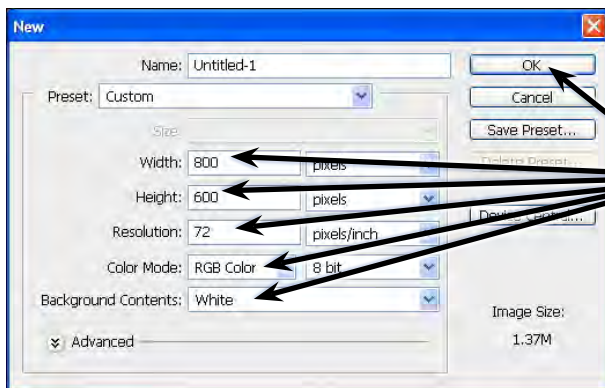# Creating a Brick Wall

Photoshop provides a range of filters that can be used to enhance photographs or create backdrops such as clouds, oceans and walls. In this Exercise a realistic brick wall will be created.
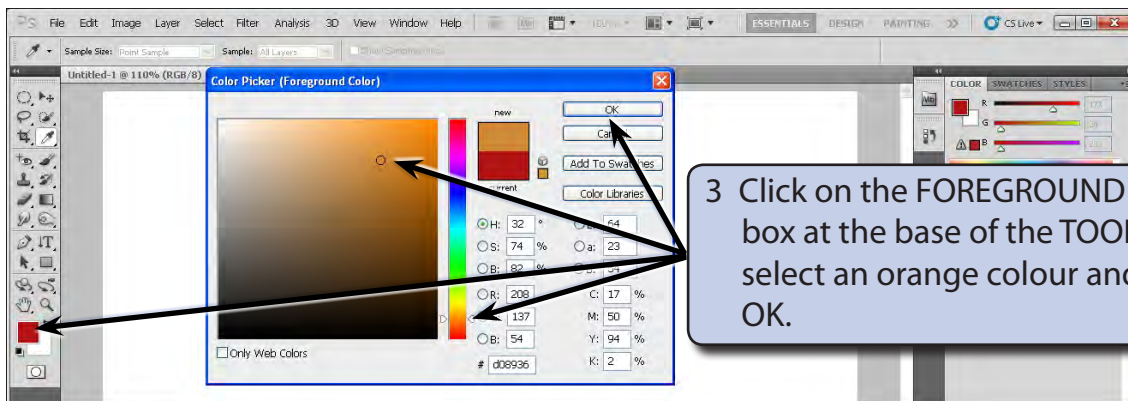
Setting the Colours

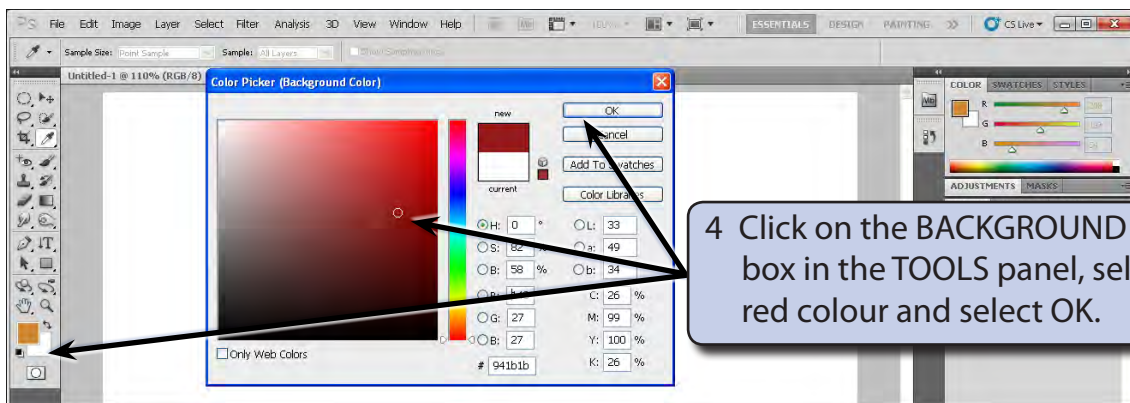The colours will be set to fade from orange to red to simulate a lighting effect.

1   Load Photoshop CS5 or close the current files and select NEW from the FILE menu.

2 Set the WIDTH to 800 pixels, the HEIGHT to 600 pixels, the RESOLUTION to 72 pixels/inch, the COLOUR MODE to RGB COLOUR, 8 BIT, the BACKGROUND CONTENTS to WHITE and select OK to start the file.
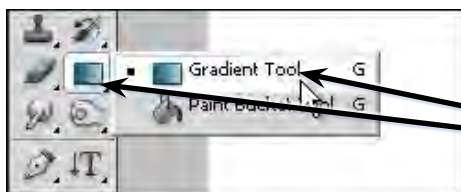
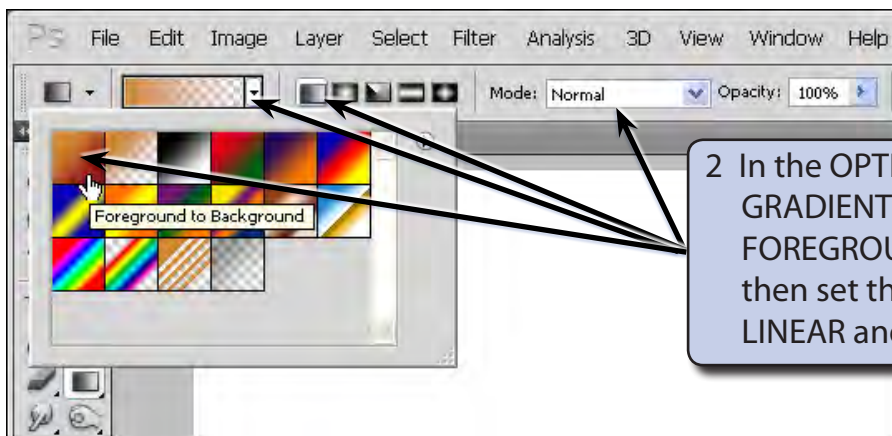3 Click on the FOREGROUND COLOUR box at the base of the TOOLS panel, select an orange colour and click on OK.

