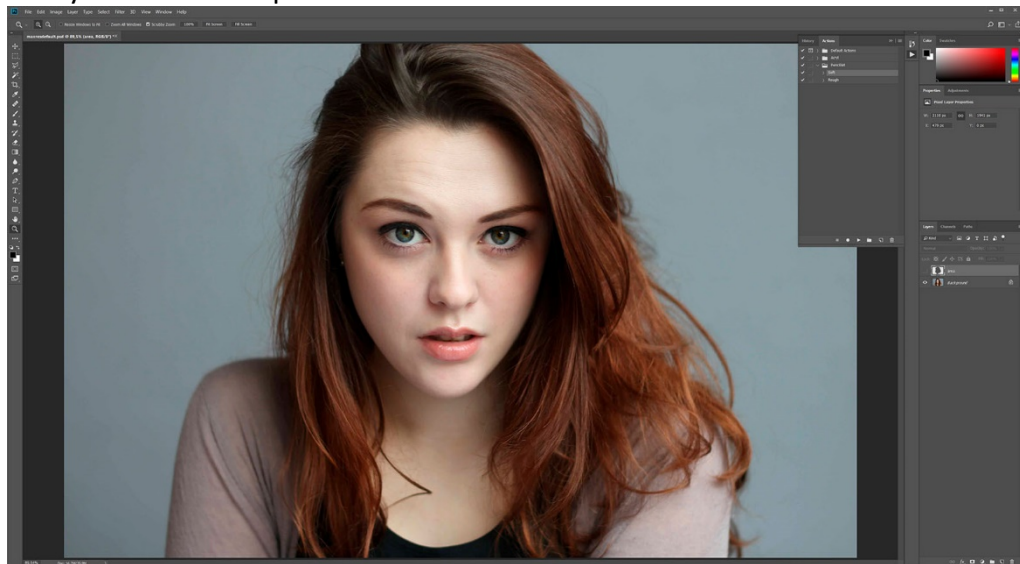
Before using the action file, you need to load the necessary patterns and brushes into Photoshop. To do this, go to the Edit - Presets - Preset Manager menu. Select Preset Type - Patterns, press Load and select PencilArt.pat:

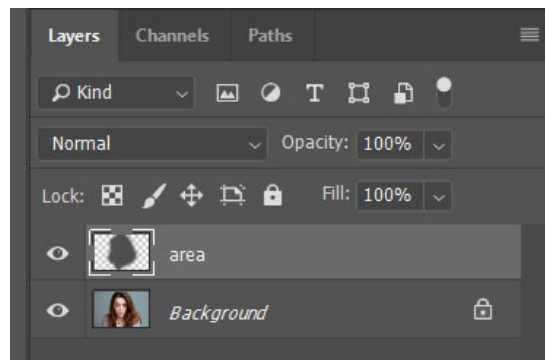


Then select Preset Type - Brushes, press Load and select PencilArt.abr:

