



Perfectly Personal Word Art

Circle Template 03 – Photoshop Elements Transcript

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In this video, we're going to use something we haven't used yet to create our third circle template. Using the type tool with the ellipse shape tool will be just the ticket for creating this word art template.

So I've already created a new document that is 2.25 inches by 2.25 inches at 300 pixels per inch with a transparent background. Press the letter D to reset the color chips. Then click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a medium gray color. I'm using hex number nine five nine five nine five and then click okay. Now get the elliptical marquee tool and in the tool options, click on the new selection icon, check anti-aliasing, set the feather to zero pixels, and set the aspect to fixed size. Enter a width and height of two inches. Now on the document, click and drag to create the selection. Make sure the entire selection is on the document before you let go. Then press alt backspace in windows or option delete on a Mac to fill the selection with the foreground color. Then press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select. Now press control A in windows or command A on a Mac to select all. Then get the move tool and in the tool options, click on the align vertical centers icon and the align horizontal centers icon. Then press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select. Then in the layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to main circle and then press enter to commit the name change.

Now click on the foreground color chip to open the color picker and choose a light gray color. I'm using hex number CCCCCC, and then click okay. Now get the ellipse shape tool. And in the tool options, set the style to none and set the geometry options to fixed size. Enter a width and height of 1.75 inches and then click on the create a new shape layer icon. Now on the document, click and drag to create the shape and then press control A in windows or command a on a Mac to select all. Get the move tool and in the tool options, click on the align vertical centers icon and the align horizontal centers icon. Then press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select.

Now press the letter X to switch the foreground color chip to white. Then get the horizontal type tool. In the tool options, set the font to myriad pro bold, set the size to 10 points, the alignment to center, and the tracking to 159. On the document, place your cursor just above the edge of the light gray circle and you'll see that the type on a path cursor shows up. Click once and instead of typing words, we need to use the keyboard shortcut for a bullet point. On a Mac, that shortcut is alt plus eight. On a PC, that shortcut is alt plus zero one four nine.

Windows users, when you type the shortcut, you need to use the numbers of the number key pad portion of your keyboard. This means that if you try to use the numbers at the top of your keyboard instead of on the right where the number key pad is, this shortcut might not work. Also, the bullet point will not show up until after you release the alt key, so keep this in mind. At this point, windows users will want to select the one bullet point they typed and then press control C to copy it. Then press control V to paste the bullet point as many times as necessary to close the circle. Mac users can either use the copy and paste method I just mentioned or you can press and hold the alt key and the eight key until you fill the circle.

Then once the circle is closed, you can click the checkmark to commit. Now in the layers panel, double click on the name of this layer and change it to dots and then press enter to commit the name change. Also in the layers panel, right click in windows or control click on a Mac on the name of the dots layer and choose simplify layer. Then in the layers panel, drag the light gray circle to the trash.

Now with the horizontal type tool still active, in the tool options, change the font to myriad pro regular and set the size to 24 points. Set the tracking back to zero and set the alignment to center. Now on the document, click once and type the word text, press the enter key, type the word here in all caps and then click the checkmark to commit. Now press control A in windows or command A on a Mac to select all. Then get the move tool and in the tool options click on the align vertical centers icon and the align horizontal centers icon. Then press control D in windows or command D on a Mac to de-select. At this point you can save your circle template as circle template zero three dot PSD in the same folder as your other circle templates. And also as a note, if you own a version of Photoshop elements that does not have the tracking option. I've included extra instructions in the manual for this lesson.

So here is how I chose to customize this third circle template. I used a dark blue color for the main circle and I chose a tan color for the dots and the type. I also used a bold script font that had some roughness added for visual interest. For this circle, I knew just what I wanted to document. A while back, I was able to capture some sweet pictures of this owl for my front window. Owls are usually active at night, so being able to see them during the day was a bit unusual, but I wanted to document this picture as it was the best of the bunch. So I picked a skinny frame that would really highlight the owl, but also give me room to add some elements and my custom word art. I liked how this cluster came together. My word art really helps tell the story of my photo. And here's how I used that cluster on a scrapbook page. If you haven't noticed yet, let me point out that I also used one of the paper strip templates from the homework in section one. The dot theme on both templates works great for using them on the same project.

So here are a few tips on how I put this cluster together. Number one, tuck the circle word art under a 3-D object. When you're creating a cluster, the layers and the order you layer things in is so important. Tucking flat paper pieces under deep 3-D objects really helps to add realism to your project. Number two, overlap the frame. When you're placing your circle word art in a photo frame cluster, it's a good idea to overlap part of the frame. I made sure to do it on the side of the frame that was opposite of the main feature in the photo, the owl. This creates balance and visual interest all at the same time. Number three, offset the frame with a similar colored element. Because I made my paper circle or dark blue, I also wanted to use an element with that blue color on the other side of the frame. This ribbon was the perfect touch as it wasn't too large or overpowering. I hope this inspires you to get creative with your circle templates. Up next, we're going to start doing the circle template homework. I'll see you there. This is Jenifer Juris with perfectly personal word art.