4 Click on the BACKGROUND COLOUR box in the TOOLS panel, select a dark red colour and select OK.
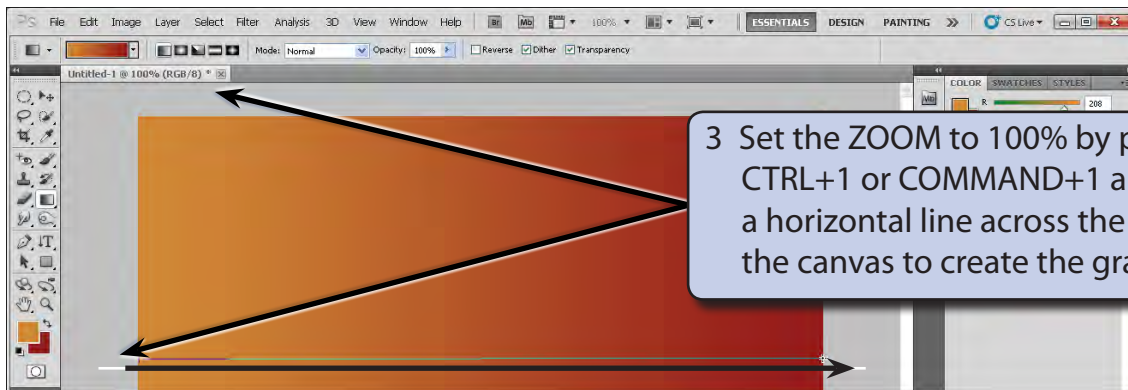
Applying a Gradient

The GRADIENT TOOL can be used to set the colours to flow from orange to red.

1 Select the GRADIENT TOOL from the TOOLS panel (you may need to click on the PAINT BUCKET TOOL to select it).
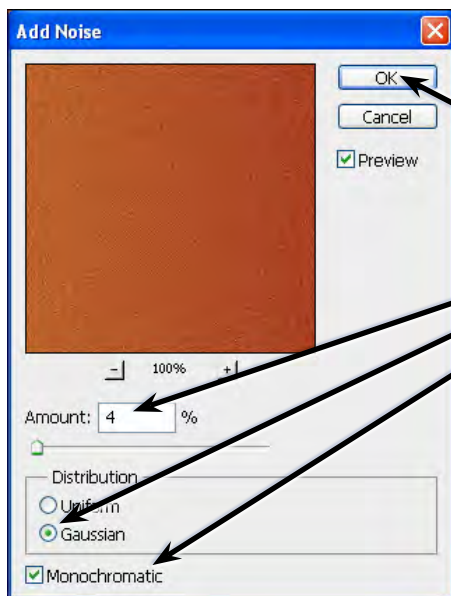

2 In the OPTIONS BAR, click on the GRADIENT box arrow and select FOREGROUND TO BACKGROUND, then set the GRADIENT TYPE to LINEAR and the MODE to NORMAL.

3 Set the ZOOM to 100% by pressing CTRL+1 or COMMAND+1 and drag a horizontal line across the centre of the canvas to create the gradient fill.
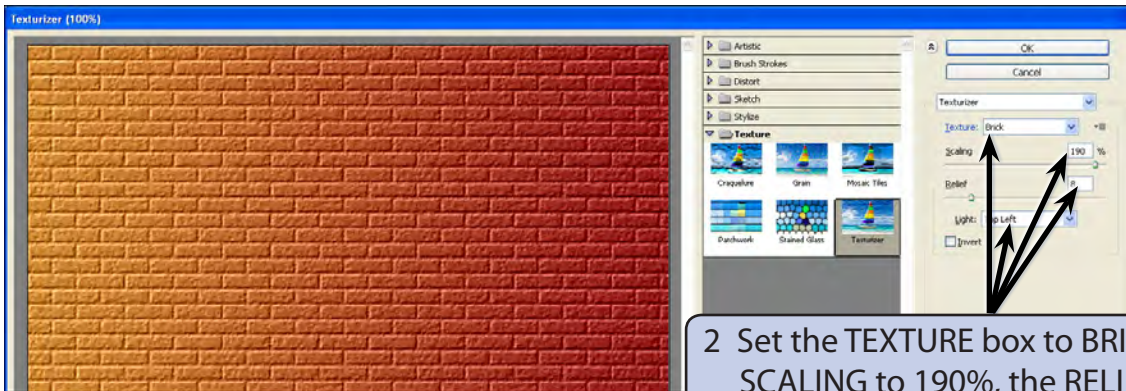
Adding Noise

The NOISE filter can be used to add a speckled effect to create a realistic brick surface.

1 Display the FILTER menu, highlight NOISE and select ADD NOISE.

2 Set the AMOUNT to about 4%, the DISTRIBUTION to GAUSSIAN, turn on MONOCHROMATIC and select OK to set the noise.

Inserting the Brick Texture

1   Display the FILTER menu, highlight TEXTURE and select TEXTURIZER.

2 Set the TEXTURE box to BRICK, the SCALING to 190%, the RELIEF to 8, the LIGHT to TOP LEFT and select OK to create the brick effect.

3   Save the document in your STORAGE folder as a PHOTOSHOP file under the file name:

Brick Wall