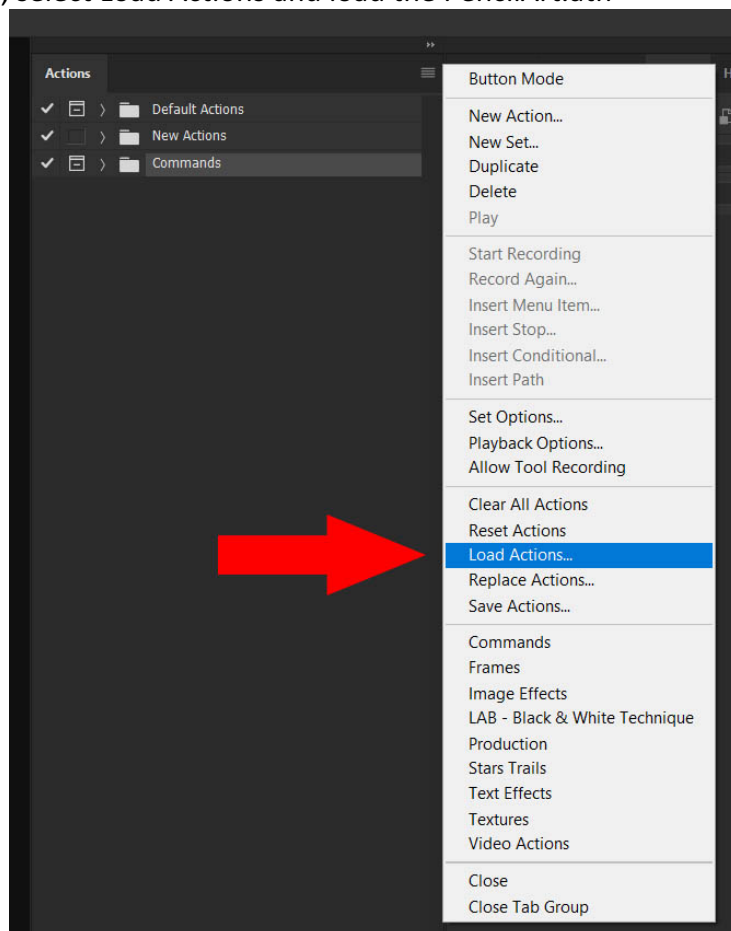


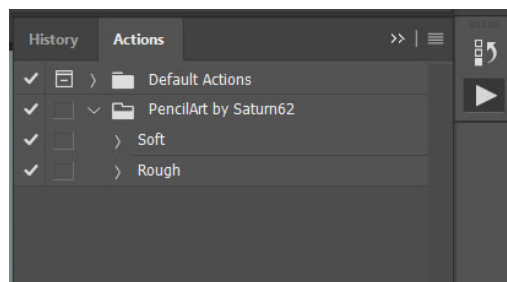
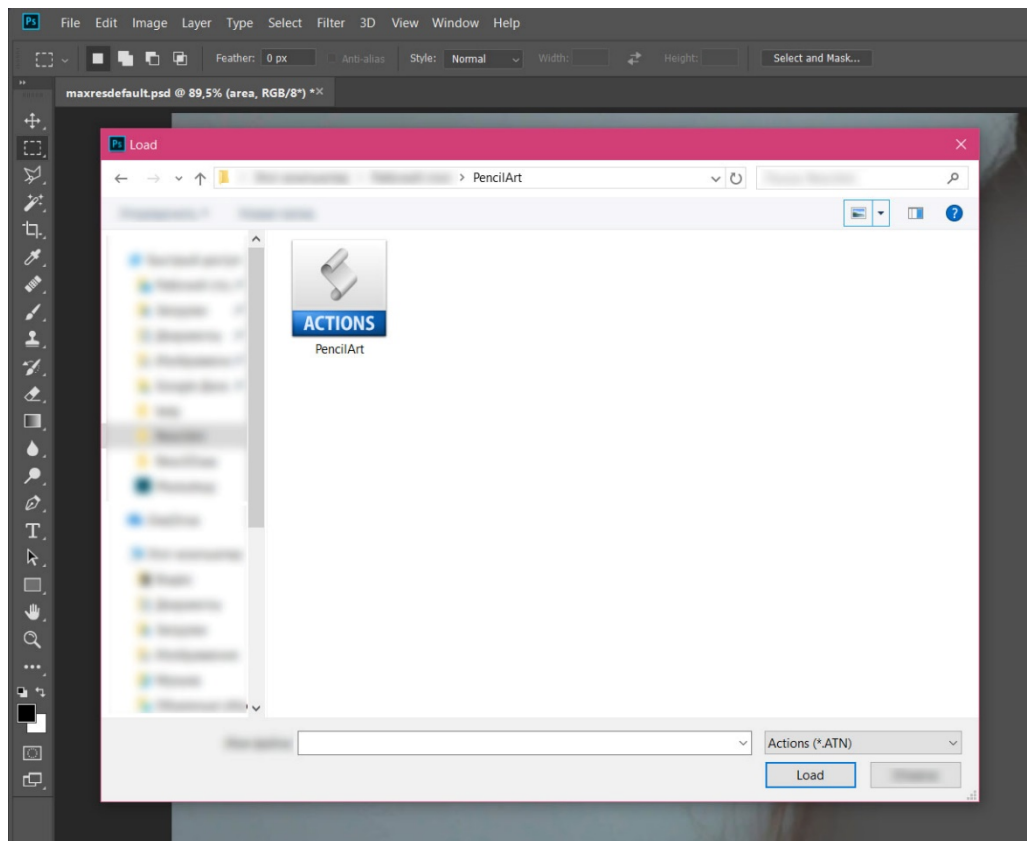
Now go to the Layers panel and create new layer with name "area".  
Select brush tool (it's better to use a soft brush) and paint the area (color doesn't matter), that you want to emphasize.





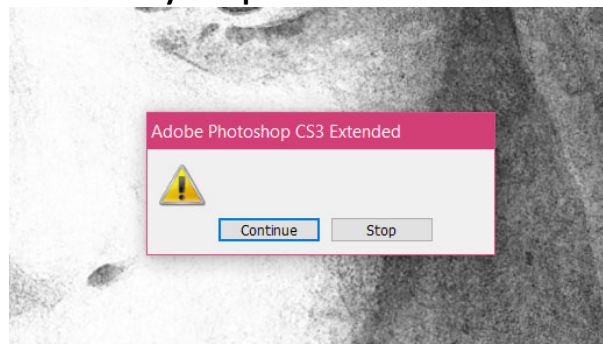
Then load the action. Go to the Window - Actions. Click the icon in the upper-right corner of the panel, select Load Actions and load the PencilArt.atn



