

# Macro Stacking

By Bernard

# What is Stacking

- Stacking is when you take multiple photographs of a subject
  - at different focus points to create a blended image with a deep depth of field.
  - Or a blend of a number of images to use specific parts of an image to create a blended single image.
- Effectively it is using a number of layers to create one composite image.

# Equipment

A Sturdy Rest



A Flash wit or without a Diffuser



Camera



Preferably a macro Lens



All Set Up



# Photographic Technique For Macro

- Macro
  - Can be done with some form of support or hand held.
  - You can use a flash or not. Depends on the lighting and the subject.
  - Set your lens to manual focus and set desired focus distance.
  - Set your camera to manual and set your exposure. Apperture depends on lighting
  - Choose a focal point on the subject, normally the eye. **This is critical for Post Processing**
  - Because of the shallow depth of field and the closeness to the subject not all of it is in focus.
  - Back away from the subject, keeping the eye at the focal point, until the first part of your subject is in focus and take a photograph.
  - Move slightly forward and take another photograph.
  - Repeat as many times as necessary until you get the back of your subject in focus.
  - Once you have all your photographs load them into Bridge/Light Room /Photoshop where the magic happens.

# Photo 1



## Photo 2



# Photo 3



# Photo 4



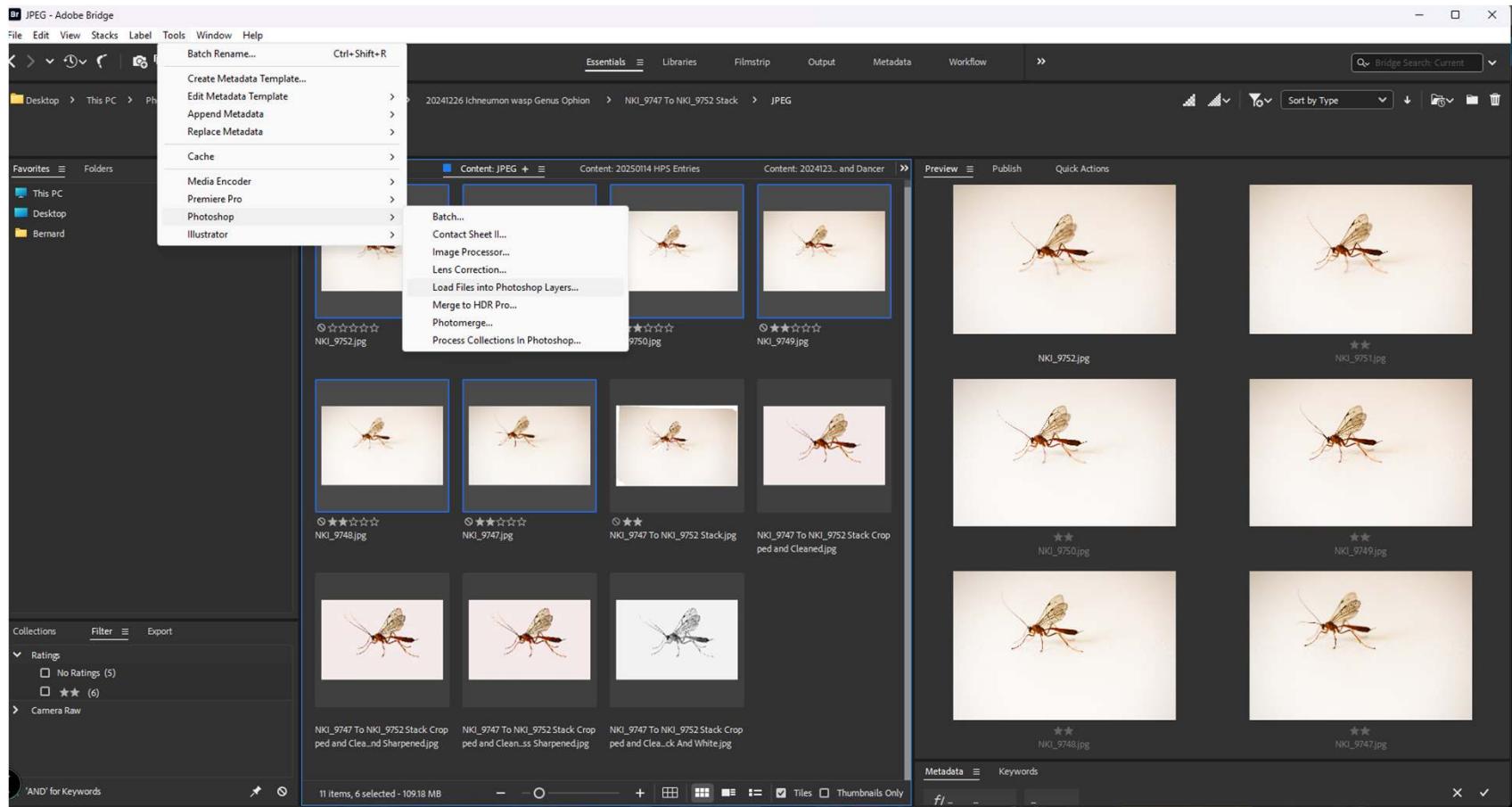
# Photo 5



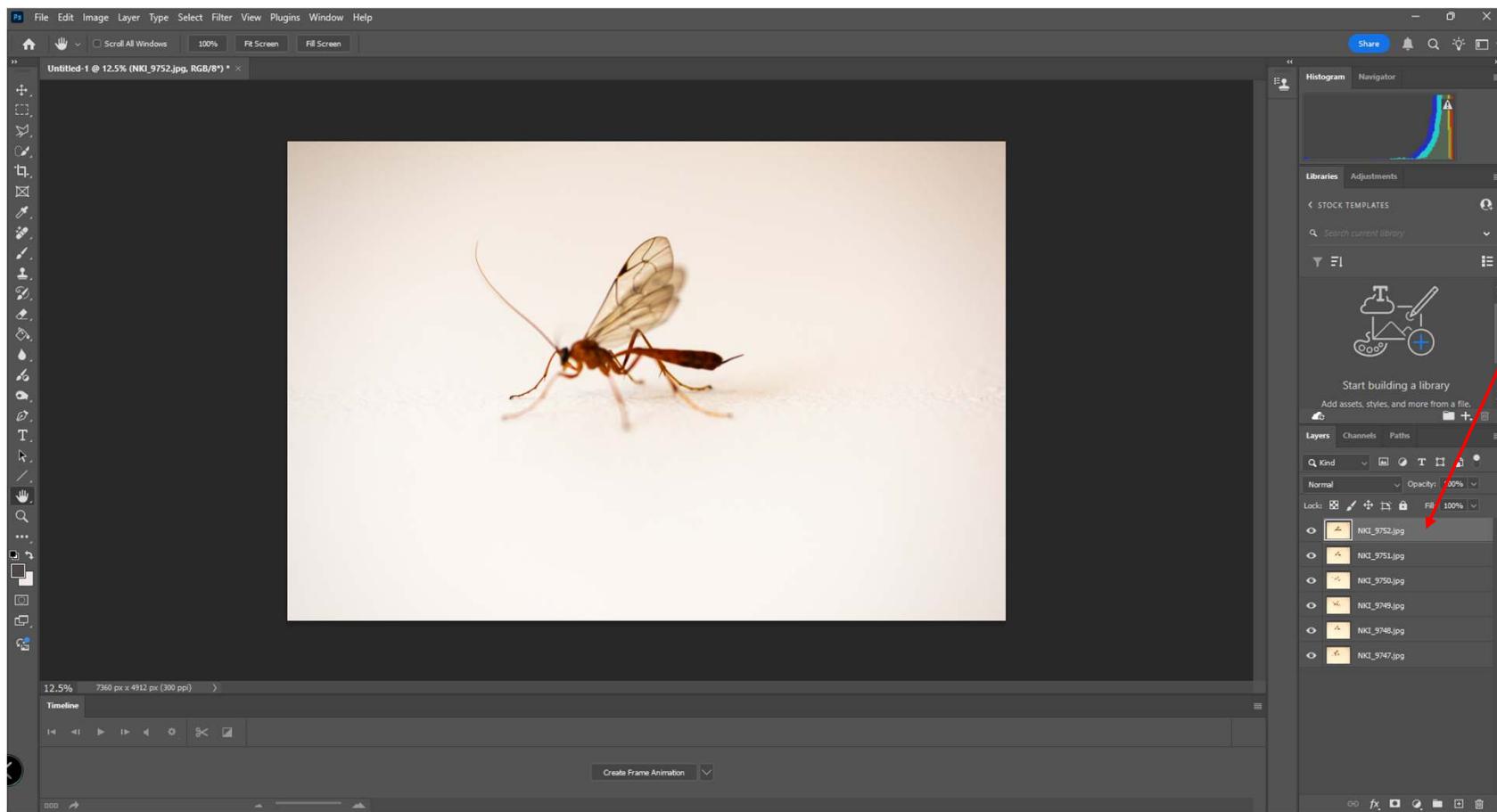
# Photo 6



# In Adobe Bridge

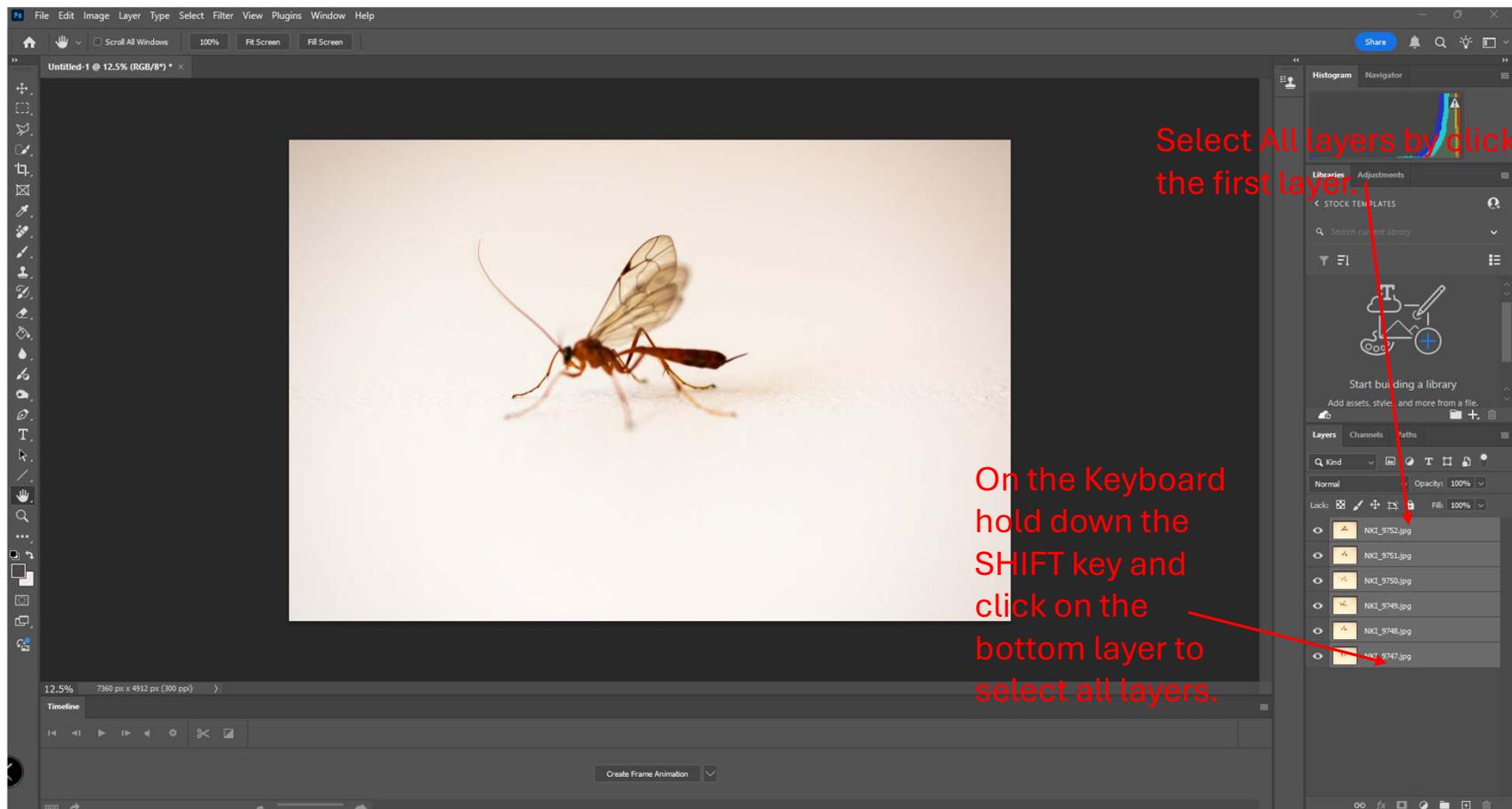


