

1 Start with an image in Grayscale mode. Go to the Layers palette and add a new Curves adjustment layer (you will want to apply the solarization using this layer and later remove parts of it to reveal the unaffected background layer).







2 Select the arbitrary map tool (circled in red) and draw an inverted V. The easiest way to do this is to draw by Shift-clicking which will create straight lines, or use the point curve tool to draw a series of wavy curves.

3 Add a mask to the adjustment layer: activate the layer and start defining the areas of this layer you wish to erase using the lasso tool. Apply a heavy feathering to the selection: Select > Feather and enter a high value. I used 80 pixels, but you could apply a greater or lesser amount, depending on the file size.



4 Check the success of your feathered selection by switching to Quick mask mode. Don't worry about the mask being absolutely perfect, you can refine the mask in the next stage.

5 Switch back to Selection mode and fill the adjustment layer mask with black. In Layer Mask mode, the default foreground/background colors are black and white: choose Edit > Fill > Foreground Color. Deselect the selection, choose a large brush set to a low opacity and paint in or paint out the unsolarized Background layer.

6 Finally, I merged the layers, converted the image to RGB color mode and colored the picture using the previously described split tone technique.