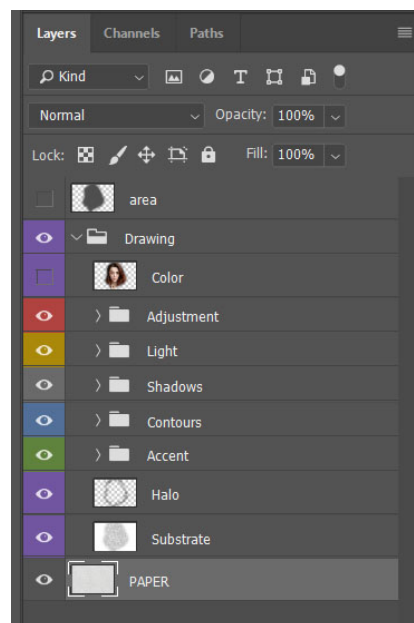
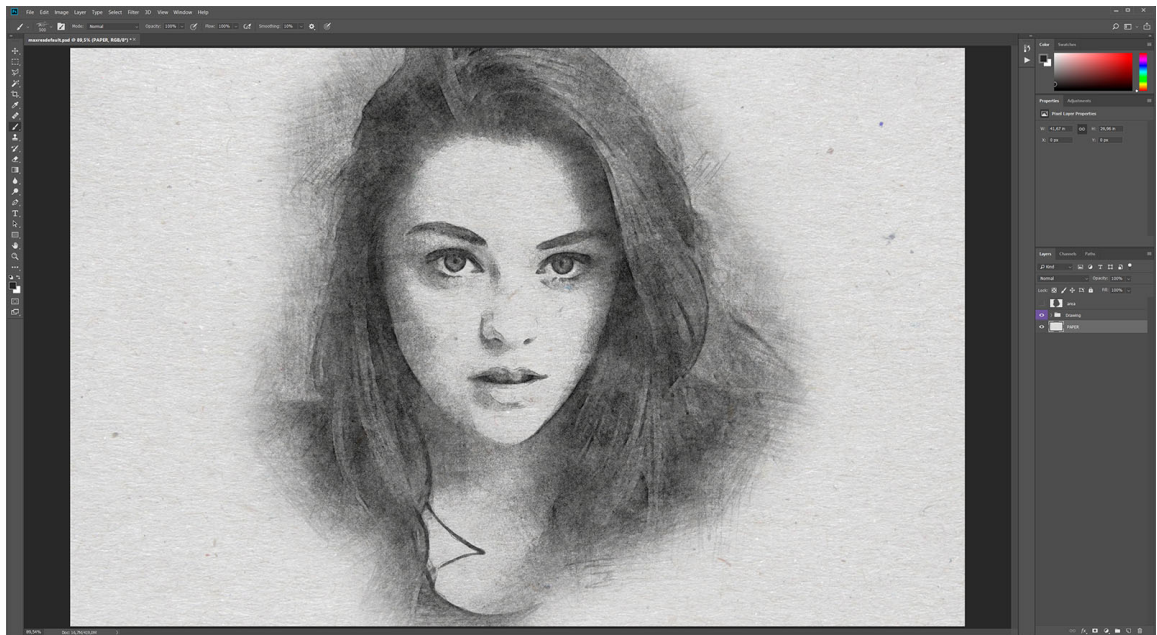


You will see 2 actions in the set: soft and rough. They give a slightly different effect, but the structure of the layers is very similar, so we will only analyze the example of Soft mode working. Run our action. Wait until it processes the image, about 15-20 seconds.

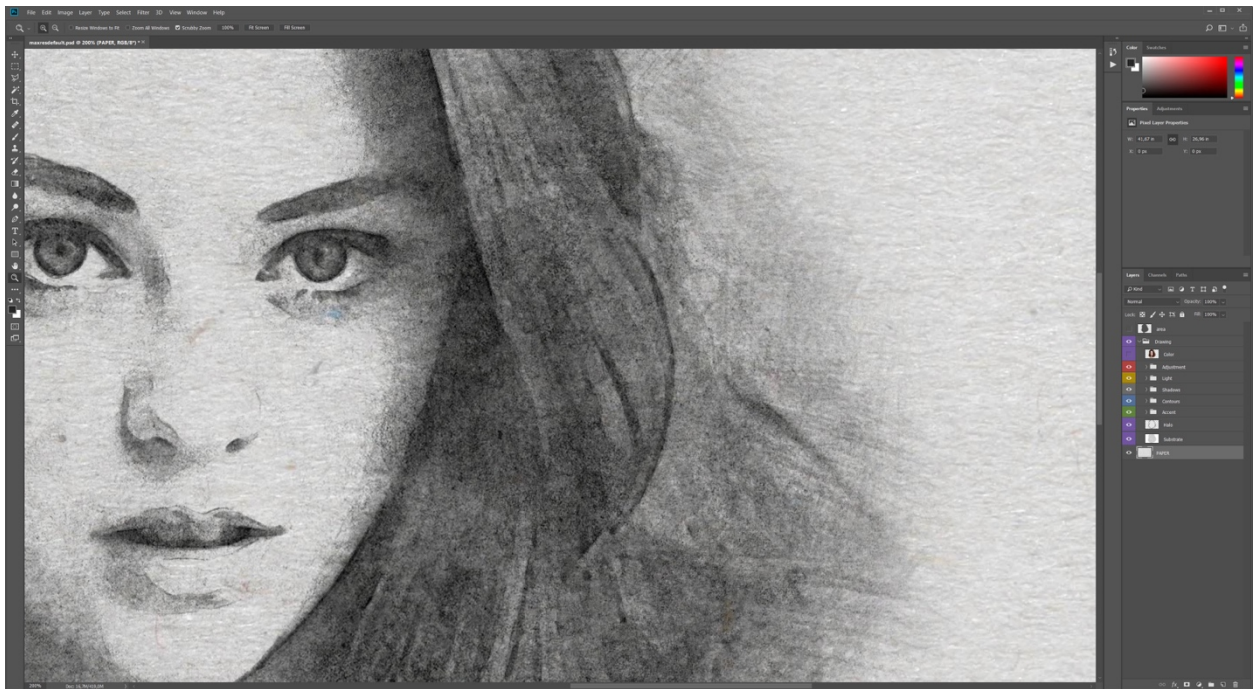
**Attention! When using the version of Photoshop CS3/4 at the end of the action, it is possible to interrupt and the appearance of an empty window. In this case, just click Continue, the action will be correctly completed.**



