

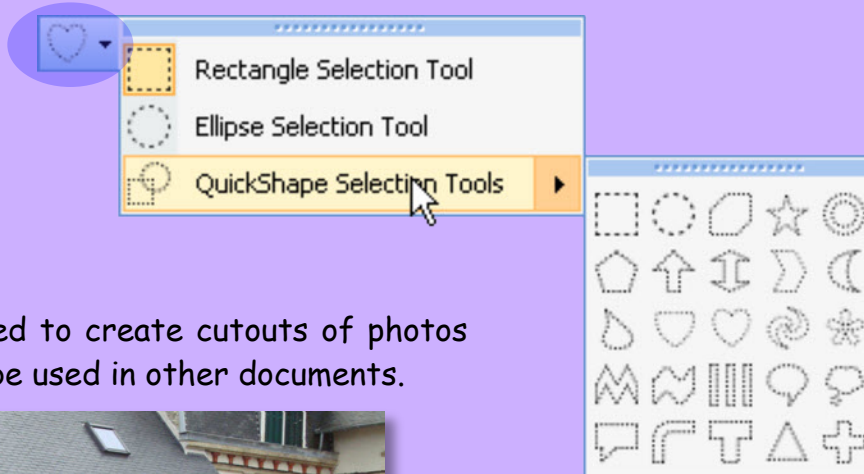
Selecting Areas

By the end of this task I...

- 1) can use the QuickShape tool and nodes to create a suitable shape
- 2) will know how to change a shape into a selected area
- 3) will know how to create a new photo from the selection

The QuickShape Selection Tool



We have already seen how the crop tool can be used to select rectangle shaped parts of photos. The PhotoPlus QuickShape Selection Tool allows you to select other shapes as well.



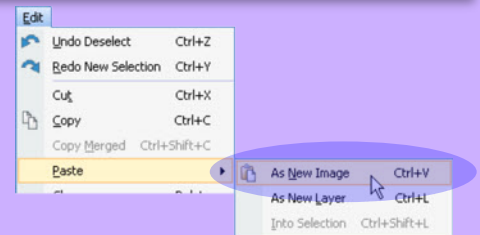
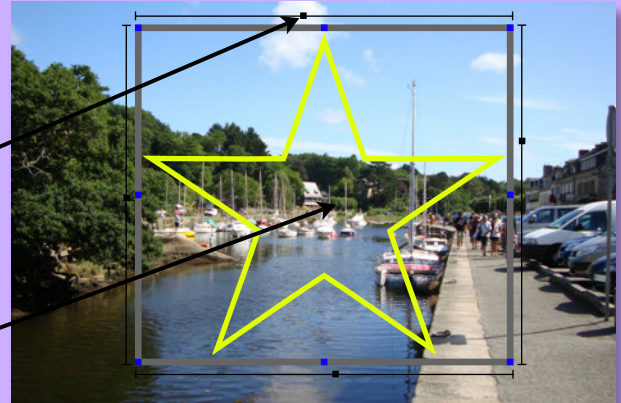
These can be used to create cutouts of photos that could then be used in other documents.



How to Use the QuickShape Tool

- Step 1** Start up Serif PhotoPlus.
Open one of the digital photos in the Selecting Areas folder. You may choose the photo you want to work with.
- Step 2** Click on the QuickShape selection tool menu  and select the star. 
- Step 3** Draw a star over the part of the photo you wish to use.

Drag the nodes to edit the shape of the star.
- Step 4** Double click in the middle of the star to change it into a selection.
- Step 5** Click on the Edit menu and select Copy.
To create a new photo from your selection click on the edit menu, select Paste - As New Image.



Exporting Your Selected Area Photo

To use the photo in a slide show or word processing file it needs to be saved as a type of file that supports transparency (eg. PNG or GIF).

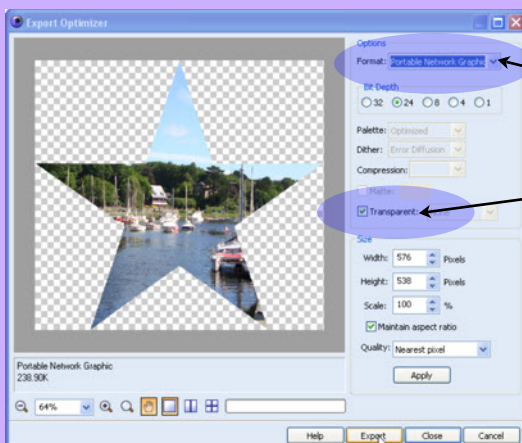
Without a transparent background you would not be able to see any colour behind your photo.




PNG file - with a transparent background



JPEG file - without a transparent background



- Step 1** Click on the File menu and select *Export Optimiser*.
Set the Format to *Portable Network Graphic* and tick the *transparency* option.
- Step 2** Click Export. Save the file to your folder.

Try - Open the file called "Pont Avon" in the Selecting Areas folder. Your task is to create four shaped photos to fit in the spaces. Saved photos can be added using the  button on the left hand side.