Photoshop Elements

10 Timeless Titles, Vol. 1

Circular Title Path

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Circular Title Path (Photoshop Elements)
by Jen White

Create a type path that will take your title circular.
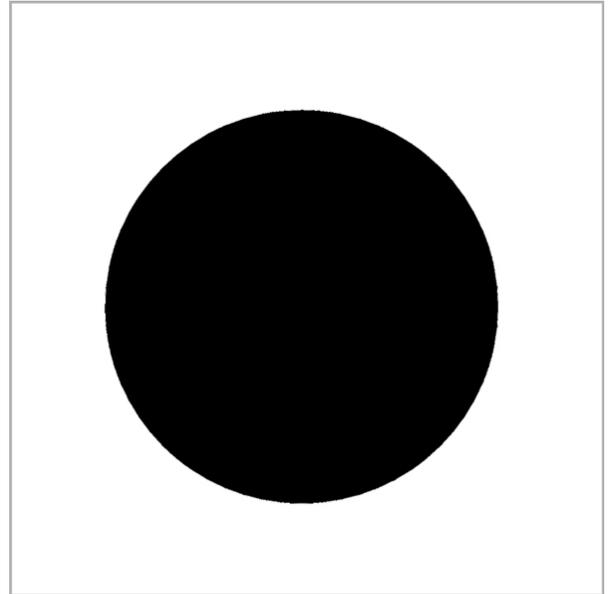
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Prepare the Workspace

- Begin in Expert Mode of Photoshop Elements.
- Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New > Blank File) at 300 ppi with a white background.
- Press the letter D to reset the Color Chips to the default of black over white.

Add a Circle Shape

- Get the Ellipse tool. It's nested with the other shape tools.
- In the Tool Options, if the Color Chip is not black, click on it and choose black. Click on the Geometry Options and choose Fixed Size. Set the Width to 8 in and the Height to 8 in. Check From Center. Click on the Create New Shape Layer icon.
- On the document, click and drag in the center of the document to place the shape. It does not have to be precisely centered.
- Back in the Tool Options, open the Geometry Options and choose Unconstrained. Uncheck From Center.
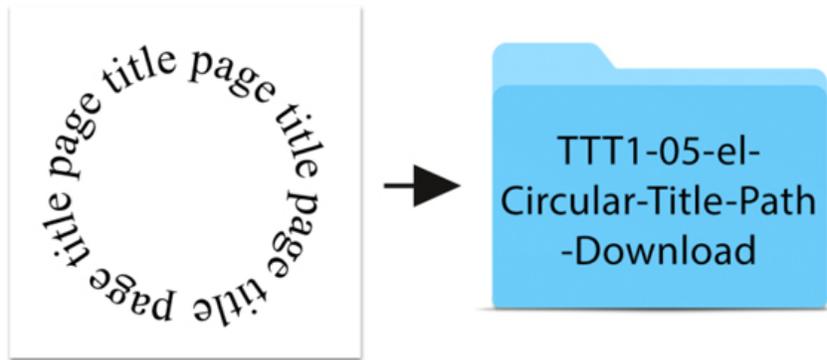
Type On the Path