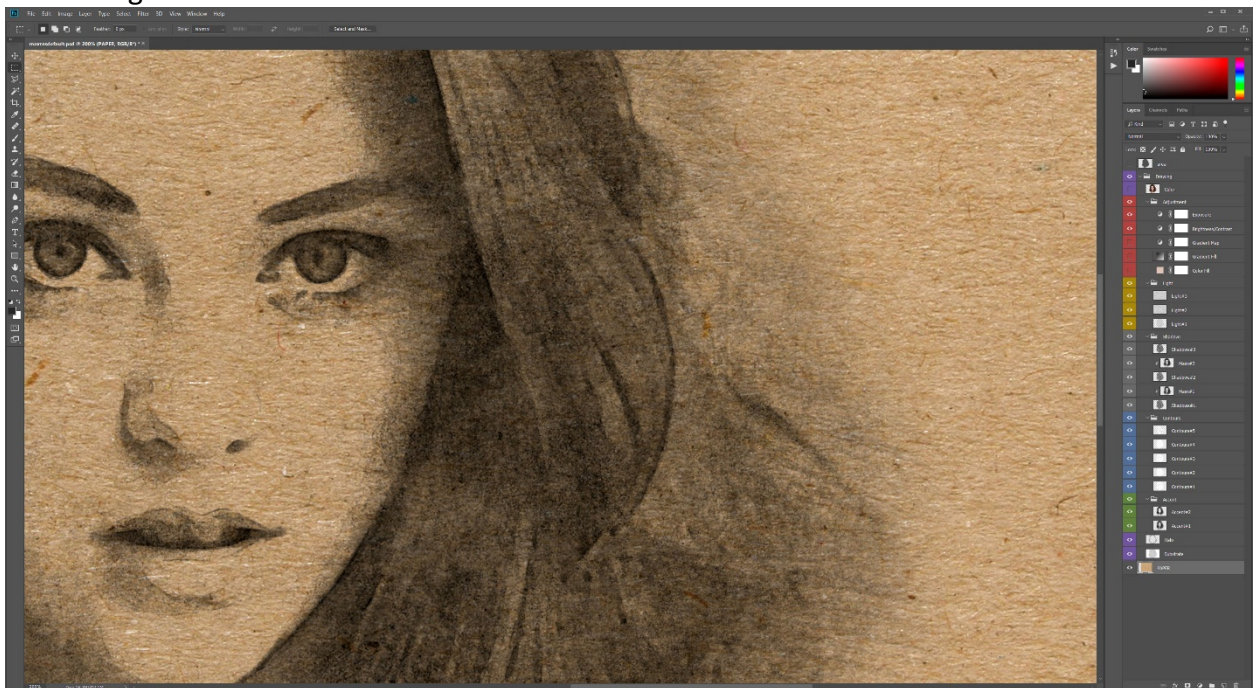




Done. In the layers panel you will see 5 groups, 3 separated working layers and PAPER layer.



