



From Zero Skills to Selling Mockups

Your Step-by-Step Mini-Guide

Follow this guide alongside the free 3-part series to go from zero experience to your first mockup listed for sale.

Part 1 – Set Up Photopea

Step 1 — Open [Photopea](https://www.photopea.com)

Go to [photopea.com](https://www.photopea.com) — no download, no account needed. Open it in any browser on any device.

Step 2 — Start a new project

Click New Project and choose a preset size or enter your own width and height, then click Create.

Step 3 — Get familiar with the interface

- Tools panel is on the left
- Menu bar is at the top
- Canvas is in the center
- Layers panel is on the right

Step 4 — Learn the essential shortcuts

- Zoom in/out → Hold Alt + scroll mouse wheel
- Undo → Ctrl + Z
- Switch tools → always return to the Move tool when you're done

Step 5 — Save your work correctly

- Save as PSD to keep all your layers editable
- Export as PNG or JPEG for the final image

Part 2 – Create Your Mockup

Step 6 — Find a model or apparel image

Use free commercial-use image sites: Pexels, Pixabay, or Unsplash. Always check the license before using any image commercially.

Step 7 — Remove the background (optional)

Go to Select → Remove BG, watch the short ad, then export the result as a PNG and reopen it. This gives you a cleaner file to work with.

Step 8 — Set up your background layer

Go to Layer → New Fill Layer and choose a solid color, gradient, or pattern. Move this layer to the bottom of your layers panel. (this step incase you removed the background in the background)

Step 9 — Add your placeholder image

Open the included "Your Design Here" PNG from this pack and place it on the mockup where the design would go. Use white on dark shirts, black on light shirts.

Step 10 — Convert the placeholder to a Smart Object

Right-click the placeholder layer and select Convert to Smart Object. This is what allows anyone to swap in their own design later.

Step 11 — Duplicate the apparel layer

Right-click the apparel layer, click Duplicate Layer, and drag the copy above the placeholder layer.

Step 12 — Apply the blending effect

With the duplicate layer selected, change the blending mode from Normal to Hard Light.

Step 13 — Add a clipping mask

Right-click the duplicate layer and select Clipping Mask.

Step 14 — Adjust hue and saturation

Go to Image → Adjustments → Hue & Saturation and drag the saturation slider all the way to the left.

Click OK, (while having the apparel duplicate layer selected.)

Step 15 — Fine-tune with curves

Go to Image → Adjustments → Curves and drag the middle or the edges until the design shows through naturally. Click OK. (while having the apparel duplicate layer selected.)

Step 16 — Add a shadow (optional if background had been removed but recommended)

- Ctrl + click the apparel layer thumbnail to create a selection
- Create a new layer and move it below the apparel layer
- Fill it with black using Edit → Fill → Foreground
- Go to Filter → Blur → Gaussian Blur and adjust until it looks natural
- Reduce the opacity until it looks best
- Use the Move tool to offset the shadow slightly

Step 17 — Test your mockup

Double-click the Smart Object thumbnail, open a design image, save the Smart Object, and go back to your main file to see the result.

Step 18 — Save your PSD

Go to File → Save to keep all layers intact. This is your master mockup file.

Part 3 – List It on Gumroad

Step 19 – Create your Gumroad account

Go to gumroad.com and click Start Selling. Sign in with your Google account or any email no complicated setup required.

Step 20 – Create a new product

Go to Products → New Product, give it a name, set your price, and select the correct digital product type.

Step 21 – Write your product description

Use AI (ChatGPT or Claude) to generate a clear description. Include what the buyer gets, what file types are included, and what they can use it for (personal and/or commercial use).

Step 22 – Upload your cover images

Use preview images of your actual mockup in use. Show the mockup with a real design placed in it so buyers can see exactly what they're getting.

Step 23 – Add product specifications

In the additional details section list everything included — PSD files, PNG previews, placeholder files, readme instructions, and license type.

Step 24 – Upload your product file

Compress all files into a ZIP folder first. Go to Content → Upload Files and upload the ZIP. Wait for it to finish before continuing.

Step 25 – Publish and go live

Click Save and Continue → Publish. Your product is now live. Copy the link and start sharing it wherever your audience is.

Useful RESOURCES

Free Stock Photo Sites

- **Pexels** → [pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com)
- **Pixabay** → [pixabay.com](https://www.pixabay.com)
- **Unsplash** → unsplash.com

(Always check the license before using any image for commercial use)

Design Assets & Resources

Creative Fabrica – fonts, graphics, and design assets