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose Times New Roman Regular. Set the Size to 113, the Leading to Auto, and the Tracking to 0. If the Color Chip is not black, click on it and choose black. Click on the Center Text icon.
- On the document, hover your cursor over the top-center edge of the circle until you see the Type On a Path icon (I-beam with a wavy line through it), then click to place the cursor.
- Type "page title" four times with a space between each word. It should completely fill the path around the circle. It's okay if some of the type is not showing or if there's a gap at the bottom. Click the checkmark to commit the change.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Visibility icon of the circle layer to hide it.
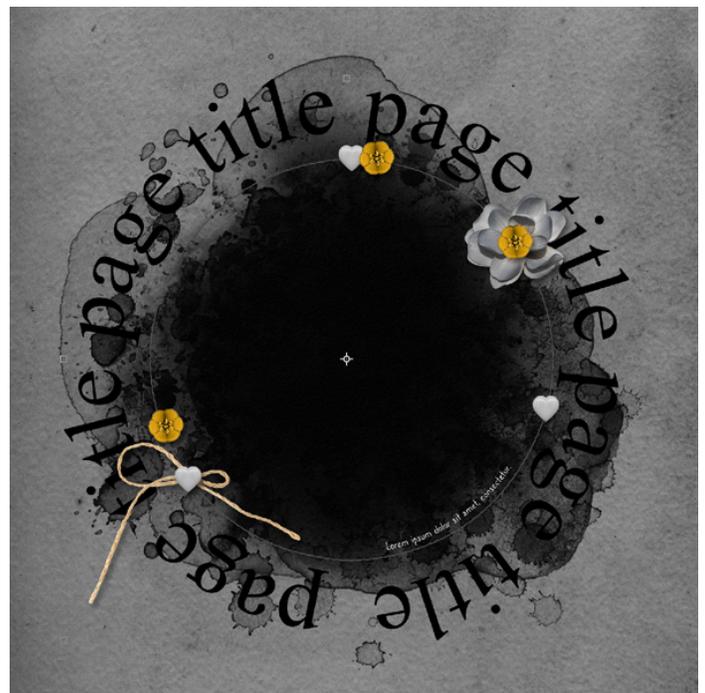
Save the Layered Document
- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD document in the TTT1-05-el-Circular-Title-Path-Download folder. Name the document "TTT1-05-Circular-Title-Path.psd".

TTT1-05-Circular-Title-Path.psd

Add the Title Layers to a Project
- Open the TTT1-05-Layered-Quick-Page.psd file (File > Open) from the class download folder. NOTE: If you get a warning dialog box about text layers, place a checkmark next to Don't Show Again and click Update.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Photo Clipping Mask layer to activate it.
- Activate the TTT1-05-Circular-Title-Path.psd document that you saved in the last step.
- In the Layers panel, click on the top layer to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the shape layer. The Background layer should not be active.
- Get the Move tool. In the Tool Options, uncheck Auto Select Layer, but check Show Bounding Box.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the layers onto the layered quick page. Both layers should still be active.
- Use the Arrow keys to nudge your circular title so that it's roughly centered around the circular stitching.

Clip a Photo to the Photo Clipping Mask
- In the Layers panel, click on the Photo Clipping Mask layer to activate it.
- Open a photo (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- Holding down the Shift key, click and drag the photo onto the layered quick page.
- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Create Clipping Mask.
- To resize the clipped photo so that it fills the clipping mask, click and drag on the corner handles of the bounding box. If you cannot see the bounding box, press Ctrl 0 (Mac: Cmd 0).
- To reposition the photo, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.

NOTE: The boundaries of the photo need to stay outside the boundaries of the clipping mask.

How To Change the Title
- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the title type layer to highlight the title.
- Type in a new word or phrase twice, making sure to add a space at the end.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.

How To Change the Font
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a different font. I'm using Forestelly.

How To Change the Color of the Title
- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Color Chip, then click on the Color Wheel icon in the bottom-right corner to open the Color Picker. Choose a different color or sample a color from your document. Click OK to close the Color Picker.

(For Script Fonts) How To Adjust the Tracking of the Title

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the Tracking dropdown arrow. Choose a negative number to make the letters move closer together or choose a positive number to make the letters move farther apart. If you need to further refine the value, highlight the number and manually enter it.

How to Add Additional Type

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the title layer to highlight all the type.
- Press Ctrl C (Mac: Cmd C) to copy what you've already typed.
- Press the Right Arrow key to place the cursor at the end of the current title.
- Press Ctrl V (Mac: Cmd V) until the path is filled.

Adjust the Path Using Size

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, change the Size value one point at a time until your word or phrase aligns around the circle and the gap is closed.

(For Non-Script Fonts) Adjust the Path Using Tracking

- Get the Horizontal Type tool.
- In the Tool Options, change the Tracking value until your word or phrase aligns around the circle and the gap is closed.