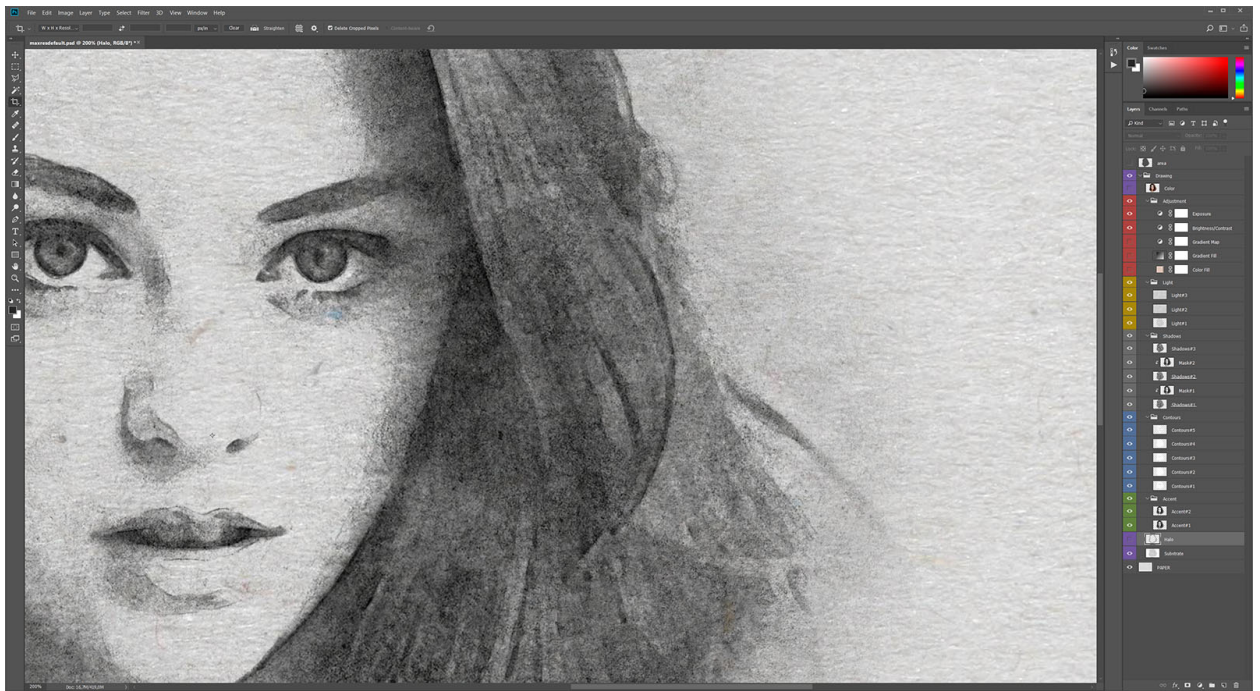
Layer PAPER is just a texture of natural rough paper. You can easily remove it or replace it with any other texture of your choice, for example, cardboard. In this case, the result will look something like this:



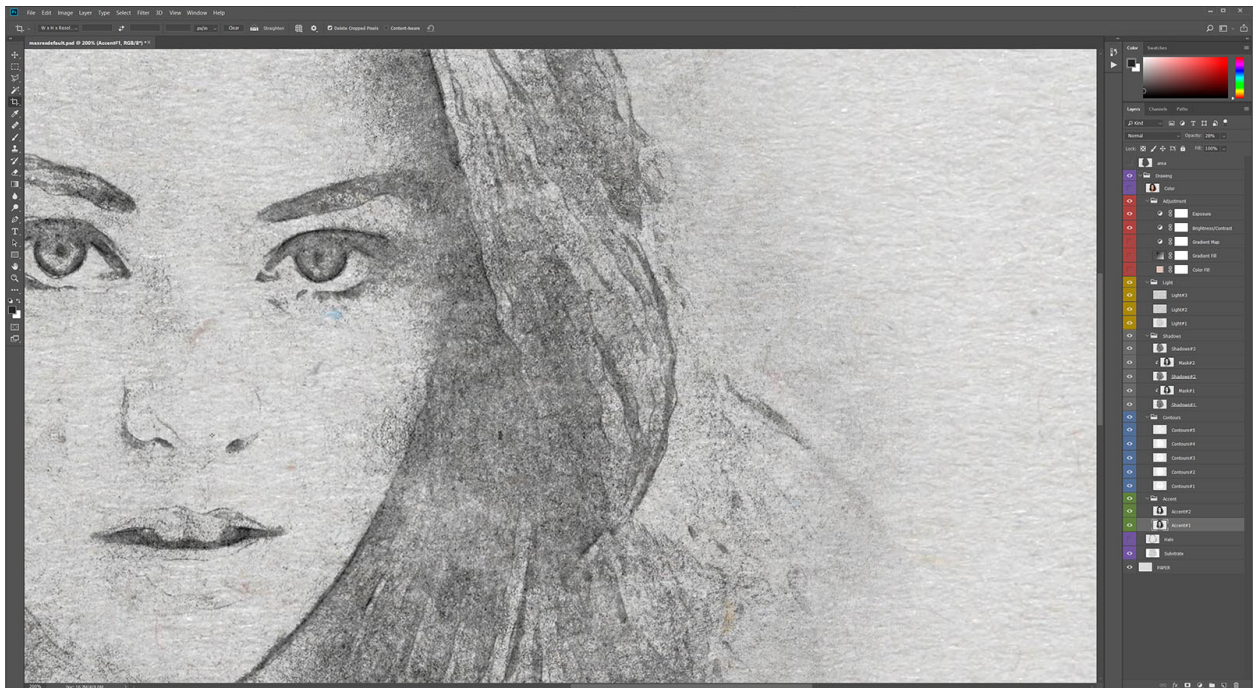
Layer Substrate serves to separate the drawing from paper. It is best to always leave it visible.

The Halo layer fills the space around the drawing with a pencil hatch. It looks good for a dark and medium background. If your image background is light, it is possible will be better to hide this layer.