# In Photoshop Step 1



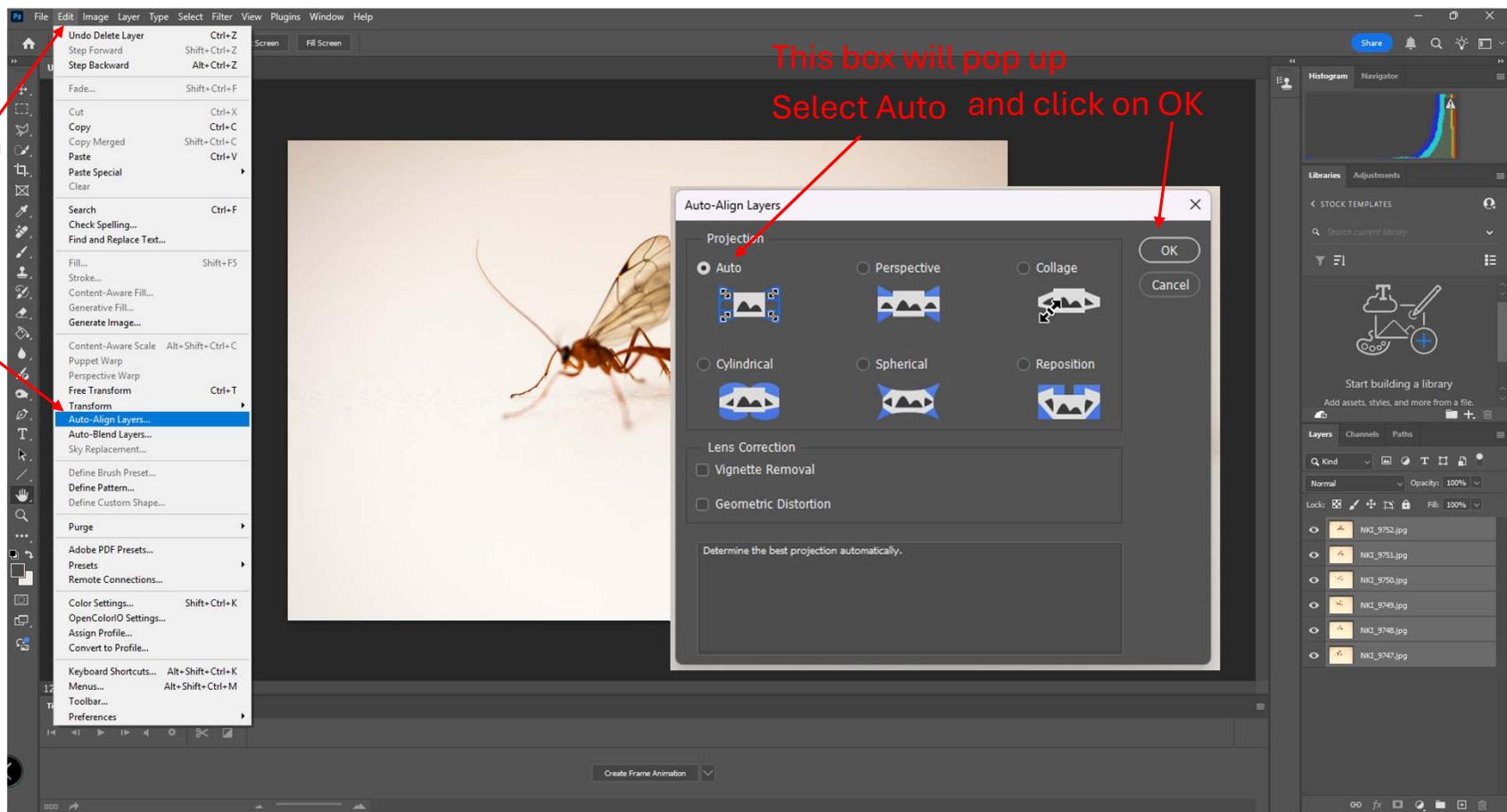
Loaded  
into  
Layers

# Photoshop Step 2

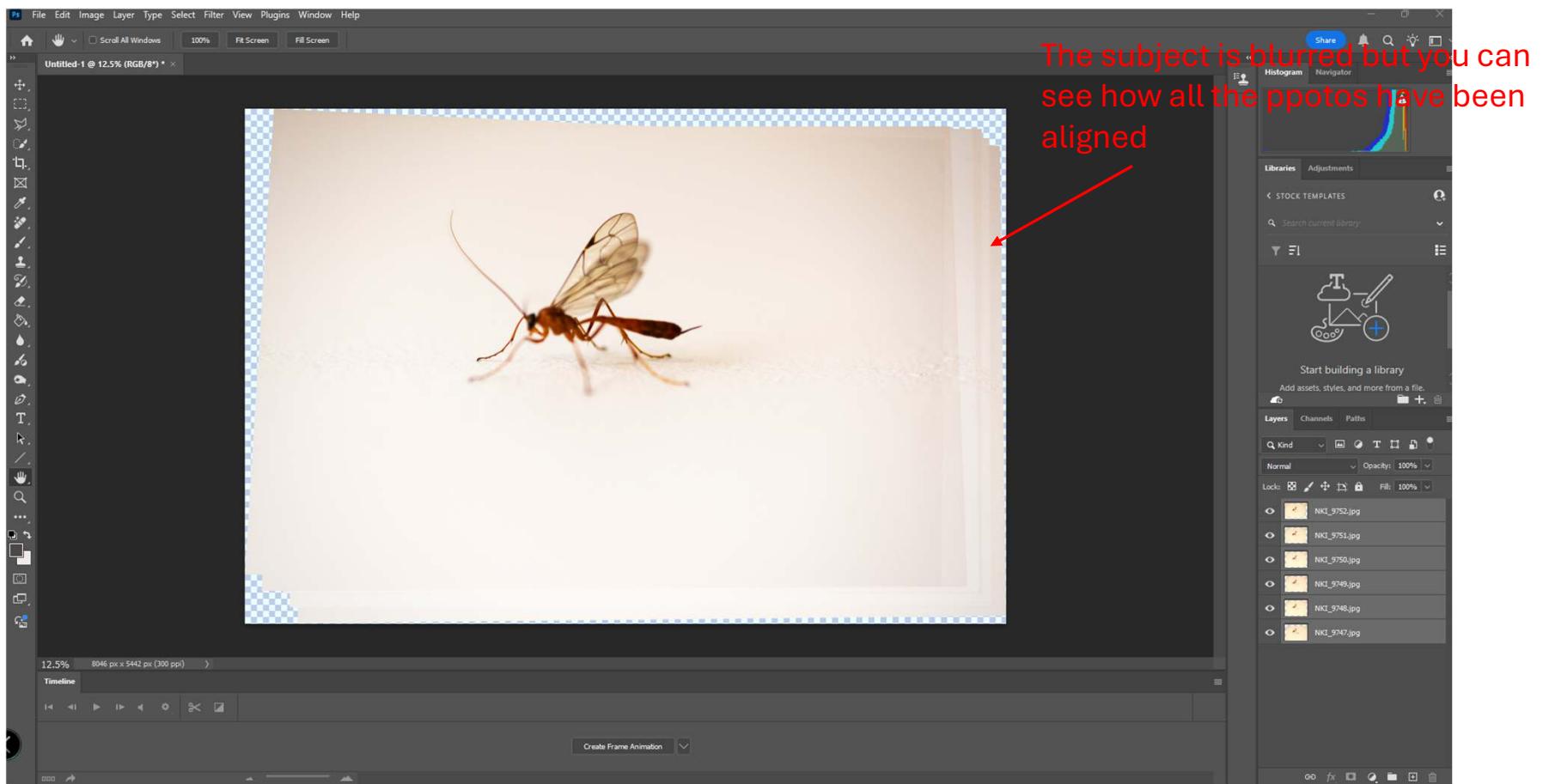


# Photoshop Step 3

Click on  
Edit  
and  
choose  
Auto  
Align  
Layer

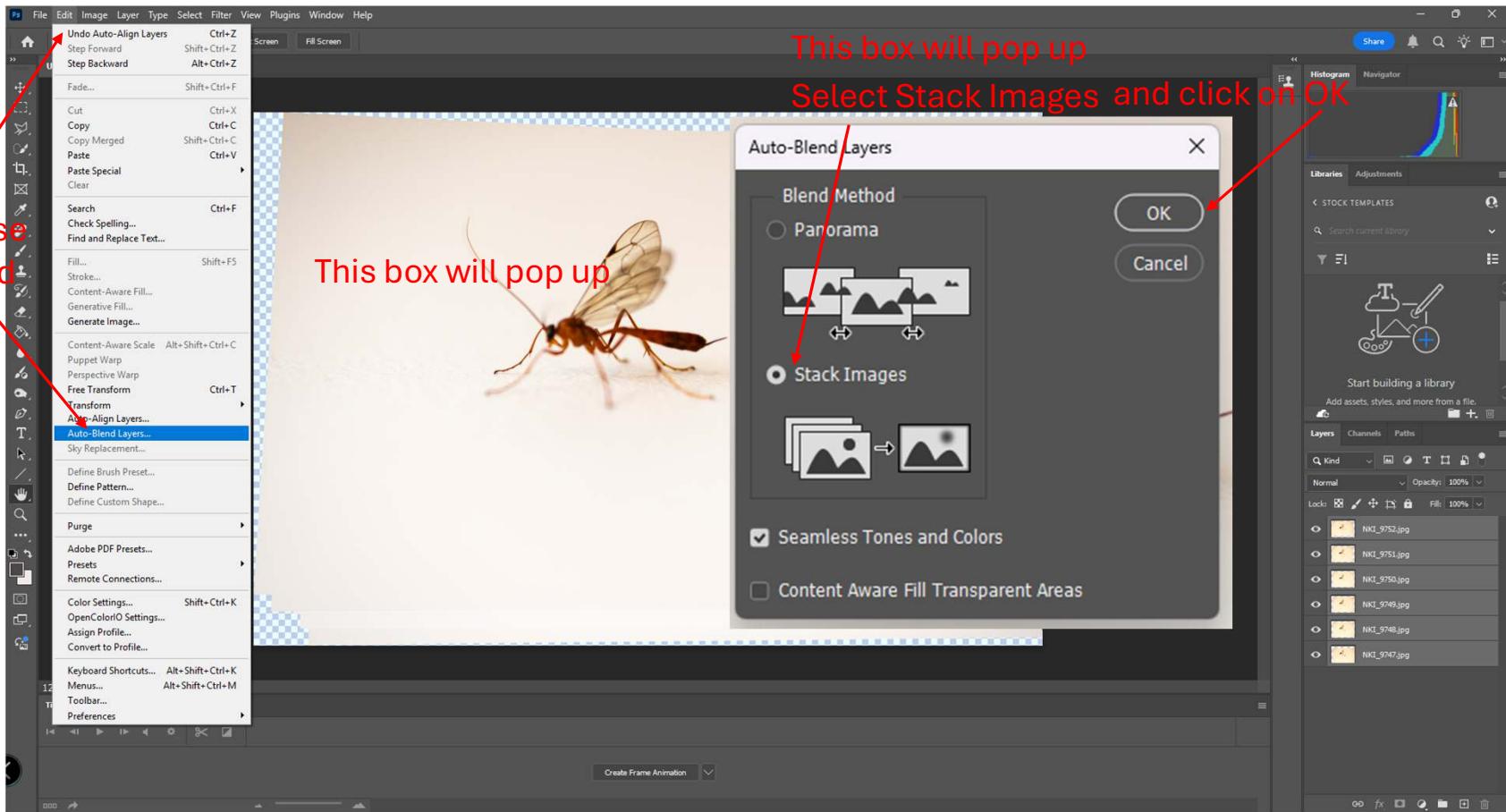


