

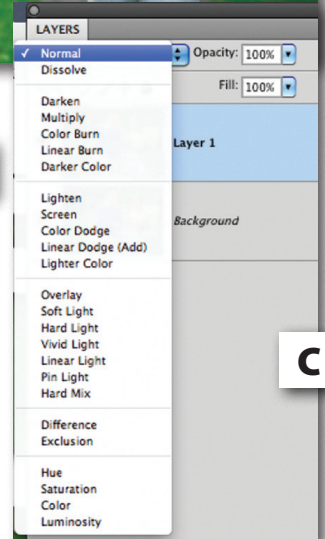
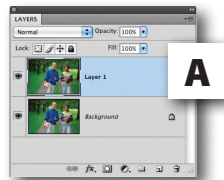
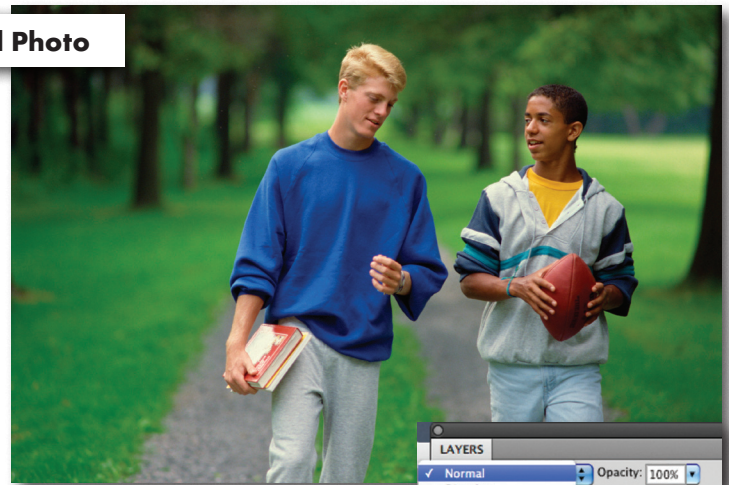
PLAYING WITH LAYER BLENDING MODES

This simple exercise will show you the amazing things you can do with layer blending modes. These blending modes allow you to change the look of a photo with next to no work at all.

- Step 1: Open a photo and duplicate the background layer by typing Command (Control/PC) J. (Figure A)
- Step 2: Choose Blur>Gaussian Blur. Move the slider over until the subjects are blurry but you can still tell what they are—in this case, people but much of the detail is missing. (Figure B)
- Step 3: At the top of the Layers panel you will see the blending modes drop down menu. The default you will see should be “Normal.” (Figure C)
- Step 4: Choose Overlay from that menu. And then try other blending modes to get some truly unusual looks to your photo. I have put six of them below.
- Step 5: When you are done, save your photo as a JPEG and upload it to YTO or place it in InDesign using Picture Placer.

Note: If you like a blend but it seems too strong, just lower the opacity of the top layer. To do that, use the Opacity slider next to the blending modes drop-down menu.

Original Photo



Overlay Mode



Darken Mode



Hard Light Mode



Pin Light Mode



Soft Light Mode



Vivid Mode