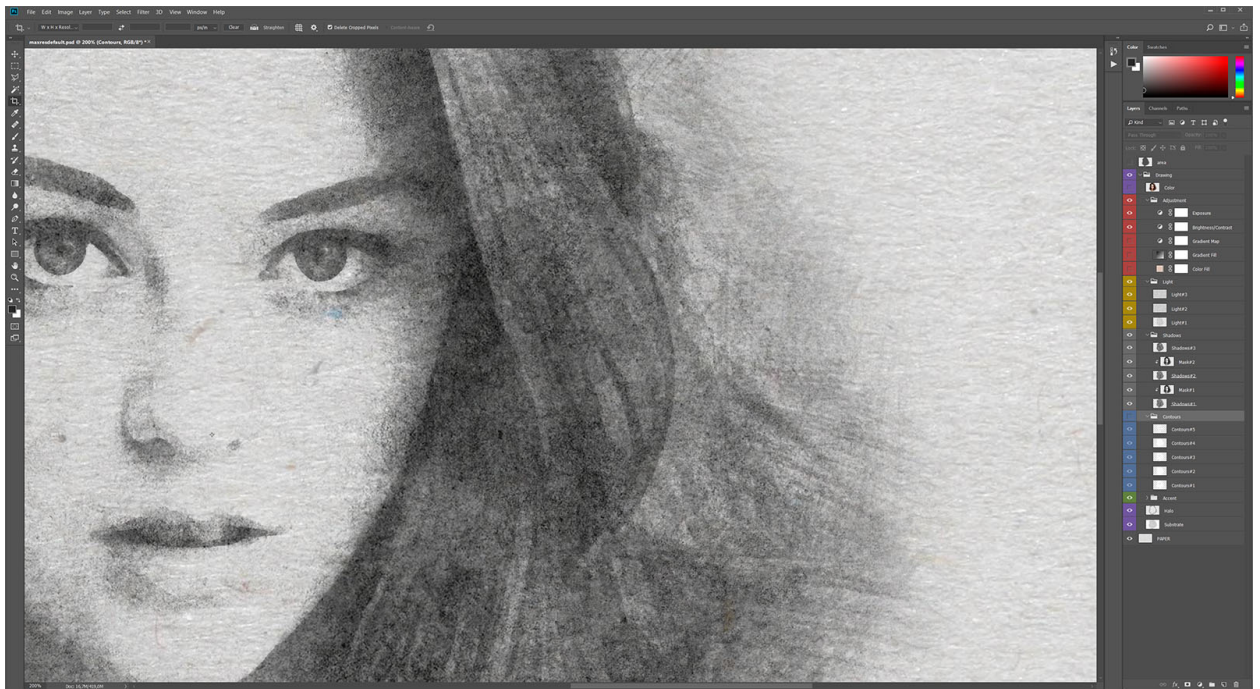


The Accent group contains 2 layers responsible for the basic tinting of the picture. You can change the opacity of the layers, achieving either greater photorealism, or the effect of a sketch.