# Photoshop You will get an image like this

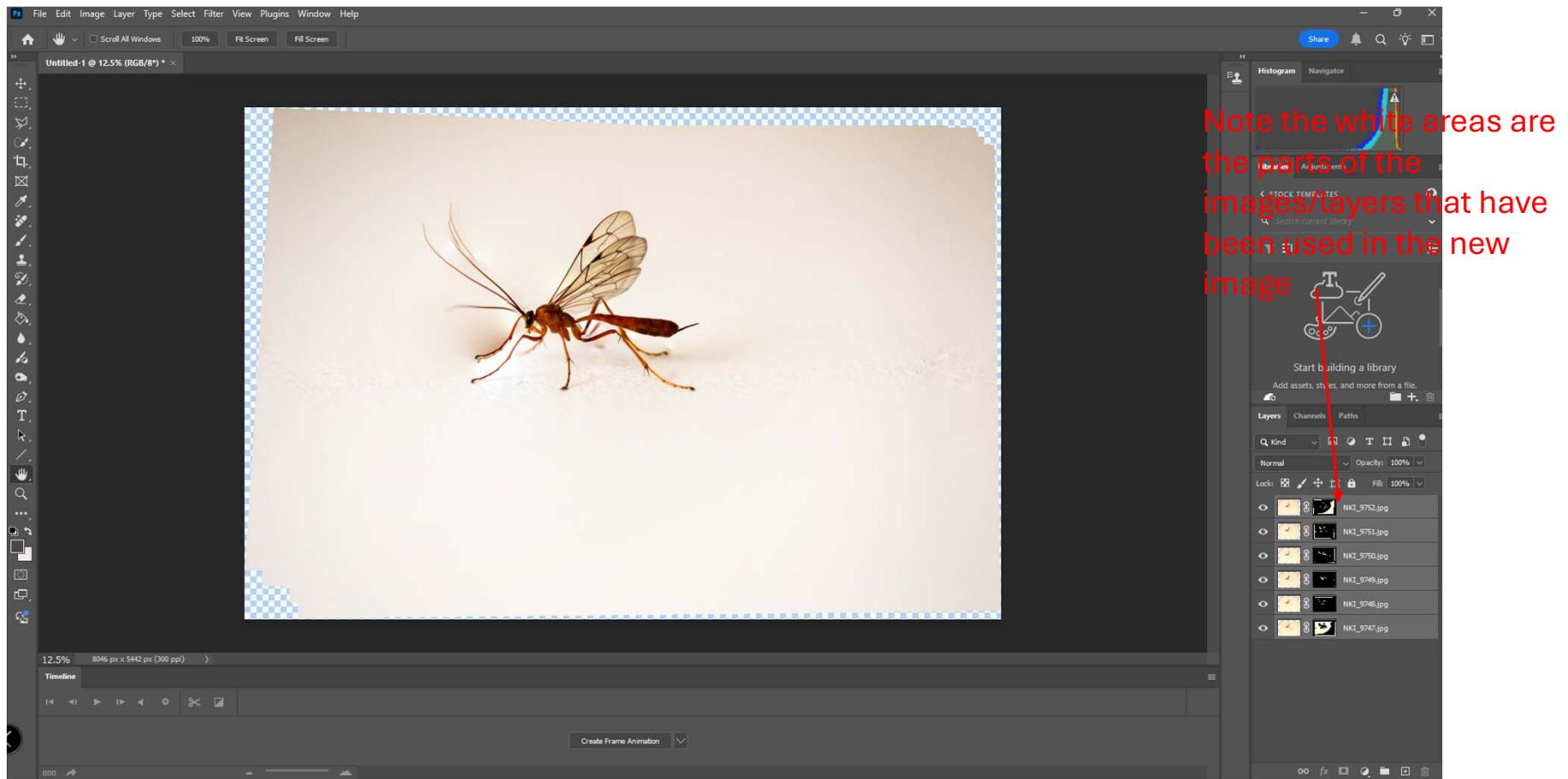


# Photoshop Step 4

Click on  
Edit  
and choose  
Auto Blend  
Layers



# Photoshop You will get an image like this



# Photoshop Steps 5.....

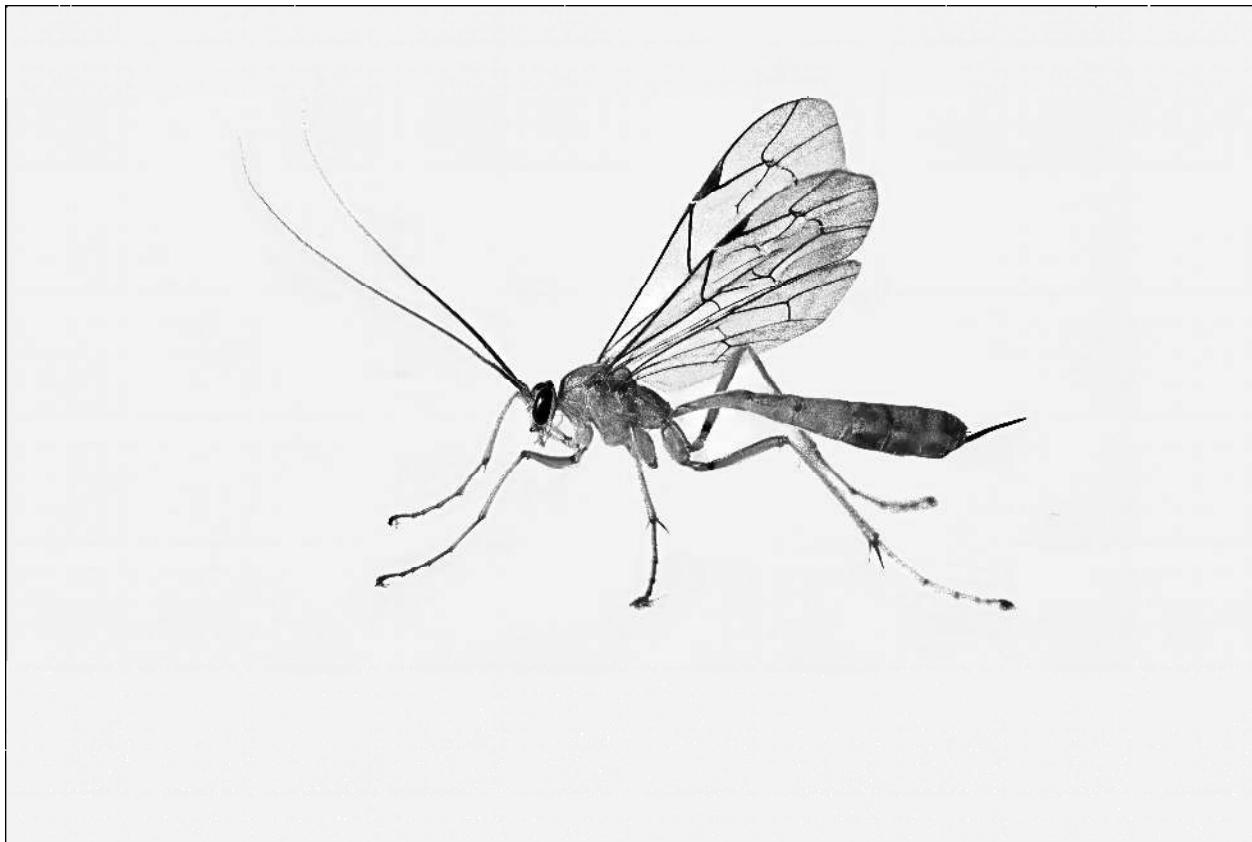
- Now you can start cleaning up your image using
  - Layer Masks
  - The Clone Stamp Tool
  - Or a myriad of other techniques

# Final Result 1



File Name: NKI\_9747 To  
NKI\_9752 Stack  
Cropped and Cleaned  
And High Pass  
Sharpened.jpg

# Final Result 2



File Name: NKI\_9747  
To NKI\_9752 Stack  
Cropped and Cleaned  
And High Pass  
Sharpened Black And  
White.jpg