NOTE: Tracking was first introduced in PSE 2019. If you have PSE 2018 or earlier, you will not be able to adjust the tracking of your title.

How To Resize or Reposition the Title

- In the Layers panel, click on the title layer to activate it.
- Holding down the Shift key, click on the shape layer.
- Get the Move tool.
- To resize, click and drag on a corner handle of the bounding box.
- To reposition, click and drag inside the bounding box.
- Click the checkmark to commit the change.

A Word of Caution When Using Live Type Paths

Because your type is on a live path, you'll want to avoid highlighting and placing cursors from the document. Instead, I'd recommend highlighting from the layers panel and then placing your cursor using the Arrow keys. It's very easy to get things all tangled up.

How To Replace the Journaling of the Layered Quick Page

- In the Layers panel, double click on the thumbnail of the journaling layer to highlight all the type.
- Type your journaling and click the checkmark to commit the change.
- To change the font, get the Horizontal Type tool, then in the Tool Options, open the Font Picker and choose a different font.

Save the Page

- Save the page (File > Save As) as a PSD file with a unique name.

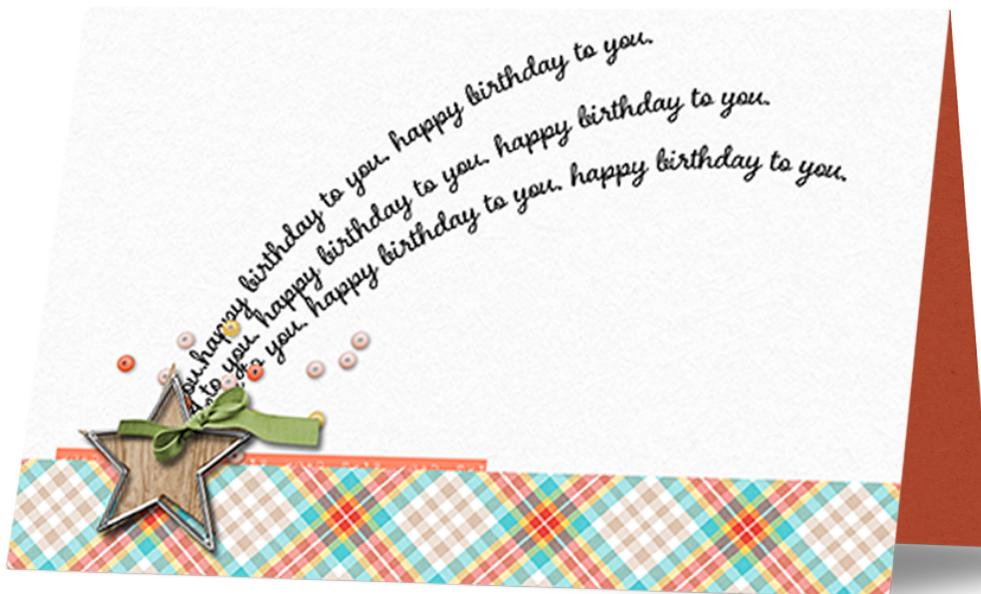Page & Photo: You Are Adorable To Me by Jen White
Class: 10 Timeless Titles Vol 1, Circular Title Path
Quick Page: Digital Scrapper
Fonts: Forestelly, Caroni

Page & Photo: You Are My Favorite Thing Ever by Jen White
Class: 10 Timeless Titles Vol 1, Circular Title Path
Kit: The Little Things by Vicki Robinson
Fonts: Chainprinter, Boucherie Cursive, Caroni

Card: Happy Birthday To You by Jen White
Class: 10 Timeless Titles Vol 1, Circular Title Path
Kit: Live a Good Story by KimB Designs, Road Trip by KimB Designs and Dunia Designs, Lucky Ducky by Miss Mint, Stories: 365 by Kristin Cronin-Barrow
Font: Boucherie Cursive