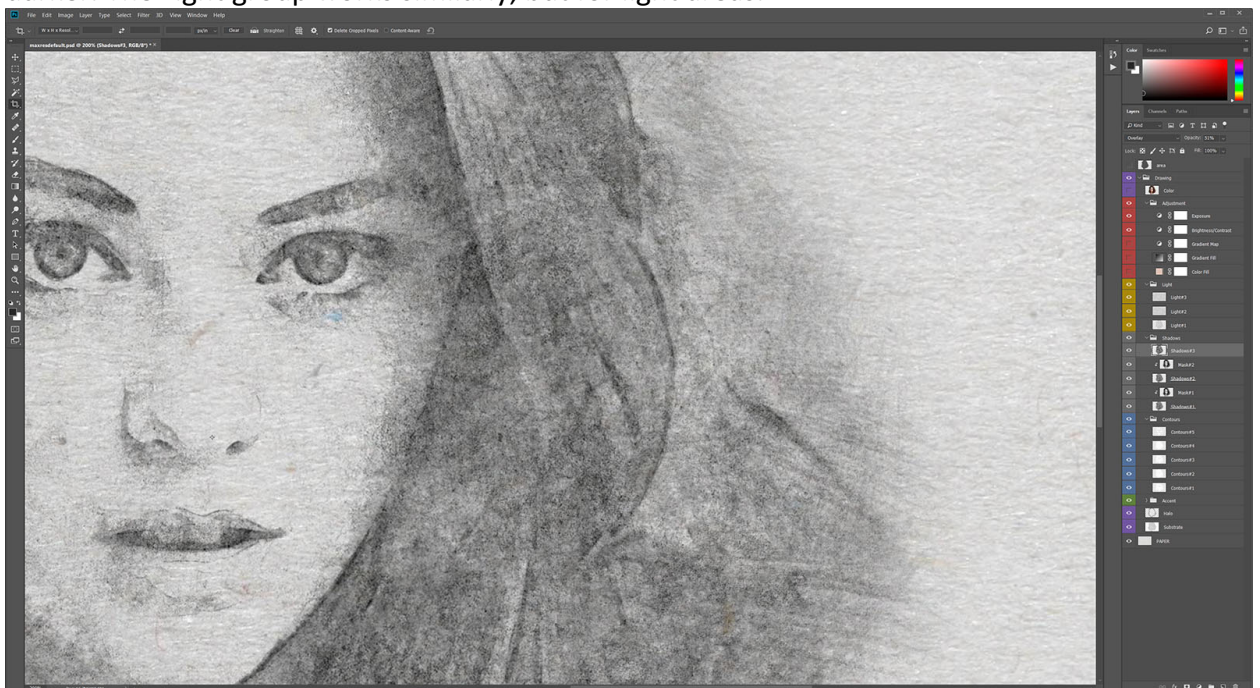


The Contours group contains 5 layers with pencil contours: for small, medium and large details. By default, all layers are active. If you don't need to highlight outlines, try to hide one or more layers of the group.



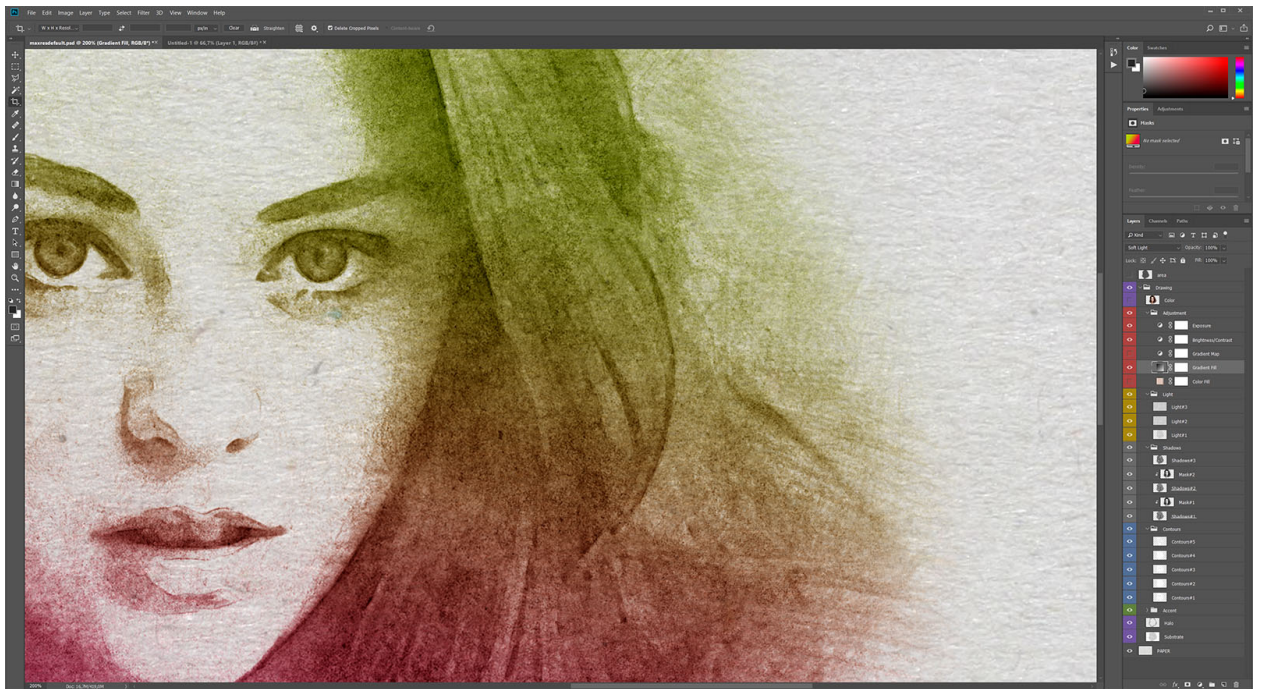


The Shadows group is responsible for hatching dark areas of the image. By changing the opacity of the layers of this group, you can make the drawing rougher, or cleaner, lighter or darker. The Light group works similarly, but for light areas.

