How to create Lightsaber effects

Website: http://www.gimpology.com/submission/view/how_to_create_lightsaber_effects

Who doesn't want to create lightsaber effects. In this tutorial I'll show you how.

Step 1

First get an image you can get one here: http://www.baudalign.com/lee/pics/quigon.jpg
It's Qui-Gon without a lightsaber effect.

Step 2

Ok first create a new black layer. To do this, first make sure that the foreground color is black. Then create a new layer (Layer → New Layer) and choose Foreground color. Then in the mode section put it in screen mode.
Step 3

Click on the layer with Quigon and click on your *beizer tool*. Create a selection of the lightsaber.

Then click on **Create Selection From path** or press return.
Step 4

Next, fill in the selection (the lightsaber) with white (Edit → Fill with BG Color).

Click on the black layer and again select Edit → Fill with BG Color.

You should see the following as a small icon on the black layer.

Finally, go to Select → None so that you can get rid of the crawling ants.
Step 5

Next, duplicate the black layer (or Layer → Duplicate Layer) twice.

Click on the first black layer and go to Filters → Blur → Gaussian Blur.

The blur radius should be 5.0 for both options.
Go to the second black layer and apply a Gaussian blur of 20.0

Go to the last black layer and apply a Gaussian blur of 40.0
Step 6

Now click on the top layer and put merge down (Layer → Merge Down). Then put the mode on screen again.

Now click on the top layer again and merge it down (Layer → Merge Down) and then put it on screen mode.
Step 7

Here’s the fun part. Click on the black layer. Go to Colors ➔ Color Balance.

Move the slides to get the color you want. There is a button that says PRESERVE LUMINOSTY it’s your choice to select it or deselect it. I usually deselect it but it’s your choice.
Here’s how mine turned out. Hope you enjoyed this tutorial!