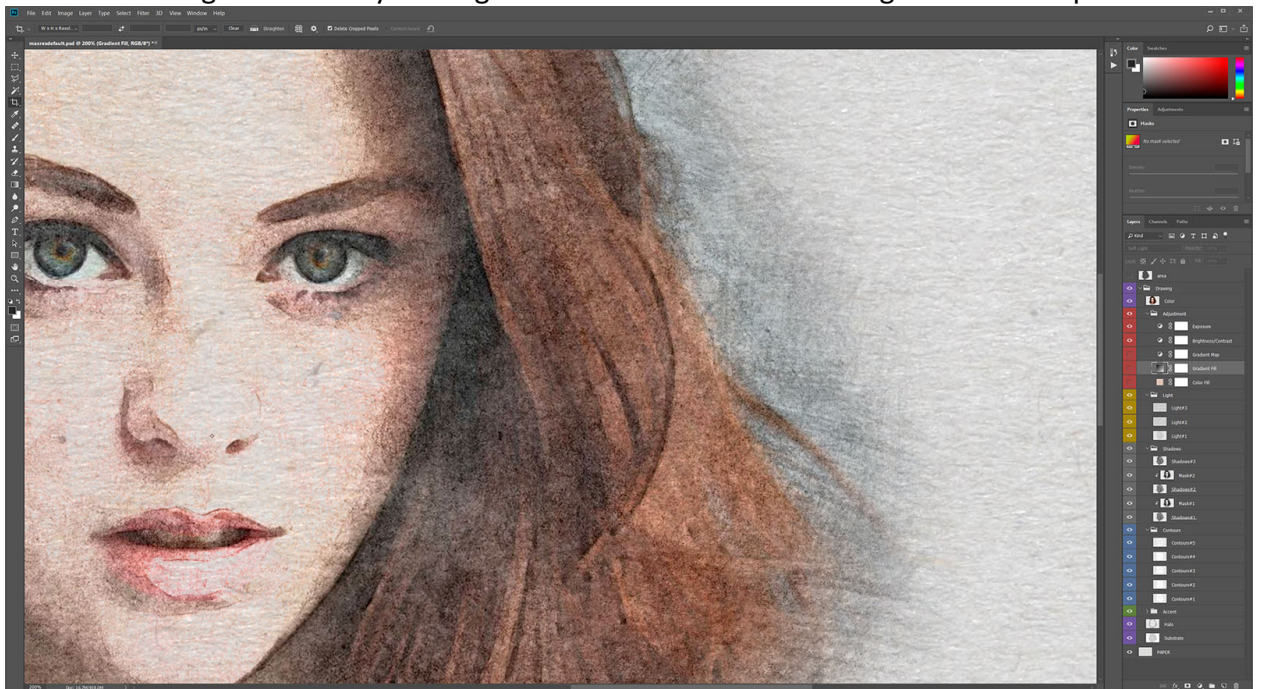


The Adjustments layer allows you to easily edit the exposure, brightness and contrast of the image, add a gradient map or solid color on it.

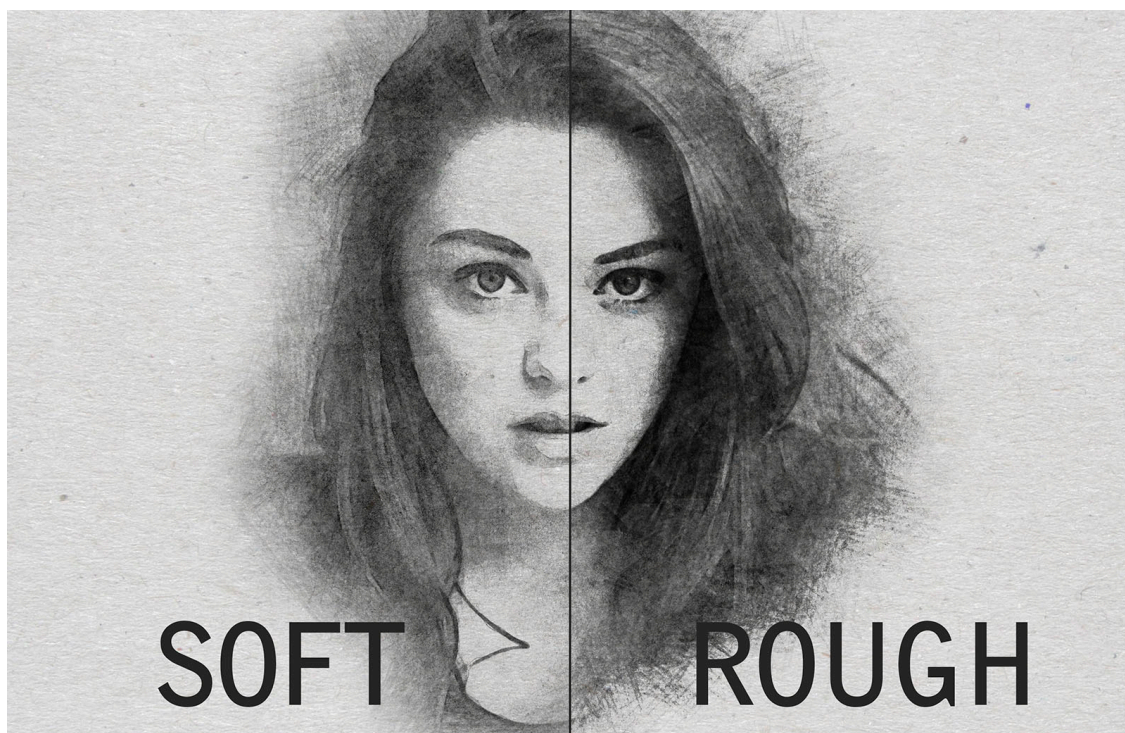




Activating the Color layer will give us the effect of the drawing with colored pencils.



Here is the difference between Soft and Rough modes.



I hope this action will be useful, good luck, and thank you!